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Transcription of Book Three from the Jennie Pease D'Ooge Journals in the Eastern Michigan University Archives

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# Book 3

June 27, 1890 – March 26, 1892

{#1, cover}

[The book has a red, ochre, royal blue, and white marbled paper cover with dark maroon leather on the spine, and the date range of the diary has been handwritten in ink, possibly by an archivist or descendant of the author, on a white card]

June 27, 1890

to

March 26, 1892

{#2, inside front cover}

[Children's poem entitled "Dutch Lullaby," also known as "Wynken, Blynken, and Nod," published by Eugene Field in 1889]

DUTCH LULLABY.

(Dedicated to Mrs. John W. Root.)

Wynken, Blynken, and Nod one night  
Sailed off in a wooden shoe—  
Sailed on a river of misty light  
Into a sea of dew.  
"Where are you going and what do you wish?"  
The old moon asked the three.  
"We have come to fish for the herring-fish  
That live in this beautiful sea;  
Nets of silver and gold have we,"  
    Said Wynken,  
    Blynken,  
    And Nod.

The old moon laughed and sung a song,  
As they rocked in the wooden shoe,  
And the wind that sped them all night long  
Ruffled the waves of dew;  
The little stars were the herring-fish

That lived in the beautiful sea—  
“Now cast your nets wherever you wish,  
But never afeard are we”—  
So cried the stars to the fishermen three,  
    Wynken,  
    Blynken,  
    And Nod.

All night long their nets they threw  
For the fish in the twinkling foam—  
Then down from the sky came the wooden shoe,  
Bringing the fishermen home;  
'Twas all so pretty a sail, it seemed  
As if it could not be;  
And some folk thought 'twas a dream they dreamed  
Of sailing that beautiful sea—  
“But I shall name you the fishermen three:  
    Wynken,  
    Blynken,  
    And Nod.

Wynken and Blynken are two little eyes,  
And Nod is a little head,  
And the wooden shoe that sailed the skies  
Is a wee one's trundle-bed;  
So shut your eyes while mother sings  
Of wonderful sights that be,  
And you shall see the beautiful things  
As you rock on the misty sea  
Where the old shoe rocked the fishermen three—  
    Wynken,  
    Blynken,  
    And Nod

E. F.

[A poem about an aging mother with no teeth; marked up in pen with corrections, underlining, and exclamation points]

Here is an example entitled “The Dentist’s Tear,” and, by the way, it is safe to say that never before in the history of literature was a man of that profession or a set of false teeth made the subject of serious words:

What tongue will praise the poor and old?  
What muse her peddler's pack unfold  
To deck their silvery slips?  
Our mawkish verses can but speak  
Of ringlet brown, and vermeil cheek,  
Bright eyes and rosy lips.

To-day before a sunburnt house,  
Bright with buzzing linden bows, [added in pen] !  
I saw a wrinkled dame,  
With ague-stricken needle strive  
From Time's deep wounds to keep aliv[added in pen]e  
A [underlined in pen] garment none can name.

A dentist I, and toothless she!  
"Good dame," I cried, "well met are we;  
Will you not buy some teeth?"  
She turned her head a little, then,  
Attacking her forked task again, [added in pen] !  
Replied, with scanty breath:

"I would take it from the childer, sir;  
'Tis not for long I shall be here,  
My life is almost spent:  
'Tis true I've lost full many a bite,  
The boys have often [underlined in pen] angered it,  
But I will not consent."

I smiled to bear her quaint reply,  
But from my heart root rose a sigh  
I vainly tried to smother.  
Dull men I thought, love maidens' charm—  
The slender waist, the rounded arm,  
But angels love a mother.

[A short moralizing poem about kindness]

Don't Skim It.

Oh, men and women of the world,  
In avaricious blindness,  
For mankind's sake don't try to skim  
The milk of human kindness.

— Washington [?]

[A table comparing the population of Michigan cities in 1890 and 1884]

[A poem attributed to M. F. B. about the birth of a baby]

BY M. F. B.

An angel came with a shining star,  
And said, "It is yours, my dear."  
That was a dream; but when I awoke,  
A little new baby was here.

She's so cunning and wee! — as sweet as can be,  
As little babies are —  
Her beautiful eyes are blue as the skies,  
And brighter than any star.

[A poem attributed to A. P. T. about being a positive presence in the lives of others]

"May every soul that touches mine,  
Be it the slightest contact, get therefrom some good,  
Some little grace; one kindly thought,  
One aspiration yet unfelt, one bit of courage  
For the darkening sky, one gleam of faith  
To brave the thickening ills of life,  
One glimpse of brightening skies, beyond the gathering mists,  
To make this life worth while,  
And heaven a surer heritage."      A. P. T.

[A poem entitled "Very Nice, Indeed" about privilege and comfort]

Very Nice, Indeed.

How nice it is when you are warm,  
Well fed and well protected,  
From summer's heat or winter's storm  
And have no want neglected.

When fortune's looks are all benign  
And neither care nor trial  
You know, to sit and drink your wine  
And talk of self denial!

[An article about societal expectations and women with expressive faces]

Talk about not showing temper and [the] duty of always “wearing a smile!” [?] some women control more temper [in an] hour than others control in a w[EEK] simply because they have more of [?] control. If the eyes are the “windows [to] the soul,” then the face is the window [to] the mind, where there is a mind to [?] through. There are faces as expressio[nless] as the blank side of a board fence, [while] there are other countenances w[hich] show the changes of thought as qui[ck as] a lightning flash. Which shows the [more] sensitive mind and the greater emot[ional] power? But the non-expressive faces [get] the credit for belonging to even, ami[able] dispositions. “Amiable” because [they] have had nothing to make them otherwise. It is hardly a question, who [gets] the most real enjoyment from life, [those] who really live, or those who merely [ex]ist, and keep smooth, perhaps b[lan]k faces.

[“A Woman’s New Shoes,” a humorous, undated newspaper article, originally published in the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, comparing how men and women try on a new pair of shoes]

#### A Woman’s New Shoes.

When a women has a new pair of shoes sent home she performs altogether different from a man. She never shoves her toes into them and hauls until she is red in the face and all out of breath, and then goes stamping and kicking around, but pulls them on part way carefully, twitches them off again to take a last look and sees if she has got the right one, pulls them on again, looks at them dreamily, says they are just right, then takes another look, stops suddenly to smooth out a wrinkle, twists around and surveys them sideways, exclaims: “Mercy, how loose they are,” looks at them again square in front, works her foot around so they won’t hurt her quite so much, takes them off, looks at them, looks at the heel, the bootom [sic, bottom] and the inside, puts them on again, walks up and down the room once or twice, remarks to her better half that she won’t have them at any price, tilts the mirror so she can see how they look from that way, backs off, steps up again, takes thirty or forty farewell looks, says they make her feet awful big and never will do in the world, puts them on and off three or four times more, asks her husband what he thinks about it, and then pays no attention to what he says, goes through it all again, and finally says she will take them. It’s very simple.—*Cincinnati Enquirer*.

["Our Real Ruler," a humorous poem, originally published in the *Boston Globe*, about the power of an infant]

Our Real Ruler.

This a free country?  
Well, may be,  
So long as you haven't  
A baby.

Young or old, tho' golden  
Or gray be  
Our heads, we're all ruled by  
A baby.

Fond and foolish the words that  
We say be  
When we bow to that tyrant,  
The baby.

The wise man's a fool and  
A gaby  
And a hobby-horse for his  
Own baby.

But, of light in our homes, where'd  
A ray be  
Without the bright cherub,  
The baby?

Then hallowed and blest let  
The day be  
That brought that dear despot,  
The baby!

— *Boston Globe*.

[Undated clipping with a list of clever anagrams]

Anagrams.

"Into my arms" makes "Matrimony."  
"I hire parsons"—"Parishioners."

“It's in charity”—“Christianity.”  
“To love ruin”—“Revolution.”  
“There we sat”—“Sweetheart.”  
“Nine thumps”—“Punishment.”  
“Real fun”—“Funeral.”  
“Great helps”—“Telegraphs.”  
“Moonstarer”—“Astronomer.”  
“Gilt trash”—“Starlight.”  
“Got as a clue”—“Catalogues.”  
“A nice pet”—“Patience.”  
“To run at men”—“Tournament.”  
“Made moral”—“Melodrama.”  
“Guess then our line”—“Unrighteousness.”  
“I sent love”—“Novelties.”

{#2 and #3, unnumbered right page}

Diary of Jennie P. D'Ooge.

Ypsilanti, June 27th, 1890.

[A stick figure with bullseye-shaped eyes, straight lines for nose and mouth, a semicircular torso, stick arms and legs, and disproportionately large feet has been drawn in pen on heavy white paper and labeled “A MAN”; it is captioned “Ida’s first effort, March 1892.”]

[An undated newspaper article criticizing composer Richard Wagner’s operatic style and the arguably dangerous vocal gymnastics it demands, excerpted from “The Contributors’ Club” in the November 1888 issue of *The Atlantic*]<sup>1</sup>

#### WAGNER’S MUSIC AND THE VOICE.

Jenny Lind was accustomed to declare, “There are no singers nowadays,” and this sweeping criticism was not inspired by professional jealousy; it was the condensed expression of her sorrowful conviction that the art of singing has become almost a lost art. Adelina Patti and a few other examples of the old school of training still remain, and there is now and then a teacher, not necessarily well appreciated or widely known, who

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<sup>1</sup> *The Atlantic* - <https://cdn.theatlantic.com/media/archives/1888/11/62-373/131866076.pdf>



is faithful to the traditions of the old Italian method, which was and is and ever must be the only good method for the cultivation of the voice; but the vast majority of persons who dare to attempt the development of the very delicate vocal organs are incompetent for the task, and the result of their instruction is not merely negative failure, but positive disaster.

The Wagner school of music has proved itself the arch enemy of the human voice and of all rational modes for its development. The unnatural demands made upon the vocal organs, through Wagner's total ignorance of the art of singing, and the abnormal development of the orchestra, through the impatient yearnings of his unquiet soul, have banished for the time all chance of melody in music; and as Wagner's utterances are the outcome of an age of noise and hurry, of ruined faiths and tragedies of passion, his genius must have its day and work its full measure of harm upon the voices chosen for the inhuman task of personating his superhuman creations.

But the time will come when the present mad havoc with the lungs and throats of singers shall cease. Just as men begin to see that war must be abolished, because the weapons of war have reached too high a power of destructiveness, so the thunders of drum and trumpet in the modern orchestra must subside, if that sweetest music, the tones of the human voice, is to be preserved to the race. The reaction must come. When the orchestration is made so magnificent and so suggestive that the voice is an unwelcome interruption, and when the instruments are so noisy that nothing of the voice can be heard beyond a screech or a howl, it is time for the two departments of expression to be separated; the orchestra should be left to itself, and recitatives should be delivered over to the spoken drama. There is no denying the genius of Wagner. His power of converting musical instruments into echoes of human passion has never been equaled, and will probably never be surpassed: "Lohengrin," "Tannhauser" and "Der Fliegende Hollander" will live forever in poetry and in song; but all the same. Wagner is to be feared and shunned by singers as the great destroyer of the human voice.

[The printed lyrics of a song by Eben E. Rexford, an organist at a Congregational church in Wisconsin, has been torn off the page; it appears to be an earlier or alternate version of his hymn "Ho, comrades, heav'ward faring,"<sup>2</sup> published in 1905]

[?]LP-SONG AND A HOPE-SONG.

BY EBEN E. REXFORD.

[Ho,] comrade, onward faring,  
[Let's] sing, in cheerful strain,  
[A song to] lighten labor

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<sup>2</sup> Hymn, *Ho, comrades, heavenward faring* - [https://hymnary.org/text/ho\\_comrades\\_heavenward\\_faring](https://hymnary.org/text/ho_comrades_heavenward_faring)

[And soothe the] heart of pain,—  
[?] comrade,  
[?]er  
[That weary wayside pil]grims  
[Will gain new strength] to hear.  
[?] -song,  
[?] sing,  
[?]x us  
[?] wing.

[?]mrades,  
[?] and gay,  
[?] pleasures  
[?] in the way.  
[?]st forever,  
[?]t forget  
[? th]ey brought us  
[? c]heer us even yet  
[Ah, as we sin]g about them,  
[The shado]ws break apart,  
[And all the] world's in sun[shine]  
[Because] we're light of [heart!]

[?] most, my c[omrade]  
[?] far, tha[?]

[A poem about a young child having her portrait taken, illustrated with a drawing of an unsmiling girl in a knee-length dress, standing with hands clasped]

#### STANDING FOR A PORTRAIT.

I've got on my best frock to-day,  
My hair is nice and curly.  
And what is more, I left off school  
Just half an hour too early.

Don't think my conduct was so [sic, no?] good,  
No, there you're quite mistaken;  
The reason was, dear mother wished  
To have my portrait taken.

Now, Mr. Painter, please be quick—  
You really must begin it;

For I'm afraid I can't stand still  
Much more than half a minute.

[A poem by Eva Best entitled "Lost," about hours spent in the sunshine]

LOST.

Lost—somewhere here, I think it was,  
Between noontime and night—  
A pair of precious, priceless things  
All full of sunny light;  
And each was made of tiny links—  
Pure gold from tip to tip—  
And sixty of these links were joined  
In cunning workmanship.

Upon each tiny link there lay  
A diamond bright and clear,  
*Could* I have lost them, do you think,  
As I was coming here?  
I fear that they *began* to slip  
When I was in the lane  
And filled my mouth with raspberries  
And both my hands with stain!

When I stretched out upon the grass  
And had that lovely dream,  
I'm sure a dozen links or so  
Slipped down into the stream.  
And many more I must have lost  
When I went slowly down  
Beneath the forest trees that make  
A cooler path to town.

These several links—I felt them go  
When loitering at the gate—  
Slipped from my hand although I knew  
That I was very late!  
Gone are the precious jeweled links  
'Mongst berries, brooks, and flowers—  
And no reward could bring me back  
Those two lost sunny hours!

EVA BEST.

[An undated newspaper article about skincare and wrinkle prevention, possibly published originally in the *New York Journal*]<sup>3</sup>

[We a]re told by some scientists that [wrinkles] are due to a gradual wearing away [of flesh] underneath the cuticle; others de[clare] they come from a drying up of the ep[idermis.]

[I am inclin]ed to the latter theory as being [the more rea]sonable of the two, and one which we can bring artificial aid to bear upon. If the epidermis becomes dry we can apply olive oil beaten to a cream with very little rose water. A lady who is advanced in years (indeed, she has reached her sixtieth birthday), has a lovely complexion and no wrinkles. When asked her reason for believing that she possessed the secret of perpetual youth, she laughingly replied that she had found the fountain of youth, for herself, in olive oil and rose water. She also says that patent face powders are to be shunned, and preference given to "drop" or prepared chalk, which is harmless, cheap and *lasting*, having a peculiar clinging quality, and is not "dead white," but yellowish in tone.

The olive oil and rose water should be applied directly after the skin is washed in good mild soap-suds, rinsed and then thoroughly dried. Rub the ointment into the skin until it is entirely absorbed. Then apply the chalk, if it be day time, and even in rough weather the skin will not become chapped.

A very good cold cream is made as follows: Take oil of almonds, two ounces; white wax, one drachm; rose water, two ounces; orange-flower water, half an ounce; spermaceti, one drachm. Melt the oil of almonds, wax and spermaceti together, pour into a porcelain bowl (which has been made warm) and add the rose and orange-flower water gradually, stirring till cold.

Freckles will disappear when touched with powdered nitre which has been moistened with water. Apply to the face night and morning.

{#4, p.1}

Friday, June 27, 1890

Friday June 27th, 1890.

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<sup>3</sup> *The Cheyenne Daily Leader* - <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn86072173/1890-06-04/ed-1/seq-4/>  
*St. Paul Daily Globe* - [Stchroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn90059522/1890-03-02/ed-1/seq-12/](https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn90059522/1890-03-02/ed-1/seq-12/)

Had a fine carriage and driver today and made twenty-three calls; which is doing pretty well. Many were away, so I only left cards.

Ida stopped on her way home from a visit with Jane Mahon Stanley in Detroit. Said it was so nice to see some pretty babies, after being obliged to admire Jane's son John. She took little Ida home with her.

Saturday, June 28, 1890

Sat. 28th.

Hot again. Walked and made ten more calls – only leaving about six of my list. Nothing like being faithful to social obligations, at least once a yr. [year] Rain at intervals, which made it very pleasant for me, carrying water-proof umbrella and rubbers.

Sunday, June 29, 1890

Sun. 29.

Wrote to Grandpa thanking him for his photo. (at 82 yrs.) which we rec. [received] a week or two ago.

Phebe gone to church in her new white dress, which we gave her for her birthday.

Monday, June 30, 1890

Mon 30.

*Rather warm work, packing. Left at about six o'clock – found Mart. and Mary on the cars {#5, p.2} started on their trip east.*

*Ben was so exercised about Rab, he left his satchel (containing lunch, baby food, diapers! etc.) on a truck at Ypsi. Poor fellow, he was dreadfully worked up about it. Telegraphed back for it to be sent to Charlevoix.*

*We rode to the dock (except B.) and found the steamer "Alpena" waiting.*

*Phebe and the babies were in bed before we started from the dock, but I waited for the poor papa who walked miles and miles hunting for an open dry-goods store where he could find some diaper cloth. Came back finally with two cheap cotton night-shirts to be cut up, also bananas, crackers etc.*

Tuesday, July 1, 1890

Tues. July 1st./90.

*We slept quite comfortably except when they stopped to un-load, whistle etc., which was pretty often, it seemed to me. Ben & Ida went down to breakfast, and then Phebe and I. We lunched for dinner in our state-room (saving \$1.50).*

*The girlies went to their naps like little ladies and we spent a pleasant day. Phebe was not so frightened as I had expected. Ben discovered that although he had paid for round-trip {#5, p.3} tickets, they had neglected to give him return tickets! He wrote immediately to Detroit about it.*

Wednesday, July 2, 1890

Wed. 2.

*A bit cooler. Helen rolls around on the carpet in the cabin, like a jolly little fat kitten, and Ida is as good as possible. Reached Mackinaw at 7 o'clock and took the "Grand Rapids" for Charlevoix. Not as large a boat, but very clean and well kept.*

*We were well served at table by a scholarly looking young man and the head waiter had a quiet dignity and a wide sweep of beard rarely found, I think, on a boat waiter.*

Thursday, July 3, 1890

Thurs. 3.

*Reached Charlevoix about 4 o'clock and we took the bus for the cottage. Amy Fuller & her sister came in on Main St.*

*We were glad to find our box and baby beds had come. Mrs. Wood called.*

Friday, July 4, 1890

Friday 4.

*Tried yesterday to reduce chaos to order but did not succeed very well.*

*Today Ida's too sick to enjoy her fire-crackers or anything. Stomach out of order, and some fever.*

*Mrs. Eastwood called, also Jane Stanley {#6, p.4} and her Louie.*

*The latter is very fond of children and both are exceedingly proud of their five-weeks old baby. So proud that they actually had his picture taken, here in Charlevoix.*

*Ben took Phebe and Helen down street and I picked up as well as I could, and put up some pictures, but Ida wanted almost constant attention, she was so peevish and restless, poor baby. Gave her aconite & belladonna.*

Saturday, July 5, 1890

Sat. 5th.

*Went with Ben for a boat-ride and down street. Had a good time.*

O     XXXXXXXXXX

Sunday, July 13, 1890

Sun. July 13th

*A lapse – just as I expected there would be. Ida is quite well again, and Helen, too, but I was quite anxious about them for a time. Ida had a slight attack of bloody dysentary [sic, dysentery], and Helen of diarrhoea, brought on, I suppose, by the sudden change of temperature and not a sudden enough donning of flannels.*

*Mercurias [sic, mercurius] sol. [solubilis] (in powder) and chamomila [sic chamomilla] alternating is what the Dr. prescribed.*

*Yesterday H's stomach was over-loaded and she vomited three times, solid curd – {#6, p.5} then had colic in the night from eleven to one o'clock. The poor dollie was finally relieved by colocyntis [sic, colocynthis] and hot water applications out-side and in.*

*I went to service this P.M. with Mrs. George and Ida – Ben having gone earlier to sing. Bishop Gillespie conducted service, and she was greatly interested. When he knelt behind the pulpit, she started excitedly up the aisle to see where the man had gone. She could only be still a short time – then turned to me and asked in a loud stage-whisper: "Mama, can't we go home now and get my dinner?" So we went.*

Tuesday, July 15, 1890

Tues. 15.

*Mrs. George and I put on some bathing-dresses of the Putnams and went in. That is, she went in under, saying she {#7, p.6} supposed we were out there to get wet, weren't we?*

*All went to row after supper, baby and all. She liked it better than last time, when she was feeling poorly.*

Wednesday, July 16, 1890

Wed. July 16.

*Sent a card to Kittie Hattstaedt telling about rooms and board. Rec. a note from Allie Lovell, telling of a proposed visit to Charlevoix "for a day or two" which I shall hasten to decline. We see no reason why she must drop on us periodically, whenever the notion seizes her – whether we want her, or not.*

*Mr. Crombie and the Barbours came today – the latter to be here a month.*

*We all went for a row, and they came to visit our cottage. We think we are finely fixed.*

Friday, July 18, 1890

Friday 18th

Mrs. George, Miss Higley, the Barbours and I went to Petoskey for the day – Ben staying at home to see that the babies were all right. We took our lunch which we ate in the depot – then went to Bay View, where the Putnams showed us around.

Returning, Mrs. G. and I bought a few little nick-nacks and the boat left about four o'clock. Not a very wild dissipation but had a good time.

Heard that Mrs. Cowell is coming {#7. p.7} North with two sick babies, that the Dr. said could not live, if they remained at home.

Poor woman, I do feel so sorry for her.

Saturday, July 19, 1890

Sat. 19.

Ben off trout fishing, and brought home 35 trout – one of them 10 in. long – and several of them were quite large.

He has caught 83, up to date. (July 22.) Which goes to show that I am writing up back history.

We Ypsi folks read "Evolution of Dodd," an educational satire on methods employed in training children.



After dinner we went to Lake Mich. in the bus, I taking Ida, who enjoyed it greatly.

She declared yesterday that she was “dessa as wet as sock”!

Sunday, July 20, 1890

Sunday 20.

Head-ache. A blank.

Monday, July 21, 1890

Monday 21.

Head all right. Blank again, as I look back.

Tuesday, July 22, 1890

Tues. 22.

All hands off for “Jordan.” Ben & Mr. B. at 7 o’c. for fishing in Monroe Creek and the rest of us for a ride on a very warm day.

Needed wraps on boat. Picked up the boys on our way home. Mr. B. “did splendidly for the first attempt at fishing, for trout” – so says Ben. They were both tired enough – but triumphant. Helen was such a good baby on the boat.

{#8, p.8}

Wednesday, July 23, 1890

Wednesday July 23.

Planned to go to Lake Mich. beach with our suppers, but it looked like rain – and did rain by spells.

I took Miss Higley and we tried to sketch a little in Chicago river. Too many little showers for us to accomplish much. Ben & Mr. Barbour start for Sault St. Mary [Sault Ste. Marie] next Friday. (*“Salt Steamaria” as some-one called it.*)

Thursday, July 24, 1890

Thurs. 24.

*The boys found that by starting today they could probably be home again before Sunday. So they left at noon. A card from Jen soon after they had gone, told of her leaving G. Rapids and reaching here Friday. Also a telegram from Mr. Hattstaedt saying they would be here Sat. Too bad Ben is not here to meet them.*

*We Ypsilanti folks went to Lake Mich beach and took our supper. Had a good time, until it commenced to rain while we were eating our lunch. We were all good natured though, and everything turned out all right, and no-one got wet. Shall try it again and fix the potatoes so they will roast better.*

Friday, July 25, 1890

Friday 25.

*Ida & I went to meet aunt Jen on the "Friant" – also Miss Higley and Mrs. George went with us. Ida was delighted to see her.*

{#8, p.9}

Saturday, July 26, 1890

Sat. 26.

*Windy & Cloudy. Ben came home about 7 o'clock. Could not get a boat at Petoskey, so three of them hired a rig and drove over.*

*We were just starting for a boat-ride, and saw them drive up, very dirty, and tired – Ben having had no dinner or supper.*

Sunday, July 27, 1890

Sun. 27.

*The Hattstaedts came up early in the morning and stayed till nearly dinner-time. "Bunnie" & Ida played together in the sand like two little cherubs. He calls Ida "girlie."*

*Wrote to Ida Sr. Took little Ida to afternoon service, with the usual result. Her foot itched, she wanted to sing at the wrong time, and finally of course wanted to "dickie," so we adjourned. Ben and Jen sang in the choir, but we sat in the back of the room.*

Monday, July 28, 1890

Mon. 28.

We all went to Oyster bay for a picnic. Had a great time, and a long walk, after landing, to find out a pleasant abiding-place.

We had a good time, after all.

Mrs. George, Jen D., Mrs. Barbour & I picked raspberries, while Miss Higley tended to the coffee and roasting potatoes, and Kittie H. {#9, p.10} worked on baby sack. John H. fished and Ben & Mr. B. helped pick berries. Ida behaved beautifully, and we were glad the Darling went – for she enjoyed it so thoroughly.

Reached home about half-past-eight.

Tuesday, July 29, 1890

Tues. 29th July.

The folks came up and brought their work and we read aloud a story in the “Cosmopolitan” about Somebody’s wife.

I have finished Balzac’s “Magic Skin,” a horridly severe satire upon society & its selfish grasping and reaching. Have had enough French novels to last some time.

Mr. & Mrs. Ware called. When they started to leave he said to Helen, sitting on Jen’s lap: “Well, good-bye, old baby” – and grasped Jen’s hand, by mistake. It was too funny.

Wednesday, July 30, 1890

Wed 30

Very windy. Mr. H. and Ben – Mr. & Mrs. Barbour, Willard and the dog rowed to Oyster Bay to get bate [sic, bait] for fishing and Cunningham Lake. (It is hot.)

They all got wet going over, and had to give up rowing back, because it was so very rough; and they walked home, seven miles, I should think. Five, any way.

Ben was not so very tired, either

{#9, p.11} Kittie came up, in the afternoon and we attempted or planned to read “Evolution of Dodd” – but didn’t. Too many interruptions.

How can any-one read, with such fascinating babies! Her little Louise is a very good child – though not handsome.

Rec. Laura's baby picture.

Thursday, July 31, 1890

Thurs. 31.

Cool and pleasant. Large party went to Ironton to see blast at the furnace.

Left home at 6:30 – the blast was delayed until 10 o'clock., reached home about 11:15.

Kittie worried about her infants, just as I did about mine, last summer.

We visited the Chicago Resort in the afternoon.

Friday, August 1, 1890

Frid. Aug. 1st.

Ben, Barbour & Hattstaedt off to Cunningham (?) Lake for fishing, with guide, team etc.

Have been trying to get there for about a week. Once the bait got eaten up, over night. On Wed. they went to Susan Lake for bate [bait], and it was so rough that they positively could not row home – but had to leave their boats and walk way around the point. History repeats. Miss Higley came up, and we walked down to Miller's to see if Mrs. B. was dead – and we found her busy with her crochet work.

{#10, p.12}

Saturday, August 2, 1890

Sat. Aug. 2d. 90

A sick spell of bilious head-ache, I guess.

Wednesday, August 13, 1890

Wed. Aug. 13.

*Am very sorry I have allowed such a lapse, again. Jen went to Bay View on Monday; and that afternoon we went on a tramp (quite a large party) to visit the old Indian chief Macasawa of the remnant of Chippewa indians about here. We had a nice row, and romantic walk to the chief's house, at the foot of three great hills.*

*Played tennis today for the first time. This morning we were off for a boat-ride and down street – taking Kittie H. (John in Mackinaw.)*

*This afternoon went to call on Henry Post & wife, at the Chicago Resort. He gave a concert tonight, with Lavin and Campbell – tenor & baritone.*

*A very enjoyable entertainment. We took Kittie.*

Thursday, August 14, 1890

Thurs. 14.

*Jen returned from Bay View. Had a very good time – staying at Mrs. Hirtel's. Looked like rain, so we didn't do any thing. The Hattstaedts came up and we worked and visited.*

*The boys went to bowl for a while, and wanted to play tennis – but others were there.*

{#10, p.13}

Friday, August 15, 1890

Friday 15.

*We all went on the "Gordon" at about two o'clock. – going to Boyne City – and returning about seven. Took cookies, lemonade & fruit, and enjoyed the trip.*

*In the eve., we went to the Sanitary Convention, and listened to a paper by Dr. Hazlewood on diphtheria, and one on "consumption" by Steigenfuss of Alpena. Both very interesting. Consumption is infectious from the microbes which come from the dried spittle of the patient. Should always use cloths for it, then burn them.*

Saturday, August 16, 1890

Sat. 16.

The Hazlewoods (Dr. & two boys) came and stayed a long time, so I barely got off in time to see the Hattstaedts at the boat.

Took a bus down, and came back with a crowd of young folks on a dray.

After dinner I was so sleepy – took a nap. Then Ben & Jen went off in the boat and Phebe down street with Belle, while I took the babes for a walk.

In the eve. Ben sang at a musical with great éclat. Mrs. Holden made a great fuss over his voice.

It was a very enjoyable entertainment. Mr. Clark of Milwaukee whistled beautifully, Mr. {#11, p.14} Aldrich and Miss Hard sang. Young Aldrich played on the flute, and Mrs. Foster recited.

## Sunday, August 17, 1890

Sun. Aug. 17, 90.

Ben, Jen & I sang at the service in Music Hall; and in the eve. they sent for Ben to come and lead the sing at the hotel.

## Monday, August 18, 1890

Mon. 18.

We went (thirteen, including Jane & L. [Louis] Stanley, M. Sinclair, Mrs. Putnam & friend, the Alexandr's, Miss Ladd and us) to visit an Indian village. Had a good ride of about fourteen miles, but the village did not amount to much. It rained during the latter part of the trip, but they pulled down the side curtains to the bus, and we were snug as possible. We learned that Skitawaboo is Indian for whiskey. Several others too, but I have forgotten them.

Home at about seven o'clock and Jane's little 4 mo. baby was asleep all right. Grandma had fed him milk and water.

## Tuesday, August 19, 1890

Tues. 19. Jen went home.

Ben & Louie Stanley went fishing for trout. B. got 22 and S. only two.

This makes Ben's catch for the season 105, which sounds large. I saw Mr. Charlie Burch and sister from Sag. & Mrs. Comstock.

{#11, p.15}

Friday, August 22, 1890

Friday 22.

The Alexandr's [Alexandré?] got up a ride to Twin lakes, about six miles away. Found some nice everlasting flowers and roots of ferns & maiden-hair. It was a beautiful ride; but when they proposed another for tomorrow we were not quite equal to it.

Their superlatives are too frequent for comfort. They're good old girls, though. (They have a boys' preparatory school, just out of St. Louis – boys from 6 to 16 yrs. old.)

[Inserted is a signed child's drawing of an oblong figure with appendages on its head, straight lines representing a nose and mouth, and two several-fingered hands labeled "a frog," attributed to Helen, 4 years old, dated September 1893]

{#12, p.15}

Saturday, August 23, 1890

Sat. 23d.

We went to the beach for a family picnic, took our suppers – roasted potatoes and corn, boiled a stew for Ida, and tea; and had a good old time. Helen is perfectly happy, rolling and scratching in the sand and stones. Have collected quite a lot of pretty stones to put in a bottle with water, for Ida to look at.

Sunday, August 24, 1890

Sun. 24.

Last Sunday in Charlevoix. Did not go to service, as Phebe wanted to go for a boat-ride.

Rain in the afternoon and eve. We enjoy a snapping grate fire now-a-days. Reading "In Palace and Faubourg" – a story of the French Revolution very well told.

Helen walks all over clinging to furniture, and talks every-thing she hears, or tries to.

{#13, p.16}

Monday, August 25, 1890

Monday 25th. Aug.

Went to row, as usual, after dinner. I did not go to dinner, as I have no appetite, since my bilious attack the first of the month. Troubled with nausea almost constantly. Do not know what is the matter.

Phebe fixed some toast and egg for me.

Tuesday, August 26, 1890

Tues. 26.

Finished packing the box, barrel of fruit and babies' beds, and sent them off on the "Clara Belle." Ida knows the name of almost all the boats, and rarely fails to recognize them as far as she can see them. Helen walks all over, with assistance and stands alone, of her own accord – and we ask if she "is a big girlie."

Wednesday, August 27, 1890

Wed. 27

Very windy and rough on Lake Mich. Glad we had not planned to leave C. today. Did most of my packing. Jane S. and Margaret Sinclair called, just as Ida was undressed and about to say her little prayer. They thought she went to her bed beautifully in the dark, without offering a word of remonstrance. We could hear her singing, afterwards – softly, so she would not wake Helen. She is a blessed baby. Last night Helen went to her bed just as sweetly when the Wortleys were in.

{#13, p.17} Ben and I called on Mrs. Mahon and family – (The Wares had gone, so we could not go there) – Mrs. Putnam, the Seabrings and Mrs. Olney.

Thursday, August 28, 1890

Thurs. 28.

Left a little before noon, on the "Grand Rapids." The lake had settled down to quite a comfortable calm.



It was pleasant until we reached Mackinaw, where we had an hours wait, and no place to sit down.

It rained very hard when we went on board the "City of Mackinaw."

Did not get our staterooms for a long time – there was such a crowd.

Friday, August 29, 1890

Frid. 29.

Quite rough when we awoke. Phebe, Helen and I had a lively time about six o'clock before the rest of the people were up. There were a great many sick during the day.

The Cowells were on board, and Mrs. Watterhouse of Ypsi. She seems much pleasanter on acquaintance than I used to consider her.

Mr. C. came on board at Port Huron, greatly to the delight of his family. They really appear to think everything of the little "black and tan" terrier.

{#14, p.18}

Saturday, August 30, 1890

Sat. 30.

Reached Detroit at 2 o'clock A.M. – but they let us sleep until about 6 o'clock.

Took our breakfast at the "Wayne," just across from the depot.

Very good breakfast, but lame service.

Reached Ypsi. a little before noon, and we were all glad to see how nice every-thing looked. Got my brown silk from Hay's.

Sunday, August 31, 1890

Sun. 31. Aug.

Attended service with Ben. Found father & Ida here when we returned from S.S. [Sunday School]. We were all glad to have them take dinner with us. Ida brought a big loaf of bread, can of milk, can of cream and 2 doz. eggs.

After they had gone home, we took a walk and went to see Dr. Frazer. He gave me powders for biliousness.

Mrs. Cooley died – funeral Tues.

Monday, September 1, 1890

Mon. Sep. 1st. '90.

Settling as fast as possible so as to commence canning tomorrow. Canned blueberries in the P.M.

Tuesday, September 2, 1890

Tues. 2.

Mrs. Lambert over, and Mrs. Switzer.

Ben and I drove over to Mrs. Cooley's funeral, and did not get there 'till nearly the close of the service.

They telephoned to Ben that it was 10:30, but it commenced at 10 o'clock.

{#14, p.19} The flowers were beautiful.

At the cemetery every-thing was covered on their lot, with flowers.

Mr. Horton's grave was all purple asters, Fannie's baby was all pink asters – and the tree trunks were twined with greens and flowers. A beautiful ivy cross stood at the head of the open grave – and every-thing was beautiful as befitted the blessed dead.

It seems so strange that the dear mother must go – and leave her children – while Mrs. Horton, about eighty yrs. old – should be left.

It has been a hard summer for poor dear Fannie. She looked very much worn.

Wednesday, September 3, 1890

Wed. 3.

Wrote to Miss Scott about sending me another girl. Phebe's sister is to be married (?) and she is going home next *week*. She had her release from the school, when we un-packed our box, yesterday. We all feel badly about her returning to the evil influences of her house – but nothing can be done about it when she is determined to go.

{#15, p.20} Canned a bushel of peaches – making ? cans, and a jar of sweet pickles. A pk. [peck] of plums made five cans, and quite a little jam, by putting apples with them.

Thursday, September 4, 1890

Thurs. Sep. 4.

Rainy. Finished peaches. Ben went to prayer-meeting but I was too tired. Helen waked up this morning at four o'clock for a change. (Later.) There was no meeting after all – on account of the rain, I guess.

Saturday, September 6, 1890

Saturday 6.

Cousin Nan wants us to take Maud this winter, as she is very poorly, and thinks of going away from home for treatment, this fall. Poor Nan! I wonder if she has some serious trouble.

Although we greatly dread the responsibility, we consented to have her come. Aunt Ida came, on the cars.

Sunday, September 7, 1890

Sun. 7.

A bright day. I had 17 in my class, and 45 cts. [cents] collection. The school chose Mr. Wood for Superintendent, next year. That is – Ben did it and made them back him. What a change it will make in the school!

Ben and I went to Consecration meeting in the eve. Phebe having attended the morning service.

{#15, p.21} Hortie drove out after ida. It is hot – so I wore my white wrapper, and the babes did not have on anything in particular under their dresses.

Monday, September 8, 1890

Mon. 8.

Church annual meeting in the eve. Mr. Beale handed in his resignation, having been advised to do so, by Mr. Strong – who was put up to it by Ben, who thought it would be much nicer all

around than to vote him out. Mr. B. behaved like a christian gentleman, under trying circumstances.

Tuesday, September 9, 1890

Tues. 9.

Am going to Dr. James every day, to have my sick tooth doctored.

Today, had two horrid cavities filled in back teeth. He almost split my mouth larger. Had a wretched time; and felt doubly wretched when I came home and found that Mr. Cooley, Fan, babies and Louise Pond had been here.

Wednesday, September 10, 1890

Wed. 10.

Mrs. Ainsworth and Mrs. Barnum called. Attended the opera: "Trial by Jury" given by local talent – very good, too.

Clinton Elder the star tenor from N.Y. sang very finely. {#16, p.22} We liked him the best in his selection from "Messiah" – sung in the first half of the program.

Thursday, September 11, 1890

Thurs. 11th. Sep.

Phebe has been working like a whirl wind this week – finishing her large ironing yesterday morning – darning my stockings and cleaning generally before going to her home. Left at 11 o'clock this A.M. and at five Emma Johnson came to take her place. A very quiet, sweet appearing girl. Aunt Ida came this afternoon and took little Ida home to stay 'till Sunday.

Friday, September 12, 1890

Friday 12th.

At Ladies' Aid Society at Mrs. Higley's – twenty-one ladies present – seven dollars dues handed me. Rec. the book of directions from "Temple of Fame" entertainment – costing \$5.00!!! Mrs. Ainsworth chairman of the com. of arrangements – and I am ch. of com. of entertainment. More work.

Helen stayed with Emma, all right. I think I am going to like E. very much. This letter from Phebe, Emma found in her room, and it is so characteristic that I shall keep it in remembrance of poor, impulsive, good-hearted, mis-guided Phebe.

Mrs. Barbour & Georgia Fisher (who is clerk at the Industrial House) came to see us.

{#16, p.23}

Saturday, September 13, 1890

Sat. 13.

After dinner, went to the dentist's again for a change, and down town.

Invited Grace Barbour and Miss Cruback to tea. Helen behaved beautifully. Put at the girls plates a bunch of sweet peas and one of pansies, which pleased them immensely. Had quite a little music in the eve. Grace is in town for only a few days.

Sunday, September 14, 1890

Sun. 14.

Emma went to morning service with Ben. After dinner we took Helen and started to meet the Idas, but after going quite a way and watching every carriage anxiously, for a time, we got discouraged and came home.

They came about four o'clock. – because of Ida's nap. We were glad to see our "white kittie" again.

The door slammed on our little kitten (Bonnie) and came near causing her demise (a good word).

Emma and I attended Y.P.S.C.E. [Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor] meeting in the evening.

Monday, September 15, 1890

Mon 15.

When Emma started to fill the boiler last eve. she found a hole in it. Made by Phebe who got mad at it because she bumped her head {#17, p.24} on it. She knocked it off the nail, and kicked it, making a deep dent.

Tuesday, September 16, 1890

Tues. Sep. 16./90

A letter from Phebe so full of fibs that I shall never trouble to reply.

It seems almost impossible for her to tell the truth.

Down to the dentist's as usual, yesterday. Today (I was so late for a tea-party) *asleep* at Mrs. Batchelders (that) did ~~not go~~. Had an elegant supper and a fairly good time. About thirteen ladies invited.

Wednesday, September 17, 1890

Wed. 17.

Down street with Ida. After our return Mrs. Higley & Fancis [sic, Francis] came, and took us for a little ride.

Thursday, September 18, 1890

Thurs. 18.

Helen is having a rather hard time with her stomach teeth. Was awake nearly four hours last night. The Strong girls called. Mrs. Farnham came, last Tuesday to sew.

Friday, September 19, 1890

Friday 19.

Mrs. F. did not come today. Am afraid she is sick.

At Ladies' Aid in P.M. talking up "The Temple of Fame" and assigning characters.

Helen a trifle feverish and did not want any dinner.

Started furnace fire.

{#17, p.25}

Saturday, September 20, 1890

Sat. 20.

Am dreadfully stupid now-a-days – because Helen is so busy getting teeth in the night-time!

At the dentists as usual. Am to have the tooth filled next Tuesday.

More crab-apple jelly. It is much better than my grape jelly.

Mr. & Mrs. Cowell called in the eve.

Helen walks all over, alone.

Sunday, September 21, 1890

Sun. 21.

Ida & Nell Loving out. Nice bright Autumn day. Quite warm in the sun. Let furnace fire go out.

Monday, September 22, 1890

Mon. 22.

Miss Higley took Ida and me for a ride, and to ask people to help on our entertainment “Temple of Fame.” Met with very good success.

Mrs. Greene & sister Mrs. Baxter called.

Tried to sew in the eve, but went to sleep instead.

Tuesday, September 23, 1890

Tues 23.

Had an excruciating time at the dentist's. Charged me \$4.00

Shopping afterwards – than home, all tired out and with face ache.

Ben went alone to the Y.P.S.C.E. social at Prof. George's.

{#18, p.26}

Friday, October 3, 1890

Friday Oct. 3d. '90

Have been too busy to think of my diary – getting ready for “Temple of Fame.”

Last Monday I had Missionary 4 o’c. tea and served chocolate & cake and some missionary stories. Sec. and Treas. were absent, but I got five new members.

Church tea at Strong’s tonight. I shall take 3 glasses jelly and 2 loaves bread cut in thin sandwiches.

Saturday, October 4, 1890

Sat. 4th.

Not as large an attendance as we had expected, last night. I presume because the Strong’s hadn’t called on folks. Nor could they be expected to.

I had my annual report, and after supper got twenty members for the coming year.

Furnace too hot.

Sunday, October 5, 1890

Sun. 5th.

Mart came on the cars, to spend the day. Had fine times with the babies.

We three went to church, and I had to leave, on account of faintness. Never did such a thing before, that I remember. Mart left at 10:30 P.M. after having some wine & cookies.

Query: How could he find room for anything more, after such a hearty lunch at about 7:30? He enjoys eating.

{#18, p.27}

Tuesday, October 7, 1890

Tues. 7th.

Miss Higley came with the carriage and we “toted” a few more “parts”.

At 4 o’c. I went to Sappho, the first meeting of the singing section.



Good attendance and promise of good work. Going to give a concert and devote the proceeds to a piano, to stand in the Ladies Library – they giving us the use of their room, for the use of our instrument.

Wednesday, October 8, 1890

Wed. 8th

I feel wretchedly. Ought to be sick and am not. Went down street in the morning and got tired out.

In the afternoon Ida drove out and we took our babies and went for a ride. Furnace fire out again – so it has turned colder.

Thursday, October 9, 1890

Thurs. 9.

I actually went to prayer-meeting in the eve. The first time since our return from the North.

Friday, October 10, 1890

Friday 10.

Ladies' Aid met here. Election of officers, Mrs. George and I re-elected. Mrs. Cowell vice-pres.

Mrs. Becker took me to ask Mrs. Miller to take part in our entertainment (of Eliz. B. [Elizabeth Barrett] Browning).

{#19, p.28} About half-past-eight Mr. Barbour came after us to go there and play cards. When it transpired that they had invited us there for tea and I (!!!) forgot to tell Ben, or to go. I felt so "shamed," but they were very good-natured about it.

Saturday, October 11, 1890

Sat. 11th. Oct.

Rainy. Ben tried to get a surrey for us to have a ride, but they were engaged. We were glad of it, when it rained.

The minister-on-trial Mr. Kirkpatrick came here, after tea; but Ben toted him up to Strong's – as they had said they would entertain him.

Sunday, October 12, 1890

Sun. 12th.

Rain again. So wet Emma couldn't go, as she has no rubbers.

I went to S.S. Cowell led the S.S. as Mr. Wood (the new superintendent) was out of town. Ben rejoices that he is out of it all.

Wrote to Grandpa.

Wednesday, October 15, 1890

Wed. 15.

Had rehearsal at Ainsworth's last Monday eve. and another this P.M. Mr. A. up the morning, and we did some errands for the show. Sappho Club at Mrs. Yerkes. Sacred music – no paper but {#19, p.29} very good entertainment. Mrs. Cowell brought me some pickles.

Thursday, October 16, 1890

Thurs. 16.

Rain again. Mrs. Cowell came in the morning to get a pattern for angel sleeves. We intended to go to A.A. and attend Lois A. McLaughlin's reception but it was too wet.

Friday, October 17, 1890

Friday 17th.

I wish it were Friday 24th. at 11 o'clock P.M. and I was in bed and asleep. How I do dread the coming week! Down street with Emma, getting her a cloak. Miss Higley, Mrs. Wilcox, Mrs. Ainsworth and Cowell, Mrs. Trim, Mrs. Tousey and Mrs. George here at different times during the day, all on account of the "T. of F." [Temple of Fame]

The Posts had a big party last eve. and didn't ask us. How we do feel about it!

Saturday, October 18, 1890

Sat. 18.

We must hire our washing done, for the clothes are getting darker and dusker every week. She understands the process, but does not get the streaks of dirt out.

We went down street today, and got her a cloak – and did some “T. of F.” errands.

Took Helen, and she sat out in front as good as a kitten, while {#20, p.30} we went in the stores.

Rehearsal in the eve. – fairly well attended – and some of them say their say in good shape.

Wallace and Clark will decorate our stage for the advertisement to be on the program. Rev. Van Ommeren came to stay with us and to preach Sunday.

Sunday, October 19, 1890

Sun. 19.

Emma went to church in the P.M. and I went in the eve. Van O seems to be quite well-informed in some directions – but is very thin in the pulpit. Was so scared in the morning that he almost broke down. Is only 28 years old, and stands very much in awe of Ben.

Monday, October 20, 1890

Mon. 20

Mr. V. visited the Normal, and left on the 9:45 (or something) train.

Out with the infants selling tickets in the neighborhood. They *sent me fifty to dispose of. Rain in showers.*

Tuesday, October 21, 1890

Tues 21

*Out with Miss Higley, notifying people of rehearsal, and doing other errands.*

*Eve. rehearsal at church.*

{#20, p.31}

Wednesday, October 22, 1890

Wed. 22.

*Out in the morning with Miss H.*

*Rehearsal at opera-house in the afternoon passed off very well. Very cold there.*

*Eve. rehearsal at church. Tired. We are enjoying our sweet peas, pansies, nasturtiums & marigolds quite late – by covering them at night.*

*Also second growth of radishes, which are delicious.*

Thursday, October 23, 1890

Thurs. 23.

Miss H. and I were “at it again.” Dress rehearsal in the eve. passed off the best that I have ever seen at a final rehearsal.

Friday, October 24, 1890

Friday 24.

The day of our show. The stage looked beautifully, with all Mr. Wallace’s fine draperies and pretty chairs, and rugs from all over. Had our parlor rug down there, and one other.

The entertainment was as near perfect as it could be – and the house was packed. Announced a Matinee for Saturday P.M.

Aunt Ida took our Ida home.

Saturday, October 25, 1890

Saturday 25.

Mrs. A. and Miss H. came to consult, and we went after a new chamberlain. Down to the opera {#21, p.32} house and working until nearly five o’clock.

Made about eighteen dollars clear of expenses, today. It will amount in all, to about \$150.00 clear.

Now we must go to work about selling our manuscript. If it had not rained we should have made more.

Sunday, October 26, 1890

Sunday 26. Oct.

Rain again.

We went early and carried chrysanthemums down for the table. Mr. Williams of Chicago preached. Good too.

It seems strange without our "White Kittie." Helen calls her after every meal, to come and take her down from her chair. Calls: "Ida! Down!" The little fat rascal manages to make all her wants known. She plays alone, so cunning, building her blocks, rocking her dollies and trotting around like a little fat kitten.

Monday, October 27, 1890

Monday 27.

It seems strange not to have washing around. The clothes looked dreadfully last week – but I am hoping that she will have better luck (Mrs. Newton).

Picked enough lettuce in the garden for Ben some – and some more radishes. (We must have picked about fifty of them this Fall.)

In the afternoon at Mrs. Ainsworth's getting our manuscript ready for printers.

{#21, p.33} Monday night. Led the meeting at Y.W.C. [Young Women's Christian] Association – then rushed up to the Normal to hear Gunsaulus<sup>4</sup> on "Savonarola." He is a powerful speaker. I read that when at home, in Chicago, he goes with his church choir, and holds mission services for the poorer classes; sometimes has 8000 people in the Auditorium.

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<sup>4</sup> Frank W. Gunsaulus, **Frank Wakeley Gunsaulus** (January 1, 1856 – March 17, 1921) was a noted preacher, educator, pastor, author and humanitarian. Famous for his "Million Dollar Sermon" which led [Philip Danforth Armour](#) to donate money to found [Armour Institute of Technology](#) where Gunsaulus served as president for its first 27 years. Gunsaulus lived in Chicago for 34 years where he was pastor of Plymouth Church (1887–99) and Central Church from 1899 until two years before his death. He was a prominent figure in Chicago's social, educational, and civic improvements. In 1893, he was named first president of Armour Institute of Technology (now [Illinois Institute of Technology](#)). His extraordinary energy, masterful oratory skills, and intellectual talents influenced the city's spiritual, educational, cultural, and civic development for decades.  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frank\\_W.\\_Gunsaulus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frank_W._Gunsaulus)

Wednesday, October 29, 1890

Wed. 29.

Down street. Miss Higley and Miss Strong came to see about social tea tomorrow. Helen comes to me (when necessary) and says: "dide dide" – then goes to the register and brings me some dry ones.

Builds her blocks and then calls me: "Tee! Mamma, tee! Mamma!"

We made \$157.00 at our show.

Thursday, October 30, 1890

Thurs. 30.

Made over ninety sandwiches in the morning; Miss Higley came and carried some of them down. Sent also pickles and marmalade.

At 2 o'clock. Ben & I went to A.A. and I went with Ida to call on Lois A. Mc. – her last reception day. {#22 is a duplicate} {#23, p.24} Lois looked very pretty in a trailing pale green china silk, and her house is beautiful.

Refreshments were wafers or fancy crackers, olives, salted almonds, coffee, cake, tea, preserved fruits and ginger.

Table all arranged in white and gold.

Home at 5 o'clock. and to the tea at Mrs. Higley's. Afterwards three of us washed up all the dishes because Mrs. H. has no girl. Home about 8:30 with a back-ache to pay for it.

Going to hold a bazaar in Dec. with the assistance of the Cheerful-Helpers, and Ladies' Aid.

Ida home with Papa, from A.A.

Friday, October 31, 1890

Friday 31st. Oct.

Aunt Ida's birthday. We sent a note of congratulations and I will carry her something tomorrow when I go up to hear "Aus der Ohe."<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Adele aus der Ohe, **Adele (Adelheit Johanne Auguste Hermine) aus der Ohe** (11 February 1861 – 8 December 1937) was a German concert pianist and composer.<sup>[1][n 1]</sup> Her compositions were published by G. Schirmer Inc.[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adele\\_aus\\_der\\_Ohe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adele_aus_der_Ohe)

A dissipated week for me.

Out walking with Ida in the A.M. – then she came home, had an apple and off to bed.

Saturday, November 1, 1890

Saturday Nov. 1st. 90

Up to A.A. with a lot of Ypsi. ladies, as Ben does not care for piano music. It was the finest piano playing I ever heard, but I must confess that it does not appeal to me as violan. Miss Buckley sang very {#23, p.35} prettily, and was dressed in pink satine [sateen?] trimmed with white – as she would look when going down street, of a summer morning. Aus der Ohe wore black velvet with sash and front of pink & blue china silk.

Sunday, November 2, 1890

Sunday 2d.

Mr. Strong and Mr. Greason (of G.R.) came in the afternoon for a call.

I went alone to Y.P.S.C.E. meeting in the eve. Thank-offering taken \$2.60.

Monday, November 3, 1890

Monday 3d.

Mr. Sprague will give a recital for the benefit of the C. [Christian] Endeavor society if we get up some music for it. Guess we will have it about the 22d. of this month.

Missionary meeting at Miss Shaw's today. There were eleven present. Thank-offering over \$8.00.

At Y.W.C.A. meeting with Emma, in the eve.

Tuesday, November 4, 1890

Tues. 4th.

Down town and doing errands about our "T. of F." manuscript. Did not reach home 'till half-past-one!! nearly. Had no idea it was so late.

Sappho in the afternoon. Lots of new music, very pretty too – but is going to cost quite a little.

We had some cribbage in the eve. – the first for a long, long time.

Helen howls about every night now. {#24, p.36} If by chance she is awakened it seems impossible for her to sleep again for an hour or so; yet nothing seems to be the matter, unless it is teeth.

She and Ida have grand good times together.

## Wednesday, November 5, 1890

Wed. 5th. Nov.

Emma's father surprised her with a visit. Sappho Club in the eve. at Mrs. Watling's and as Mrs. Barbour couldn't come, I had to preside as vice-president.

A number of them felt called upon to whisper praises in my willing ears. Very silly, I think, though.

Had a very pleasant program of music, and decided not to accept the Ladies Library invitation to meet at their rooms, furnishing our own light and heat and piano. Owens bro't [brought] me home.

## Thursday, November 6, 1890

Thurs. 6th.

Much warmer, so I had window open (while babes took their naps) and took cold. Ben at A.A. again. Expected to lead prayer-meeting, but adjourned it to attend Union service at the Baptist church.

## Friday, November 7, 1890

Friday 7th.

Special meeting of L.A.S. to consider plans for frescoing the church.

When I reached home, found Ruth Hay here, and another of my lovely {#24, p.37} egg-shell china cups broken.

I had pansies in it (very foolishly) and Ida reached up and took it to "play chocolate" with.



She whipped her-self thoroughly and was in the closet for half an hour. It makes me sick all over but perhaps I will learn sometime that it is impossible to have pretty things around where there are babies. They have always been so good, I trust them too much.

Board meeting at the school next Wednesday and then Emma can go, and I won't have so much worry about her, and her work and the wash etc. (It looks worse than ever this week.)

Poor Mrs. Barbour had a Missionary tea today and Willard is quite sick with a cold. I do not envy her experience.

## Saturday, November 8, 1890

Saturday. 8th.

Rain again. More rain this Fall than ever before; so says every-body.

Home all day, cleaning, mending and darning, as usual. Just finished darning my twelfth stocking.

Helen has so many cute tricks and ways.

Today {#25, p.38} she laid down on the floor, and commenced patting her-self and singing (?) "bye-o" the way I do to get her quieted down before putting her in bed.

Ruth Hay had serious trouble up stairs while they were playing; and Ida told me and asked if I wasn't sorry "because poor Roofie's got the biar-leaf" (or diarleaf).

She often says she knows "juss e-jack-ly" what she will do.

After tea, they all have a grand romp. (That is, papa and the babes.)

Sometimes he rides them both on his back at once. If Helen wants to ride on his foot, she backs up against his knee and bumps him until he puts his foot out as she wants it.

I have sent out about thirty of our advertisements for "T. of F." hoping to sell the book of directions. It would be a joke if not one sent for it.

## Sunday, November 9, 1890

Sunday Nov. 9.

Rain as usual on Sunday. Emma went to church, and again in the afternoon. Ida asked me: "Mamma, what makes Emma have to go right off to church again, when she just got home?" (Query.)

Monday, November 10, 1890

Monday 10.

Concert in eve: Boston Symphony and Orchestral Club. Home all the time, now.

{#25, p.39}

Tuesday, November 11, 1890

Tues. 11.

The concert was very fine indeed. Enjoyed it about 150 times as much as “Aus der Ohe.” Am not equal to much piano, but strings I enjoy if well played. They had quite a marvellous flute-player and first violin (Le Seve or de Seve?).

Wednesday, November 12, 1890

Wed. 12.

Down town and to the Doctors. My case seems to puzzle him – but he has about decided for “enceinte” [French: pregnant]. Oh, Dear!

Ida was telling papa, at table, that she knew what eyes were for: “to see with” (triumphantly). Papa, Well, what’s your nose for? “To be blowed!” Too true to be funny, now-a-days. Both of the babes have running colds. Dr. prescribed “cepa.”<sup>6</sup>

Thursday, November 13, 1890

Thurs. 13.

Have had two or three applications for further particulars of “T. of F.” – It remains to be seen if they will want to pay \$5.00 for our book.

Emma to revival meeting with a Mrs. Krouk and did not get home ‘till after 10:30. Pretty bad for a sick, nervous girl, I think. Hope she will not want to repeat it.

Bad students row at Ann Arbor.

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<sup>6</sup> Boiron, *Allium Cepa* - <https://www.boironusa.com/product/allium-cepa/>

{#26, p.40}

Friday, November 14, 1890

Friday Nov. 14.

Rain as usual. Lecture in the eve. by Hon. Breckenridge [sic, Breckinridge] of Kentucky<sup>7</sup> on the "Race Problem." Very good indeed. He is a large, white-whiskered-and-haired man, with rather florid face. A courtly christian southern gentleman "of the old school." Thinks the race problem must adjust itself, in time, with the aid of christianity. His wife sat just back of us, with sister Barbour, and we had the pleasure of meeting her. She must have been a Kentucky beauty in her youth.

Saturday, November 15, 1890

Sat. 15.

A letter from Miss Scott saying that, as we suggested, Emma is to go to her aunt in Chicago, and they will send us another.

Heard that Phebe is with Mrs. McNoah in Detroit, who wants us to take her again. I don't know.

Ben in Detroit with Barbour and went to see Mrs. M. Says Phebe has been through some terrible experiences at Saginaw, and appears thoroughly discouraged and disgusted with life. I haven't the strength or courage to have her now.

Sunday, November 16, 1890

Sun. 16.

First bright Sunday in two months, I think.

{#26, p.41} Ben sang in choir – and I went alone. Had a funny old party from Pontiac. A nice old fellow, but would be tiresome, I'm afraid, for steady diet.

Emma at home because she is going away so soon; she has no interest in the S. School here.

Ben and I at C.E. meeting. Distributed 14 mite boxes for missions, to be opened next Fall.

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<sup>7</sup> William Campbell Preston Breckinridge, **William Campbell Preston Breckinridge** (August 28, 1837 – November 18, 1904) was a lawyer and [Democratic](#) politician from [Kentucky](#); a U.S. Representative from 1885 to 1895. He was a scion of the [Breckinridge political family](#): grandson of Senator [John Breckinridge](#), and first cousin of [Vice President John C. Breckinridge](#).  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William\\_Campbell\\_Preston\\_Breckinridge](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Campbell_Preston_Breckinridge)

Monday, November 17, 1890

Mon. 17.

At Prof. Lodeman's for tea, with Mr. & Mrs. George and Grace, & three charming (?) Waltons. The old lady is nice.

Had a miserable supper: baker's biscuit and cake, sloppy salmon salad (pretty good though, if it was German receipt), sliced beef (in hunks), sweet tomato pickles, coffee, peaches & lemon jelly. It seemed all good enough but the meet [meat?], until we talked it over, coming home. Guess we are getting "pernickety."

Mrs. Lodeman played something of Chopin's and I wa'bled (?) and we all sang some rounds (all but the Ws, of course).

Tuesday, November 18, 1890

Tues. 18.

My yesterday's head-ache that I fought off came on, in full force, today.

A regular snapper.

More letters about "Temple of Fame." {#27, p.42} I only hope they will all decide that they want books of directions.

John Verdier came unexpectedly, for a flying visit. Took tea with us, then went to A.A. for a call on Mart, and home to G.R. in time for breakfast. On a flying business trip to Detroit. He is a good-natured, hearty, frank whole-souled old fellow; and both babies liked him right away.

The Ent's are decidedly "off" with mother, Jen and Westerhoff. We feel so sorry for "little ma," that she must live in such an atmosphere of storms when every-thing ought to be peaceful around her, now.

Guess the Ent's are jealous because Jen caught Westerhoff when they wanted him for Kate. We wish they would "go to Canaan" where Ent has an offer of \$1000. and parsonage, and \$100 for moving expenses.

Wednesday, November 19, 1890

Wed. 19.

Letter from cousin Nan, who has just returned from Chicago to Fla.

Left Maud at " [Chicago] studying medicine!!

Thursday, November 20, 1890

Thurs. 20

Emma is showing what she can do, this week. Woman washed Tues. and ironing all finished this A.M.

After dinner {#27, p.43} she did up her work, scrubbed floor and some wood-work in kitchen – and other extra work, and off down town by half-past three.

She did not get interested in her work; and did not think of what she was doing, but plodded and poked around, ever since she came here, until within a few days.

I felt first movement, tonight. Allegro.

Friday, November 21, 1890

Friday 21. Nov.

Emma off at 8:45 and I am alone in my glory. Like it too, all but the dish-washing. My back is just tired enough to stop, when we sit down to a meal.

Had to go to Ladies Aid society at 3 o'clock. but did not get there 'till 3:30, as Ida did not wake up, and my work did not get finished before then. Extra dishes on account of roast-duck dinner. Ben pronounced it the best he ever ate.

Saturday, November 22, 1890

Sat. 22.

Yesterday Mrs. George & I went to see Mrs. Putnam about giving a stereopticon show (the Ladies Library As. [Association] and our L.A.S.). She told us dreadful news from Lucy Sales in Chicago. Her little girl Ruth was playing with the cat – and it scratched the child's eye right out.

{#28, p.43}

[Undated newspaper notice about an upcoming Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor event, including a recital by Herbert Sprague and a musical performance]

Notice.

The Y. P. S. C. E. of the Congregational church have invited Mr. Herbert Sprague to give a recital next Saturday evening Nov. 22, 8 o'clock, at C. W. Childs' residence, No. 506 Congress street. Mr. Sprague has already won quite a reputation for his impersonations, at Normal entertainments and elsewhere. In connection with the readings will be given a pleasing musical program. All are cordially invited. Admission 10 cts.

{#29, p.44}

Sunday, November 23, 1890

Sunday Nov. 23d '90.

New girl, Lillie Nicholson, came last night; so I couldn't go to the social for fear the children might wake up, and be frightened to see a stranger. She looks as if she would do very well, when I get her taught.

The recital and musical was very good, Ben said. Mr. Sprague really has quite a talent in the line of elocution. Made ?

This morning Mr. Williams of Chicago preaches. He is by far the finest man we have had here. If we can get him, it would be a great catch. Although we only offer \$800, he is quite well-off and does not need the money. In fact we understand he gives it all in charity. Has a wife and daughter of 14 yrs.

I took Lillie to Y.P.S.C.E. in the eve.

Monday, November 24, 1890

Monday 24.

Had Mr. Williams to dinner. He is very pleasant, genial gentleman; has travelled widely and is by far the most intelligent candidate we have had.

He seems to be favorably inclined towards Ypsilanti.

Of course I did every thing about the dinner; but Lillie waited on table very well, for the third day. {#29, p.45} We had an easy dinner, as I wanted some washing and cleaning done. Tomato soup, celery, riced potatoes (got cold while she riced them, in spite of all my cautions), canned

peas, duck and macaroni (à a English recipe), jelly & pickles; grapes and apples, ginger-snaps and chocolate.

In the P.M. I asked the Hays to take me down street, as they were riding, and got more brown angora for Ida's hood.

Lillie is certainly twice as spry about her work as Emma, and uses her eyes more.

Tuesday, November 25, 1890

Tues. 25.

Down street after dinner – home and saw the babes were all right, then to Sappho Club. Ben to A.A. for Mart's seminary, and from there to Detroit with Mart for the Psi U banquet. "Won't get home 'till morning."

Says I may take these trips of his out in rides, which I think is very noble of my "Ba," especially as I am getting where I can ride more comfortably than walk, and on the whole look rather better.

[Undated newspaper advertisement for the First Congregational Church bazaar]

Do not worry, girls, about what you shall make for Christmas until you see the pretty things which the Congregational young people will offer for sale at their bazaar, early in December.

Wednesday, November 26, 1890

Wed. 26.

Ben came on 8:43 train this A.M. and went right to the Normal, so we did not see {#30, p.46} him 'till dinner-time.

Busy getting turkey, cranberries etc. ready for Thanksgiving. Expect to eat it alone, as Ida's girls will keep them at home.

Helen has thirteen teeth.

Ida liked her fried mush & molasses for breakfast, and offered the opinion that it was "the goodest mush she never saw."

Thursday, November 27, 1890

Thurs. Nov. 27th. '90

We were surprised by the appearance of aunt Ida last night, and expected father out after her and to dinner with us.

But he didn't come, so our dinner was about spoiled by Ida's anxiety to catch the 2 o'clock train. Finally she missed it – so Ben took her home with livery rig. Too bad a little snow should keep father home. We shall be glad when the street-cars are running between us and A.A. Had a good dinner.

In the eve. we invited the Barbours & Strongs, Millers, Mr. St. John & Miss Pierce and had a pleasant time. Gave them chocolate & almond cake, white and red grapes, candy, dates, nuts etc. and pop-corn. All sat around the dining room table, and had a jolly time.

Friday, November 28, 1890

Friday 28.

L.A.S. at Mrs. Shaw's. Adjourned because there was not a quorum present.

{#30, p.47} Ben & I made our party call at Lodeman's in the eve. No-one home. Then went to Barbour's and played euchre. Mrs. B. wants a beaver wrap like mine.

Letter from Miss Higley.

Saturday, November 29, 1890

Sat. 29.

We had a glorious ride – all of us. It was quite warm and delightful. Took some grapes to Mrs. Densmore who is sick with asthma.

Appointed chairman of bazaar committee. O! Dear!



Sunday, November 30, 1890

Sunday 30.

Lillie to church in the morning. In the afternoon Mr. Becker came with the manuscript for Miss Higley's sister; and we cracked the sabbath a little, looking it over and correcting it. I must send it off tomorrow. Went alone to Y.P.S.C.E. Snowing.

[Undated newspaper advertisement for the Congregational Church bazaar]

What do You Want for Christmas?

Come to the Congregational Bazaar on Congress street opposite Sanders' clothing store, next Friday and Saturday, Dec. 12 and 13, and you will find just what you want. From 5 to 8 o'clock a nice supper will be served with oysters in every style. Special offer to students on Saturday. All friends received from 9 a. m. to 9 p. m.

Monday, December 1, 1890

Monday. Dec. 1st

[Covered by clipping] to Ainsworth's on business, [covered Mr. Drury's store, opposite Sanders' clothing store. Sent notices to the papers.

At Y.W.C.A. with Lillie in the eve. although I was tired.

Tuesday, December 2, 1890

Tues. 2d.

Coldest day of the season.

At Lillie Strong's, Mrs. George & Ainsworth talking up committees for the bazaar, etc. Then to Sappho Club. May Vancleve and Mrs. Watterhouse called. Found Mrs. Holmes here.

{#31, p.48} A lot of un-finished work came from Miss Higley, and I have got Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Adams, the Ainsworth girls, Mrs. Childs and Lillie Strong to help finish it. I am making five visiting lists, for which she painted celluloid covers.

Sunday, December 7, 1890

Sunday Nov. [sic, Dec.] 7th. '90.

Had a great time seeing every body and appointing committees for bazaar.

Tuesday, December 9, 1890

Tues. 9th.

Mrs. Ainsworth came and took me to do errands. In eve. Miss Densmore & Shaw and the Strong girls came and helped make about forty candy boxes, trimmed with bright tissue paper, & 25 cornucopias.

Wednesday, December 10, 1890

Wed. 10th

Mrs. A. and Mrs. George came and we went to see the frescoeing [sic] at the church. Some deep, dreadful blue on the ceiling that is not at all as the plans were.

Down town to see about the stoves etc.

Thursday, December 11, 1890

Thurs. 11th.

Working at the bazaar, decorating etc.

In the eve. a lot of the girls and Mr. Moss came, and made candy and popcorn (8 kinds of candy). They had to go home early, so we sat up 'till 11:30 to finish.

Friday, December 12, 1890

Friday 12.

Jessie Ainsworth came at 8 o'clock to {#31, p.49} help fill candy boxes. Mrs. A. at nine o'clock to go down and "open shop."

There were very few customers, but we make a very good show, and Ben went to supper – said there were quite a number of people.

I went to the Episcopal fair and bought a sun-bonnet for mother and apron for myself.

## Saturday, December 13, 1890

### FriSat'day 13th.

Down right after breakfast with Mrs. A. sweeping and cleaning. Again in the P.M. and stayed for tea, inviting Mrs. Barbour to tea with me.

Had escalloped oysters, salad, bread & butter, jelly, coffee, milk & cake, for 25¢ apiece. I bought at the fair quite a number of things: A pig for Helen, a holder & needle-book for Nan & Ida (from the White Kittie), white apron for myself, visiting-list for Lois (Angell) Mc., doilie [sic, doily] for us & socks for "Nancy Jane." Mrs. George Tucked a sack for " " [Nancy Jane] in Ben's pocket. Had great fun, at the close, trying to sell off every-thing. A great elephant for 75¢ we could not get on to any-one. We did very well indeed. Made about 7.00 at the candy-table and \$60.00 at the fancy-tables {#32, p.50} and suppers. Made over \$27.00 at the latter.

Home at 10:30 and oh, so tired.

## Sunday, December 14, 1890

### Sunday 14. Dec. '90.

Did not feel like doing anything, but had to do more than usual.

Holding S.S. in the Y.W.C.A. rooms made a longer walk. Had missionary meeting at Miss Lockwood's at 3 o'clock and had only a few moments to prepare anything for opening exercises. Twelve there and we heard about "city missions."

Y.P.S.C.E. in the eve. Ben & Lillie went.

## Monday, December 15, 1890

### Monday 15.

I was hustling around, getting ready to go down to the rooms and clean up, when I fell over the handle of babe's cart and lamed my knees, and jarred me considerably. Got Mrs. Lambert to go down in my place. Rec. orders for costumes, and directions for "T. of F." which I could not attend to, so sent a note to Mrs. George, resigning from the committee. I have worked faithfully as long as I could, and now am going to commence withdrawing from active service, for a time.

Ben and Ida are going to Grand Rapids Friday to remain 'till Wednesday. {#32, p.51} Am hurrying to finish the presents to send. A three-cornered glass jewel-case for Jen, fan-bag for Kate, gilt butterflies for Ridie & Nell.

Will send mother the garden-hat and Jen china cup & saucer.

[Poem from Fannie Cooley, later Angell, to Jennie Pease in 1880, written in a fine, right-slanting hand on laid paper]

[In pencil at the top right corner] 1880

To Jennie, on her twenty-third birth-day, with all love from Fannie.

I fill this cup to one made up  
Of loveliness alone.  
A woman – of her gentle sex  
The seeming paragon.  
Her health! and would on earth there  
stood  
Some more of such a frame;  
That life might be all poetry,  
And weariness a name.

[Written in pencil in a different hand] *Fanny* [sic] *Cooley*

{#33, p.50}

[On the reverse of the 1880 birthday poem from Fannie Cooley to Jennie Pease, one of Jennie's children has written a note in blue ink, in a loopy, left-slanting script]

Isn't this sweet! Don't you want to keep it in Mother's diary?

{#33, p.51}

Friday, December 19, 1890

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx Friday night.

Ben and little Ida just gone. We shall be lonesome, but they will be such a comfort to little mother. Sat up 'till midnight, last night finishing Jen's jewel-case. Very pretty.

Wed. eve. we went to tea at Presbyterian church – a sort of New England tea: chicken-pie, beans, pumpkin-pie etc. etc. We bought also a pretty tidy for mother's X'mas.

Last night we attended an entertainment: "Living Pictures," a medley of tricks, ventriloquism, comic songs and impersonations. We laughed most of the time, although we could not help being ashamed of ourselves when it was too flat.

Am so tired tonight, shall go to bed very early.

Saturday, December 20, 1890

Sat. 20th.

Gave the house a good cleaning. Lillie did it while I tried to catch up with my mending.

{#34, p.52} Sent a card to "papa" this A.M. Lillie, babe and I down street this afternoon, getting X'mas things and baby things.

Sunday, December 21, 1890

Sunday Dec. 21. '90.

Lillie at church and I at S.S.

Reading Geo. Meredith's "Ordeal of Richard Fernald." Written in a very English style. The allusions are broad to say the least. The story hangs on the effort of a father to bring up his son Richard (who had inherited strong passions) in perfect purity from all the follies of Eng. young men. His experiment fails, of course, and he is a fool and makes one of his son. Do not like the principle of the book, in that virtue suffers, while vice rises above almost everything.

Monday, December 22, 1890

Monday 22.

Mrs. Farnam [sic, Farnham] came to sew.

Making X'mas presents.

Tuesday, December 23, 1890

Tues. 23.

Painting court-plaster cases for Grandpa, Laura W., Mrs. George, Jane Mahon Stanley and Hortense Bruce. Sent Nan a black ribbon fan-bag, and Ed. a fancy paper lamp-shade.

Wednesday, December 24, 1890

Wed. 24.

A picture of Helen Powers Field's children came today. They are very cunning.

{#34, p.53} Papa and "Kittie" came home tonight, very late and very dirty.

They had a delightful visit. Ben and I down street for some final purchases. Give Lillie a nice black muff, pr. [pair] of shears, a fancy hair-pin and a pitcher for water in her room. Got two red silk ~~handker~~ hdkchfs [handkerchiefs] for father. Ben a pr. of scissors for Ida, and I an envelope with \$10.00.

I found that she spent the most of my birthday present, paying my bills for baby things! etc.

Worked hard all day, preparing duck for tomorrow's dinner, plum pudding etc. and dressing a large doll for Ida.

When, behold, Ben brings a larger doll from Grand Rapids. So Miss dolly from Ypsi. was rolled up and put away for some other time.

Thursday, December 25, 1890

Thurs. 25th. Dec.

A merry Christmas for all of us. Just for fun, I am going to try and make a list of our presents.

Ida received: A sort of metal dulcimer from Grandma, the doll from aunt Jen, a box of dishes from aunt Nellie and a doll's bureau from " [aunt] Ridie, & {#35, p.54} doll's fan from the boys, a tin stove-and-furniture from Grandpa, red knit slippers from aunt Ida, fish-pond and magnet from Ben and a bank, a rocking-horse with chair seat from me besides a book from Kittie Hattstaedt and one from uncle Mart.

Helen – a sheep (Ridie), goat (G.ma), blue sack from Jen, tin horse & cart from Nell, rabbit from G.pa Pease, beautiful white fur carriage-robe from aunt Ida, and a rag doll, calliope, tin horn, doll, pig, small red chair and a share in the rocking-horse, from us. Ben had a slumber roll in

yellows from Jen, neck-tie from mother, two neck-ties from Ida, and a white satin one, water-color picture (sun-set), brown undressed kid mittens and 2 hdkchfs from me and handsome book from Normal students; for both of us: a cheese-dish from mother; a call-bell from Ben for me and a lovely oxydized [sic, oxidized] silver lamp, also box of nut-picks which we needed, and a work-basket (a nice standard one) which I needed.

I rec. also a lovely painted cup & saucer from Ida and beautiful carving-cloth trimmed with drawn-work border, from Jen a paper fan, a pretty tidy from Ridie, and hair-pin holder from Kate, a book ("The Greatest Need") from Allie Lovell, a blue {#35, p.55} cake-plate from Fannie A. and roll covered with blue silk (for holding music on rack) from Lois A. Mc. Ben brought me a lovely box of flowers, from G.R. and altogether we are spoiled by so many favors.

Father, Ida & Hortie came out to dinner, the former very sensibly taking the cars, as it was very cold. We had tomato soup, ~~eelery~~, roast duck, peas, squash, pickles, cranberries, fresh bread, steamed pudding & cream, oranges, apples and marsh-mallows.

Friday, December 26, 1890

Friday 26.

The day after Christmas.

Party at Sill's, in the eve. to which Ben went.

Saturday, December 27, 1890

Sat. 27.

Down town with Lillie, buying presents for my infant-class. Found chamois purses with clasps, and got 22 of them for \$1.00. Put them in fancy cornucopias with candy, nuts, pop-corn etc.

Up too late, as usual. Am getting into bad habits.

Sunday, December 28, 1890

Sun. 28.

Christmas exercises in our newly-cleaned-and-gorgeously-frescoed church. The people seem to like it, but it is {#36, p.56} too "bizarre" for me. Looks more appropriate for a concert hall than a church, I think.

Found that they will let us have the little room for my infant class, in spite of the shelves which have been put there. It is fine and warm. The children recited and sang very nicely – better than

some of the older ones. Ida sang with them and looked awfully precious in her white flannel dress and blue ribbons.

Have written only eight notes & letters and have one more, before my duty is done, for the present.

Ben and Lillie to prayer-meeting while I played with my "rose-buds" and tucked them in bed.

Helen really sings two tunes so anyone could recognize them.

Ida rocks her baby and sings so sweetly to it. The other day she said: "See, how my baby he's cuddled up under mother's wing!"

Monday, December 29, 1890

Monday 29.

Mrs. Farnam [Farnham] sewing. Telephone from A.A. that Jack Quintus and wife are coming to dinner or tea, tomorrow. Which?

{#36, p.57}

Tuesday, December 30, 1890

Tues. 30.

Stuffed and baked chickens and fussed for dinner – when Ben came home & told me they would be here for tea and to spend the night.

At Ladies' Aid society with Mrs. George. Repairs on church cost 283.00 and we have \$255. towards it.

Jack and Nellie came at 5:30. Had a good supper: scalloped oysters, ham etc. – played "pedro" in the eve, and had apples and ginger-snaps and wine.

Wednesday, December 31, 1890

Wed. 31.

Folks off on 8:08 train.

Mart and Mary came for tea and spent the evening.

The babies had great fun with Mart – and Mary enjoyed Rab.



It was great fun to see Mart's enjoyment of a good cigar, and curaçoa (?) [sic, curaçao] and snaps. Left at 10:15.

Thursday, January 1, 1891

Thurs. Jan. 1st. 1891.

Aunt Ida came while we were at breakfast (in the rain, too). Stayed all day and had a good time loving the babes. Helen says: "Au'nie's baby." She can't say t.

Rain all day. Barbours came in the eve. and we played pedro, and ate popcorn.

{#37, p.58}

Friday, January 2, 1891

Friday Jan 2d. '91

Turned very cold in the night. Mrs. Farnam [Farnham] making a loose plaid dress for me.

Down town paying my bills. Mr. Sweet handed me one for over \$60.00, which took my breath away.

Played cribbage and pedro with Ben after mending all the evening.

Lillie helped me good. Drew \$40.00 from bank and pd. church subscription in full.

Saturday, January 3, 1891

Sat. 3d.

Was so tired last night from being on my feet yesterday, must be more careful.

Aunt Ida came back from Det. this afternoon, in a new astrachan cloak, looked very swell. (Reduction sale: \$40.00.) After Mrs. Barbour went away we worked on the babe's fur blanket – putting in lining.

Preparatory lecture tonight for communion tomorrow; Mr. Williams, to be here.

Aunt Ida rocked Helen a little, and put her in her little bed. When she came out, Helen said: "night-night, aun'ie" and when Ida said: "Pleasant dreams" she answered: "all wite." She is such a cunning little monkey. Today she came marching into the room, using a stick as a cane, and humped over like an old woman, and said: "Bye bye, mamma."

{#37, p.59} We took little Ida to church for the first time. She did very nicely – not speaking aloud once. But I do not think it is right to make the poor little trot keep still so long.

## Sunday, January 4, 1891

This Sunday 4th.

Lillie took Helen out with the new white fur robe and she looked like a sweet little fat kitten.

Papa and little Ida took a walk – and afterwards she went with aunt Ida.

Ben to prayer-meeting and Lillie and I to church, leaving aunt Ida, who insisted upon my going. Gave Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Cady's address.

## Monday, January 5, 1891

Monday 5th.

It is so nice to have the dear auntie with us, but she must go home today as college opens, tomorrow.

She works every minute, or plays with the babes – and oh, how they love their auntie Ida.

Mrs. F. is having quite good luck with my plaid dress. Am going to have a founce on the skirt! The first skirt trimming for two or three years.

Ida went on the 5:43 train, and Ben did not go to the depot with her. It seems unjust to me, after I tired myself out waiting on his relatives

{#39, p.60}

## Tuesday, January 6, 1891

Tues. Jan. 6. 91

A bright nice day. Babes both out in the morning, until Ida fell and ploughed her hands into the snow, getting it way up her sleeves. Helen sits in her carriage all wrapped in furs & sings and watches the girls (Ruth & Ida) play.

Took Helen out again this afternoon, Ida sleeping until 4 o'clock.

Ben wanted to take the 2 o'clock train for A.A. for recitation this P.M. and to hear Stanley, the African explorer, lecture tonight. But the train was two or three hours late as usual – so he came home, and waited until later. Will return about 11 o'clock.

A letter from cousin Nan, that Ed. has been very sick with fever, and poor Nan had to be doctor, nurse, cook and every-thing.

Mrs. Barbour over.

Wednesday, January 7, 1891

Wed. 7.

Mrs. Farnam's [Farnham's] last day, for a time. Finishing my plaid dress and a flannel gown for "Nancy Jane."

Sappho Club here in the eve. (30 present.) Just a comfortable crowd, so every chair was filled. Subj. "Sullivan," the composer of: "Pinafore," "Mikado" etc.

I was careless about letting Ida {#39, p.61} run to the door, for she caught some cold yesterday, in spite of me.

Thursday, January 8, 1891

Thurs. 8.

All hands down street. Ida's cold is quite bad – took her to the Dr., who said: Aconite and Belladonna [sic, Belladonna] for hoarseness, cough and running nose. Had slight chill followed by fever. Breathes very hard and has a quick sharp cough. I always fear croup for her – as her tonsils are so bad. The Blessed doesn't feel a bit happy. Helen coughing some, too.

Friday, January 9, 1891

Friday 9.

Did not do much Friday mending but gave medicine, rubbed with camphorated oil, gargled and changed throat clothes, all day.

Mrs. Watling & Lucile, Mrs. Lodeman, Miss Cheever and Mrs. Rathfon called. Mrs. L. to invite me (again!) to tea next Monday, with seventeen ladies. I begged to be excused.

{#38, unnumbered insert}

Saturday, January 10, 1891

Sat. Jan. 10th.

My Ben's 31st. birthday, and it deserves an extra notice, but in my hurry at "writing up past events" I over-looked it last week. He received letters from Grand Rapids and Mart.

Sister Ida sent him a very fine leather strap to fasten on a fish-basket which I sent for – to Charlevoix.

Had the babes give him a pretty little bronze paper-knife, and I gave him a soap-stone, for which he had been whining. His feet are always cold at night.

{#39, p.61}

Sunday, January 11, 1891

Sunday 11th.

Lillie at church and I went to S.S. Must begin to think who will take my class, before very long.

Babies not at all well. Is it the "grippe," I wonder? Helen is very restless at night {#40, p.62} and peevish and unnatural in the day-time.

Monday, January 12, 1891

Monday Jan. 12th '91.

The street-cars commenced running regularly last Saturday. Can go home any-time and be back in 2½ hrs. for 10 cts. round trip.

Have not undressed entirely except for my bath yesterday. Helen wakes about quarter of two and tells me "didie" – then begs me to rick her and sing "bye" mamma! (with the sweetest rising inflection)

Her cough is still bad – though the fever has nearly disappeared. Has not had much appetite for a day or two – and that is a most unusual symptom for her! Grace Barbour is to be married to Mr. Edwards the last of this month.

~~On Sat. I drew \$40.00 from the bank and paid my subscription to the church debt in full. It was too much paying of interest to suit me.~~ [written over the crossed-out text] old news.

Sent some carnations to Mrs. Lodeman, today. Bought of Mr. Krzsske! There's a name.

Have just finished reading: "John Ward. Preacher" by Margaret Deland.

Am too indignant at J.W. to express my contempt for his blind brutal bigotry.

The climax was reached when {#40, p.63} he actually sent his wife (whom he loved devotedly) from him, or wouldn't allow her to return until she had "seen the light" – i.e. believed the same narrow, ancient, fanatical dogmas which he believed. The chief point of their disagreement was the existence of a hell, where all but the elect should go!

The story is well told but is weak I think in that Ward is allowed to die without showing the least glimmer of the light of reason in regard to religion.

There are several quaint New England characters that are well depicted, but the love-making is exceedingly weak.

Heard Ida singing: "Yes, Papa loves me, The Bible tells me so."

Tuesday, January 13, 1891

Tues. 13.

Very cold and blustering, with a little snow. Mrs. Lodeman came and brought some "charlotte-russe" from yesterday's tea-party, also some baker's cakes (the same that Ben ordered up this morning, from Harris'). She seemed quite over-come by the carnations.

Mrs. Barbour came in after Sappho Club, and told me what was going on there. A concert for February is "on the tapis."

Babes are some better I think, though they both cough badly yet, and poor little Helen's eyes seem only half open.

Mrs. Frieze died last night.

{#41, p.64}

Wednesday, January 14, 1891

Wed. Jan. 14.

Babies some better. Was showing Ida pictures, when we came to a ~~oel~~ darkey prayer-meeting. I said "There are some darkeys" – when she stopped me, speaking softly: "Be careful, mamma; don't say 'darkey,' you'll make them feel bad." Bless the tender heart.

[Undated clipping, partially folded and obscured, advertising a repeat performance of the Ladies' Aid Society's sunflower song social]

The Congregational Ladies' Aid Society repeat by request their sunflower social, at Mrs. Higley's, South Huron street Monday evening, Jan. 19. A unique entertainment may be expected. Admission 10 cts.

{#42, p.64}

Thursday, January 15, 1891

Thurs. 15.

Making over baby quilts, one a day. Ida and Helen are awfully peevish, so I cannot accomplish much.

Friday, January 16, 1891

Friday 16.

Mrs. Higley invited me to a thimble-party, but of course did not go. Aunt Ida surprised us in the morning, having come out on the new street-cars. Stayed 'till about four o'clock. She has been sick with influenza [illegible] since she was here before. Caught sleeping at the Mahon's without fire. She ought to have worn her fur cloak all night.

Saturday, January 17, 1891

Sat. 17.

Babes quite well, and sweet as ever.

Am writing a paper on Sunflowers for the Sunflower song social, Monday eve.

Shall put it in the form of a letter from Phoebe Sun-flower, giving a family history, facts and fancy combined.

{#42, p.65}

Sunday, January 18, 1891

Sunday Jan. 18.

At church for the last time. Mr. Peebles of Roseville Ills. preached. A stubby little Scotchman who whispers in his lowest pathos of eloquence, and does not clean his teeth. The church however seemed to favor him, 'till it it [sic] was found that he has \$800 and parsonage where he is, and needs more to keep his family.

Monday, January 19, 1891

Monday 19.

Eve. Ben and Lillie have returned from the social with \$11.00 and pronounced it a great success. Ben tells me one of the – best things! was my letter! – that it was the best I ever wrote!! All this when I really feared it would fall flat.

Am quite set up, in spite of feeling very down-hearted because my L.A.S. cash account doesn't come out right. Am over 7.00 short! (Oh! where can it be?) And I have only \$1.25 in my purse to refund the society. That might be called embezzlement.

Mrs. George here today.

Did Phoebe take it, I wonder?

Tuesday, January 20, 1891

Tues. 20.

Ida commenced going to kindergarten yesterday. "Kindengarden" she calls it, and she thinks it great fun. Miss Lockwood has promised not to teach her anything much.

{#43, p.66} In the eve. we attended Chicago Schubert quartette concert at Normal Hall. It ought to be my last appearance, but there are some concerts coming that I shall dislike to miss. The Schuberts sang beautifully. Could hardly tell if we liked their sacred or comic selections best. The "Peter Piper" was very funny. "Jott" basso was one of the finest I ever heard.

Wednesday, January 21, 1891

Wed. Jan. 21st.

Still at quilts. Do not get along very fast, there seem to be so many interruptions.

Query: How will it be a year from now? One more to mend for, care for and play with. Helen is the sweetest baby that ever lived, so I ought not to complain.

Mrs. Glover came to invite me to a tea-party, next week.

Thursday, January 22, 1891

Thurs. 22.

"Got up, ate, worked, went to bed," like the little boy's diary.

Friday, January 23, 1891

Frid. 23.

Aunt Ida came at noon and stayed 'till four – when Lillie & little Ida rode home with her, on the street-cars.

A poor time for them to go, it was so crowded. L.A.S. met here, and I resigned the office of Trea. & Sec. Mrs. Childs elected. Was glad to find we had {#43, p.67} more than enough money to pay our debt of \$280. and over, for frescoeing and repairs to the church.

Saturday, January 24, 1891

Sat. 24.

Sunday, January 25, 1891

Sunday 25.

Mart came at 8 o'clock. Lillie went to morning service, and I went in the eve. Do not think I shall go again, as I am too nervous.

Got Miss Wall to take my infant-class.

Miss Higley invited us to a tea-party, next Wednesday.

Monday, January 26, 1891

Monday 26.

Nothing worth mentioning.



Tuesday, January 27, 1891

Tues. 27

Lillie had all her "rubbing" done before breakfast. She grows smarter all the time; but I am sorry when she over-works and gets over tired – in spite of all I can say, or do.

Invited to Georges for tea tomorrow. Next!

Grace Barbour and Mr. Edwards are to be married on Thursday, and move here, into one of George's houses.

Wednesday, January 28, 1891

Wed. 28.

Ben went to Higley's for tea, and to George's in the eve. Had a good time, although he sat at tea between Mrs. Platt (the lemon) and some other old dame; and they forgot to pass the olives.

Thursday, January 29, 1891

Thurs. 29. Jan. '91.

Aunt Ida came out in the morning and carried little Ida home with her for a few days.

Invitation to a one o'clock lunch at Higley's, and a note urging me to come and help entertain the old ladies.

Babe is so restless nights that I do not get much "consecutive" sleep. Suppose it must be her teeth. Has sixteen, so there are only four more, thank fortune!

Friday, January 30, 1891

Frid. 30.

Left home before eleven and did a little shopping, then went to Smith's book-store and read a while in the comic paper: "Judge." Had a very nice lunch at the Higley's of scalloped oysters, salad, beautiful rolls, olives and pickles, coffee, Kentucky potatoes, pressed veal, pear sauce & several kinds of cake.

I took a pillow-case and seaweed the lace on. Twelve old ladies without work, but I didn't care. Missed the car and had to walk down, but Mrs. Becker brought me home.

Saturday, January 31, 1891

Sat. 31.

Finished Ida's quilt at last – mending in the eve. and early to bed. We sent a pretty water-color painting to Grace Barbour Edwards.

{#44, p.69}

Sunday, February 1, 1891

Sun. Feb. 1st.

Mr. Smits of Constantine preached, and stopped at George's. We had him for dinner. Ben used to know him years ago, in G.R., and he seems to be favorably impressed by his preaching.

My first Sunday at home all day. I must be more particular about taking walks at night.

After church tonight, at a church meeting a unanimous call was extended to Herr Smits. (I wish he would anglicise it.)

Monday, February 2, 1891

Mon. 2d.

A bright, nice day. How we do miss our "White Kittie." Papa will bring her home tomorrow.

I took Helen and went down to Mrs. Barbour's with my work, for a little while. Babe was very sweet, running around and not doing anything naughty; although she did bring a jar of hyacinths carefully to me saying: "tate it, mamma!"

I was practising a little in the twilight, when the bell rang, & there was Mr. Smits, whom Ben had invited to tea "all unbeknownst" to me.

It happened all right, though. We had hot rice, good bread & butter, Edam cheese, tea, fresh sponge-cake with chocolate frosting and baked apples & cream. He enjoyed every-thing very much.

{#45, p.70} He seems to be very favorably inclined towards Ypsilanti. Showed me pictures of his wife and two boys, and I am "mashed" by the latter.

Tuesday, February 3, 1891

Tues. Feb. 3d.

Lillie through with her wash and dinner work, ready to go down town at 3 o'clock.

Last rehearsal for Sappho Club concert this eve. I couldn't stay but rode home in Mrs. Owen's coupé because I missed the car by 2 seconds, and was so tired I had the cheek to beg a ride, as I knew the man would go right by our house. Lillie rolled babe home, and returned to the opera-house.

All the ladies insisted I could just as well go tonight as not, but I knew that I should be too tired.

When seven o'clock came, I was glad enough that Mrs. Barbour was not coming for me – as she wanted to. Ben came home from A.A. bringing my Ida all wrapped in auntie's fur cape and sick. Had the "grippe" most of the time since going there!! The poor darling could hardly breathe through her nose – and her throat is so red. It makes me sick all over. 9 o'clock. She is asleep, but I can hear her breathe down stairs. The sweet girlie tries to be patient, but she just feels miserable. Helen was on her chair when {#45, p.71} they came – but she kept saying: "Mamma, I pat Ida!" until we noticed her, and let her pet her dear sister. How they do love each other.

Today I found Helen upstairs on the dusty closet floor with Ida's old rubbers almost on. She looked at me so earnest and said: "Tee, mamma! Ida two foose?"

Thursday, February 5, 1891

Thurs. 5th.

My Ida is much better. We took a little walk down to see Mrs. Putnam, in the bright sun-shine. Helen had already gone down street in "site-sine" as she said. She came running to me, and saying very earnestly "do offey mamma, do' offey" because she found the front door standing open. She is so orderly in every thing, picks up papers or scraps from the floor and puts them in the grate – always pushes her chair back after meals, and mine too, if I do not – walks the floor singing to her dolly, hugged tight in her arms: "bye-o baby" to my favorite tune: "Go tell aunt Abbie." While we were away, of course aunt Ida came – and Mrs. Barbour to tell me about the concert.

Ida and Ben have gone (9:30) to hear the Philharmonic Club of Detroit.

We made her stay, although she was not expecting to.

{#46, p.72}

Friday, February 6, 1891

Friday Feb. 6. '91.

Our precious "White Kittie" is much better. Gave her aconite 'till the fever was gone, belladonna [sic] 'till the inflammation [sic, inflammation] left her throat – then arsenicum for the constant running at nose. Ruth Hay has been sick a long time, but still has chills and fever – was crazy with the latter until three o'clock last night. Do not believe Allopathy in the hands of Dr. Batwell is worth much.

Aunt Ida taught Helen to courtesy "like a lady," holding out her dress at each side.

Invitation from Miss Gray for a "4 to 6" reception tomorrow. Mrs. McGregor & Trim (Miss) called before I was dressed – then Mrs. Fr. Smith, then Mrs. Barbour – so I did not dress at all.

Took Helen out for a ride in the bright "sine-sine" this morning and she chattered every minute.

Says quite long sentences, like: "Mamma, I hear tootoot cars coming. "

Is getting so she tells me "didie" every time, nearly. Had 9 didies in the wash instead of 2 or 3 dozen. My thumb is so sore I can hardly make a scratch. What have I done that my thumbs must crack on the suds [?].

{#46, p.73}

Saturday, February 7, 1891

Sat. 7th.

Made apple-pie, meat-pie for dinner and eight turn-overs, and tart-shells or rather pattie shells for meat. Ben said he liked turn-overs with cream and sugar, so now we will proceed to "turn-over" next week. There is nothing like having dessert made ahead.

Lillie working on a dress, making new waist, amid great tribulations and with my poor assistance. I did more stitching for her than I could possibly do for myself. But she is so faithful, I like to help her in return for it.

Reading "Obiter Dicta" by Augustine Birrell – a series of sketches on: "Carlyle," "Rogues Memoirs," "Truth-seeking," "Actors" etc. All very good, I think.

Letter from Bastion Smits, declining the call of the church, because his people in Constantine will not let him off 'till next Oct. when their year expires. I wonder if the people will be willing to wait for him. He certainly seems the best man we have had, so far.

Medicine from Mrs. Cady came, also for Mrs. Barbour.

Sunday, February 8, 1891

Sunday 8.

Nothing happened except church meeting in the eve., when it was decided to wait for Mr. Smits.

{#47, p.74}

Monday, February 9, 1891

Mon. Feb. 9.

Note from Lois A. thanking me for my X'mas gift!! Query: Is it better late than ever? I suppose the poor girl is driven wild over returning her multitude of calls, and all her other social duties.

Tuesday, February 10, 1891

Tues. 10.

Took the L.A.S. books and money to Mrs. Childs, the new Sec. & Treas. Had to supply \$7.75 from my scanty purse, on account of deficit. It makes me almost wild, trying to account for it by expenditure – but positively do not think it has been spent. Either strayed or stolen.

Mrs. George and Lillie S. were here. Lillie will commence taking charge of the Y.L. [Young Ladies'] Missionary S. [Society] next Saturday; and as the annual meeting comes soon, I hope to be freed from that altogether.

Wednesday, February 11, 1891

Wed. 11th.

Mrs. Clark down in the morning.

After dinner Ida came, bringing Miss Eams (an Irish friend of the Mahon's who is visiting Ida) and Gretchen Laedecker. They tried to catch the 4 o'clock train car – but failed, so stayed to an early tea.

I wish Ida could see more of Gretchen. She is such a sweet-mannered child. Miss Eams is a nice girl, about 20 yrs. {#47, p.75} old I guess – appears about 16. An orphan with five sisters in Ireland and two brothers in Australia.

She spent last winter studying in Berlin, and will remain with the Mahon's a year. Was born in India, so she has travelled quite extensively.

She borrowed by "Life of Carlyle" & "Jennie Welsh Carlyle's letters."

Thursday, February 12, 1891

Thurs. 12.

Mrs. Farnam [Farnham] came yesterday, and will stay 'till my sewing for next summer is in shape.

Ida and I went to see the Stannard infant, today – three weeks old and quite a girl. Lillie out with the sweet rose-bud.

A letter from Smits saying that he cannot come, after all – for his people are making such a fuss.

Saturday, February 14, 1891

Sat. 13. [sic, 14]

Found a sick woman on next street with a five days baby – and not much to eat. (Mrs. Brady.) Mr. Brady inclined to kick her, etc. Three other babies. Took some eatables down.

Sunday, February 15, 1891

Sun. 14. [sic, 15]

Mart came to preach, and I foolishly let Lillie go to church and S.S. and did all the work about dinner. Suffered for it. Feel horrid all over.

Mart left at 4 o'clock. We had a good dinner any-way.

Took some soup to Mrs. Brady and found her out in the kitchen.

{#48, p.76}

[Behind or over the text of this page, someone, Jennie or perhaps one of the children, has roughly drawn a figure with pointed eyebrows and narrow eyes, standing in profile with arms forward]

Monday, February 16, 1891

Mon. Feb. 16. '91

Ida rec. valentines from papa, cousin Martie and Phebe, signed Mrs. James Long, Essexville.

My conscience will be greatly relieved if she is safely married. Mrs. Farnam [Farnham] is making a light gingham dress for me – quite pretty.

I shall be well fixed with my sewing.

Tuesday, February 17, 1891

Tues. 17.

Feeling too wretched for any kind of use. Am threatened with pneumonia or inflammation [sic, inflammation] of lungs or something horrid. Have been "sick-a-bed" for several days, only I didn't go.

Put a mustard plaster on my lungs tonight, if I can think of it.

Wednesday, February 18, 1891

Wed. 18.

Ida off to kindergarten, after two weeks or more absence. Her nose really is not all right yet, but Ben wants her to go.

My cold is a bit looser, and I can breathe some better. Helen persists in coming to me every few minutes saying "Mamma, ki' me" and I am so 'fraid she will get my cold.

Thursday, February 19, 1891

Thurs. 19.

I would have given a dollar if Grandma could have seen Helen this morning.

I came in from the kitchen and found her alone, sitting on her little red chair, no larger than this:

[small pen-and-ink drawing, in line with the text, of a wood bow-back side chair]

way on the front edge, head way over, pencil in hand, and when she heard me she looked around and said: {#48, p.77} "I wite Gamma!"

My throat not quite so sore. Aunt Ida came, in P.M.

Friday, February 20, 1891

Friday 20.

Poor Helen is, I fear, going to have the influenza, too. Her little nose is all stopped up. Ben brought me some medicine [from] Dr. F. with which I am dosing Helen, Lillie and myself. Do not think I ever had such a run of very sore throat, and only hope I may be able to keep the worst of it away from my babe. Mrs. Farnam [Farnham] didn't come today.

A dreadful rainy, freezing, drizzling day.

Ben to rehearsal for pantomimes at Strong's. Yesterday I cut out properties for "Mary Jane and Benjamin" and "Cinderella." Made "boo'ful" doughnuts today, and "Mrs. Powers' graham pudding" – of which Ben approved!!! Be it recorded.

Heard that cousin Maud Codington is engaged; also of the death of uncle Morwick, at Syracuse. Just a telegram – no particulars. Dr. Winchell died last night.

## Saturday, February 21, 1891

Sat. 21.

Feel quite like myself, again. Mrs. F. here, making white flannel circle for "Nancy Jane" out of some beautiful flannel which Lois A. gave me in the shape of a "bath-apron" with blue ribbons etc. Never wore it, of course, so might as well use it.

Shadow pantomimes tonight {#49, p.78} and Lillie went with Ben.

The Dr's medicine has certainly helped us all, wonderfully.

## Sunday, February 22, 1891

Sunday. Feb. 22.

A bright, cold day. I haven't been out of doors for nearly a week. Every breath of cold air seems to bring on my sore throat. Nothing but peppermint makes it feel better. The oldest Lambert son is putting up a cheap fine house just opposite: brick foundation and five large windows.

Just finished a novel "Wenderholme," by P.G. Hamerton.<sup>8</sup> It gives a very good idea of the life of peasant cotton-spinner and aristocrat in Lancashire and about their cotton mills in the north of Eng. [England] There is a thread of good, plain common-sense, and honest morality of tone which is most pleasant, and some good suggestions to married people which I found helpful.

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<sup>8</sup> Phillip Gilbert Hamerton. **Philip Gilbert Hamerton** (10 September 1834 – 4 November 1894) was an English artist, [art critic](#) and author. He was a keen advocate of contemporary [printmaking](#) and most of his writings concern the graphic arts. He was an important theorist of the English [Etching Revival](#). [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philip\\_Gilbert\\_Hamerton](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philip_Gilbert_Hamerton)



The babies were so sweet today. Ida rolled Helen through the parlors a long time, singing to her, and feeding her brown bread and sugar. It was 5 o'clock. lunch.

Monday, February 23, 1891

Mon. 23.

Another bright day, which we appreciate after such long-continued rain and cold weather. Amy Jones called & Mrs. Coe. {#49, p.79} Poor Amy has four applicants for April, and none for March except me.

A letter from Jen D. the other day in which she mourns because I cannot be there in Apr. for her wedding. Said she would have had it in Dec. if she had known about my approaching inability to attend weddings etc.

Aunt Ida came out today, to attend Dowling's lecture with Ben. How the girlies do enjoy her.

Tuesday, February 24, 1891

Tues. 24.

Rainy. Tried to go down st. [street] for some last shopping but missed the car of course. They do not try to keep a look-out for passengers. It is a great nuisance. Aunt Ida went home on 7:20 car, as usual, promising to come for Ida's birthday Sat.

[Obituary<sup>9</sup> for James Morwick clipped from a Syracuse, New York, newspaper; Morwick was an architect and builder, abolitionist, and second husband of Jennie Pease D'Ooge's paternal aunt, Minerva Pease Coddington (or Coddington); he was the father of Jennie's cousins Lillie Follett and Mary A. Olcott]

OBITUARY.

James Morwick.

James Morwick, an old and well-known resident, died at the home of his daughter in this city this morning, after an illness of a few days' duration. Last Sunday Mr. Morwick was in his accustomed place in the Plymouth church, and on the following day was taken ill

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<sup>9</sup> *Ann Arbor Register* - <https://aadl.org/node/514650>  
*Ann Arbor Observer*, This Old House: The Underground Railroad and me - <https://annarborobserver.com/this-old-house/>

and slowly sank. Mr. Morwick was a native of Scotland, where he was born September 3, 1807. In 1832 he landed at Montreal, and in the following year came to Syracuse, where resided until 1860, when he removed to Ann Arbor, Mich. About a year ago he returned to Syracuse, and made his home with his daughter, Mrs. H. J. Alcott [sic, Olcott], 122 Shonnard st. he also leaves one other daughter, Mrs. Lillia M. Follett of Michigan, and a son, James Morwick, of Auburn.

Mr. Morwick in his day was one of the prominent builders of Syracuse. He was a staunch Abolitionist, and on the organization of the Republican party, affiliated with it. The funeral arrangements have not yet been completed.

{#50, p.79}

Wednesday, February 25, 1891

Wed. 25.

Left at 10 min. of 2 o'clock. hoping to be in time for the car. Went down and haunted Shaw's corner for three quarters of an hour and then walked down – resting a while at Barbour's. The car did not come 'till 4 o'clock. in time to take me home.

Did a lot of final shopping. Do not think I shall go again, any-way.

{#51, p.80}

Saturday, February 28, 1891

Sat. Feb. 28th. '91.

Our darling Ida's birthday, four years old. She is so happy that she commenced the day by wishing every-one "Merry Christmas," and said there wasn't going to be "a tear any-where in the world, today." Bless her. She is growing sweeter and more loving and gentle every day. She asked us this morning why she didn't have a baby brother, small enough to carry around. Said Helen is too large for her. So we told her she must pray for one; and tonight when she was saying her prayer on Lillie's lap she almost took her breath away by adding: "Please, God, give me a little baby, Amen."

She had quite a number of presents. Papa gave her from us all a box of colored pencils, a small bottle of perfumery, 16 marbles and some large pins for pricking designs on paper. Aunt Ida came in the morning and brought Gretchen Laedecker who gave her a hdkchf. Auntie gave her a silver spoon as usual. (She has seven, now, and asked me when she would get married, so as to use them. Is undecided whether she will marry Papa or Helen.) Grandma sent her a hdkchf and aunt Jen some hair-ribbons. We have ordered "Babyland" for '91 for her. {#51, p.81}

Ruth Hay came over to the “tea-party” and brought a little cup and saucer. Uncle Mart sent her by Papa a carnation pink which she is to tend, and make blossom.

They had a grand romp, Papa and auntie playing games with them, and Helen just as big as anyone; running around with her pink cheeks and bright eyes shining above her clean white dress. She is the sweetest baby.

The four had a little supper around my cutting-table of: small slices of brown bread & white, cold beef in tiny thin slices, baby-tea, which Ida poured with great ceremony, oat-meal wafers, ginger cookies (small ones sent by Ida’s Emma), cocoanut cakes, chocolate custard, oranges, candy dates and peanuts. Ben brought bananas but they were not ripe enough to eat.

They had great fun, and so did we.

## Sunday, March 1, 1891

Sun. March 1st.

Mart preached for us again, coming to us for dinner. How he loves our babies!

Rec. yesterday, wedding cards from cousin May Wood, will marry a Mr. August W. Hoffman, and will live in Milwaukee.

Am reading “Ladies’ Gallery” by Justin McCarthy, although it is inclined {#52, p.82} to be trashy.

Took a walk in the “sine-sine” (as Helen says) with my girlies. Every-one turns to look at our sweet Helen, nestled in her white fur robe.

Tonight Ida commenced inquiring about Heaven and dying in the most surprising and confusing way. Cried because we were going to die sometime – wanted to know when, and why, and how we would get to God’s house – how we should ever get the piano there, and the sewing-machine. Wept because she feared Mrs. Farnam [Farnham] would not be there to make her dresses, etc., etc. Poor baby, she is beginning her speculations rather early.

## Tuesday, March 3, 1891

Tues. Mar. 3.

Mrs. Barbour came in, a few minutes after Sappho Club. Seems that the Peases are rather discouraged about the Club this year, and think the Ypsi. people do not appreciate their work. Mrs. Pease is not feeling well at all – works too hard at her music, and feels down-hearted about herself, I guess, and every-thing else.

Helen is walking the floor singing “Bye-o kittie” to her poor little wreck of a furry rabbit, rec. from Grandpa, Christmas.

Ida enjoys her Kindergarten very much, and learns some pretty things to sing and play.

{#52, p.83}

Wednesday, March 4, 1891

Wed. 4.

Went down to Thompson's to select paper for five rooms, and color of paint for kitchen walls. We shall be very slick.

Was so tired, I dropped into Mrs. R. W. Putnam's to rest, and took a carriage at the depot when I came home.

It was so windy, it seemed as if I could not climb the hill. Found quite pretty paper, especially for the dining-room, where we have heavy brown (ingrain is it?) and a frieze of fruits.

Thursday, March 5, 1891

Thurs. 5.

Down street to look at rug for dining-room, but of course there were none to look at.

Comstock will send to N.Y. for one, on approval.

I took Ida and Helen down for a little visit at Barbour's. Grandma B. exclaimed: "What beautiful children!" Rested there again, on my return, but I got pretty tired.

Friday, March 6, 1891

Frid. 6th.

Mrs. Farnam [Farnham] still too sick with rheumatism to leave home. I am fussing along at it. Have lined my work-basket and baby's basket and am now working at the bed-basket, whenever Ida is at Kidergarten [sic] or asleep. She asks a great many questions, and has commenced adding to her prayer: "Please God give me a little baby brother." No-one knows what started it.

{#53, p.84}

Saturday, March 7, 1891

Sat. Mar. 7. '91.

The dear papa sent up a nice chiffonier or chest of drawers, which I have sadly needed. It is a luxury to have my sheets, pillow-cases, towels and clothes where they do not get so dusty.

Am getting so lame and stiff I can hardly stand, when I first get out of bed. Man came to paint first coat on kitchen walls; and next Monday the papering will commence.

Sunday, March 8, 1891

Sunday 8th.

Dr. Frazer says Ida's catarrh is much improved, but gave more medicine for it and for lessening the size of her tonsils.

Wrote yesterday to Grandpa. We hear that southern Cal. is having severe floods, and fear he is in it all. Reading "Antonia" by Geo. Sand (Aurora [sic, Aurore] Dupin). Extremely Frenchy, but I have never read anything of hers, and want to see what she is like.

Monday, March 9, 1891

Monday 9.

Have been making out a program and vocabulary for auntie's use, when Helen is with her.

The vocab. is worth preserving:

No - nose or no

Moo - hdkchief

Dane - Jane (favorite doll)

Dink wabbie - water

Di tah - dickie-chair

Kockie - cracker or stocking

Didie - didie or jelly

Aw foo - all through

Ah biddie - Bib off

{#53, p.85} Man came to paper five rooms, and paint kitchen walls. Wish we might have some warm weather now, so we can clean house, throughout.

Tuesday, March 10, 1891

Tues. 10.

It is a bright day but with a piercing cold wind. Grandpa came and surprised us just as the girlies were going to their naps. Result: no naps; but we were glad to see the dear old Grandpa.

After dinner Ben went to the Normal and we went for a little walk with our babies. Of course when he wanted to go home on the 4 o'clock car, they had run off the track near A.A. and so he never got out of Ypsi. 'till 5:40. I felt guilty for having persuaded him to stay over after the 2 o'clock car.

Rec. a nice letter from Fan Angell. She thinks I "never will be in condition" to visit her again.

Mrs. Watling called. She always impresses me like a snake in the grass. I hope I mis-judge her. Certainly she must have a hard life with the old "fang" as Ben calls Dr. W. One lady tells of his coming in and putting out her grate fire – which she had started for her company – because it was extravagant.

Miss Higley here in the morning. Mrs. Tripp came to call, in the midst of papering – just as she did last year.

{#54, p.86}

Saturday, March 14, 1891

Sat. Mar. 14th. '91.

Men finished papering and painting last night. We were glad to see the last of them. Of course it is much harder doing such work in the winter, but we just had to, for I know I should not have any ambition to push things, "afterwards."

Am much pleased with my dining-room, but the front bed-room is too pink and now my room too green to suit me. Now that it is on though, we will furnish the former in olive and latter in reds as far as possible.

Father surprised us on Wednesday and stayed for dinner. Sorry we had oyster croquettes, but he mustn't come unexpectedly if he wants what he likes.

Ida came on Thursday. It was a beautiful, bright day, so we took a long walk with our babies, back and forth on Ballard St. Helen enjoyed walking in "sinesine wiv' auntie Ida."

She plays and talks to her dolly, and hugs and kisses her in the most devoted way.

Sunday, March 15, 1891

Sun. 15th.

Ben gave Lillie an extra 50¢ this week because she helped me so good.

This is a windy, cold day. Ida out for a walk around the block with Lillie tis P.M. and I went after dark, as usual.

{#54, p. 87} My Helen was so cunning tonight. I was rocking in a high-backed chair – so high she could not reach it comfortably, to rock mama – so she trotted off into the other room, and bro't her little red chair, and stood on it, reaching up and singing “bye-o mamma.” Told papa: “I wock mamma!” She is such a gentle, loving little thing, comes up a dozen times a day to kiss my hand, or nestle her head in my lap a minute – then runs away contentedly to her play.

I am wrestling with her yet, on the “dickie” question. Some days she is good – and again very naughty.

I give her a date or fig now, every time I can by any means get her to use her chair. Today Ida wanted one too, but had been naughty – so I could not give it to her; when she threatened to “die and go right to Heaven and then I guess you’ll be sorry.”

She and Papa are playing marbles on the floor now-a-days, and today she was telling him how she played alone and got “nearest the line every time when she ‘pinked for law’ – and “beat every game, too.”

{#55, p.88} I am reading “Debit and Credit” by Freytag, author of “Die verlorene Handschrift” which we read in German when we were first married. (Over five years ago!)

Sister Ida tells me that Fan had a mis-carriage a short time ago, and did not have any sickness at all. Her letter did not sound a bit sick, last week, that is sure.

Monday, March 16, 1891

Mon. March 16. '91.

Lillie gets smarter with her wash and her work, every week. We must certainly make her a nice present, on her birthday or before then. I finished settling my room, today, and it looks very pretty, if it is rather greenish. Mrs. Holmes was over to see us, and admired our paper very much. Wrote a letter of thanks for birthday congratulations in Ida’s name, to the boys in G.R.

Wednesday, March 18, 1891

Wed. 18.

Mrs. Lambert over, and tells me May is at their house with 10 lb. infant, to remain until May when they go to Salt Lake City. Suppose I ought to go over and see their remarkable daughter.

Thursday, March 19, 1891

Thurs. 19.

Aunt Ida came out to dinner, and did some shopping for me, and took our {#55, p.89} sweet Blossom home with her. The house is very lonely, especially when Ida is at kindergarten. Lillie misses the pudgy little kitten very much, too.

Friday, March 20, 1891

Friday 20.

Ate some herring salad last night, which did not agree with me, so I had stomach ache all night, to pay for it. No appetite this morning, but ate toast and some dinner, and felt some better.

Lillie cleaned closets, and I worked on the chair-cover and directed. Was too wretched to do much on my feet.

A letter from Rev. Peebles who was so favorably impressed with our Sun-flower social he wants to give it at Roseville, Ills., & wants my sketch of the Sun-flower family history and the curtain.

Saturday, March 21, 1891

Sat. 21st.

Cleaning closets and attic. Auntie bro't our sweet treasure home at twelve o'clock, and we were all rejoiced to hug her once more.

Ida almost ate her up, and in the excess of her joy actually put her new beads on the little thing.

Auntie stayed to dinner, and carried home dodies to stitch hems, and blue waist to make for little Ida.

She is such a help and comfort to me.

My letter to Phebe directed to Mrs. James Long is returned, so perhaps she is not married.



{#56, p.90}

Sunday, March 22, 1891

Sunday Mar. 22. '91.

Ida was riding on Papa's foot, and I asked her to do something for me, and she said: "All right, and then I'll come back and ride my Redeemer!" When I asked her what she meant, she said: "Why, little children who love their Redeemer, you know, mamma!" There's reasoning.

Mamma, Lillie and babies took a long walk down quiet, retired streets. Lillie was good to coax me out, for my head felt wretchedly. She is a very kind-hearted girl. Mrs. George came to see me.

Putting Ida to bed tonight she said: "Why doesn't God give me a baby brother?" She has prayed for one every night for a month and begins to want an answer. We have no idea what has started her on this, but suppose some-one must have been talking to her.

Monday, March 23, 1891

Monday 23d.

Am feeling much better today if I am 32 [corrected later: 34] years old. Ida gave me a frosted silver cheese-spoon; at least that is what we shall call it, 'till she tells us what it is for.

Ben had bad luck getting something for me. Sent to Detroit by Miller for something (?) which M. did not get – looked all over town for an umbrella-rack (which we really need) but found none to suit him. {#56, p.91} But the dear boy brought me a box of beautiful flowers: begonias, carnations, hyacinths, jonquils, tulips, mignonette etc. We are both so fond of flowers that we shall enjoy the luxury of having plenty of them for a time.

In our bulb bed near the house there [are] some yellow crocuses, and a snow-drop peeping out.

Saturday, March 28, 1891

Saturday 28.

A week of un-certainty passed. Meanwhile I am getting my little jobs all done up – in the way of sewing and repairing for the summer.

Have so many yellow crocuses, I am going to send down a small Easter cross for church tomorrow. Mr. Strong is to read service.

They have called Rev. Putnam of Hillsdale, but he cannot be here tomorrow.

Miss Muir called and made quite a long visitation. I wonder if she ever could be lively.

Am fixing Ida's white flannel dress, just washed – making it longer.

Sunday, March 29, 1891

Sunday 29.

A perfectly beautiful Easter Sunday.

My crocus cross and Ida's carnation went down to help in the decoration.

Aunt Ida came out in the afternoon because she had "not heard from us for a week." {#57, p.92}  
Brought the blue waist for Ida's dress, and a white guimp for summer which will work in finely.

We took a long walk with our girlies, on quiet streets.

Lillie went off with James' girl and a fellow, much against my conscience, for I know Miss Scott would not like it. Must write to her tonight, for advice.

Monday, March 30, 1891

Monday Mar. 30. '91.

A horrid showery wash-day, but Lillie dodged the showers and dried nearly all the clothes. Mrs. Cowell came for me to ride! – it rained, but we didn't care. Did some errands at Sweet's. Bought black French lace to trim my Persian wrap (which Ida says is the correct thing this season). The seventh year that wrap has seen active service.

I am feeling quite well when not on my feet too much.

Tuesday, March 31, 1891

Tues. 31.

Mrs. Barbour came for patterns etc. which she is using now-a-days, preparing for next August. Sorry to hear that Mrs. Smith is very poorly. Caused by nurse's carelessness in giving her cold syringe.

Wednesday, April 1, 1891

Wed. April 1st.

Lillie trying all day to fool us. Gave Ben {#57, p.93} pepper & salt in his coffee etc.

Mrs. Barbour returned patterns etc., having copied them all. I do not envy her feelings during July & Aug. when she is where I am now, with the addition of the hot weather.

My sweet Helen is calling me, after her nap – says: “Mamma dear dear!” (dar dar) – then I knock at her door and she says: “K’min!” (Come in)

It is wonderful how much she waits on me. Seems to understand every-thing. When I ask her to bring me the shears, or brush or pin or to shut a door, it is always: “Aw wite, mamma dear, I will!” She seems so anxious to help. Ida buttons my shoes for me now, and the little trot tries so hard to do it, too.

Thursday, April 2, 1891

Wed. Thurs. 2d.      Snow-storm

More showers. Our crocuses are all nearly out, waiting for a bit of sunshine, to open.

Miss Higley came for a little call. Says Stella Wyatt Smith is very low – hardly a chance of her recovery. It is such a sad case, all around.

Finished fixing Ida’s Spring cloak and made her a brown silk bonnet.

Friday, April 3, 1891

Friday 3.

Aunt Ida came out. brought blanket for carriage of white eider-down cloth, and took home Ida’s best brown bonnet to {#58, p.94} make and one for Helen of white ribbon, ~~commenced~~ made last year but never fitted her. Also knitted white silk bonnet for #3 to buy ribbon for trimming and put on strings. Couldn’t keep house without aunt Ida.

Ida went down st. for me, and bout [bought] red satin for new lining to my Spring wrap and cut it out for me.

When I bring Helen her bread & butter, in the morning, I pass it to her on her little tin plate and she takes one piece in her dainty little hand and says: “Ah koou! Missy Go-gay” (Thank you Mrs. D’Ooge).

It is great fun to see her play baby with Lillie – she being mamma. When Lillie cries, she says: “wha’ mammie, baby?” (what matter?) or “Top ‘oo noi, baby” (Stop your noise) then gets her toy cup and takes it to her baby. This is called “moe tee” (more tea) and Lillie drinks gallons of it every day.

Saturday, April 4, 1891

Sat. Apr. 4.

Finished wrap, ready for lace. A beautiful cold bright day. Lillie down town with both babies. Mrs. Hay over.

Letter from Miss Scott telling me she will have Lillie Merrill sent to another {#58, p.95} town, in a few days – both for her good and our Lillie’s. Guess Miss S. does not like the influence on our Lillie, and does not think Mrs. James is particular enough.

Sunday, April 5, 1891

Sunday 5.

A perfect spring day. How I would like to talk a long walk in the sunshine. Shall prowl around the back yard a little, and look at my crocuses.

Sunday, April 19, 1891

Sunday Apr. 19th. '91.

*Well! Our son Leonard has arrived. Tues. Apr. 7th. at twenty minutes past five A.M. he came, after only about 2½ hrs. of pains, and before Amy or Dr. Frazer got here. The trouble was I put off calling Ben and Lillie, fearing it might be a false alarm.*

*I was sitting on a dress box at the foot of the bed, telling Lillie how to make it up – when the pains came, so fast and furious that if Ben had not appeared just in time to help lift me on the bed we should have had serious trouble.*

*However, every-thing was all right and straight and correct and satisfactory.*

*{#59, p.96} Now, with my boy twelve days old, I can walk quite a few steps. Have been “very smart” – so they say. Every-one has been so kind in sending flowers, inquiring, etc.*

*Mrs. Pease, Mrs. R. W. Putnam, Mrs. Lodeman, Mrs. Homes, Mr. Sill and Lillie Strong sent flowers, and Mrs. Cowell a bunch of pussy willows.*

*We sent cards announcing Leonard's arrival to all the distant relatives, and received hotels of congratulation.*

*Sara Myrick sent a card announcing the birth of Myrick Day Mead the same day, the 7th., and same weight, 10 lbs.*

Monday, April 20, 1891

Monday Apr. 20th.

*Auntie brought our sweet Helen for a little visit, and we kept her, because we couldn't let her go. But, oh, what a day! Ida was complaining of head-ache, back-ache, neck-ache, stomach-ache etc. and Helen seemed so strange because every-thing was dark and the house so hot and quiet, on account of baby Leonard.*

*She couldn't understand why mamma couldn't walk with her, and run around lively.*

*Leonard never was so restless and unhappy in his short life as today.*

*Amy says I worried too much. {#59, p.97} It is easy enough to tell a woman "not to worry." But the next thing is to do it.*

*I can stand almost anything but Helen's howling. She is not like herself at all. Guess she will be all right when those four double teeth are through. Flowers from Mrs. Watling.*

Thursday, April 23, 1891

Thurs. 23rd.

*Baby Leonard two weeks old, and I am walking about, sewing and mending.*

*Helen is herself again, after a few doses of chamomile and aconite. Ida certainly has the grippe. Has not any appetite & has all the symptoms and looks badly. Doctor F. prescribed something long ago, but we do not know what it was, now, and cannot find him at home.*

*Mrs. Barbour came.*

Friday, April 24, 1891

Friday 24.

*Mrs. Barbour Sr. and Grace were here.*

*I had Mrs. Farnam [Farnham] two days, to make my blk. [black] chaille wrapper. It is covered with violets, and trimmed with narrow violet ribbon on collar, cuffs and belt, and looks very pretty. I finished it up yesterday.*

*Mrs. Holmes over a day or two ago, to invite us there to tea next Wednesday. Perhaps I shall go for a little while, going through the back way. We were going to ride today, but they decided it is too windy.*

*Leonard weighs 11 lbs.*

*{#60, p.98} Rec. letter from Jen with samples of her wedding clothes. To be married on May 6th. The Ents go to their new home in East Canaan Mass. the 7th of May.*

*All the brothers and sisters talk of combining to give Jennie a \$19.50 dinner set. Ben and I think that is too small – and we are going to give a set of dining-room chairs.*

*Leonard turns himself almost over in bed and shows great strength of mind and body.*

*Has some less colic, now. So Amy does not prance quite all night. His eyes are getting some stronger, so he can bear the light better.*

**Saturday, April 25, 1891**

Sat. Apr. 25th. '91.

*A beautiful Spring day. Ida and Helen out of doors with me, most of the morning. Leonard slept from about 6 A.M. 'till twelve o'clock. I am enjoying the luxury of a second girl or maid. While good old Amy is here, she makes me be lazy and I enjoy it thoroughly.*

*She and Lillie swept and dusted, and as I had my mending all finished, I played. In the afternoon we went for a ride (all but Amy & babe) and had a delightful sniff of the country. Saw a peach tree in full bloom, flowering quince coming out and peonies putting up their first red shoots, and the beautiful emerald fields of Spring wheat. We drove a pair {#60, p.99} of white horses with light colored harness, and a canopy-top surrey – and put on pretty much style for poor pedagogue's family.*

*My Ida felt wretchedly when she went to bed, although during the day she seemed more natural.*

*Has not eaten anything worth mentioning since last Wednesday. Only a little oatmeal cracker and milk and fruit.*

*A card of congratulations from Grandpa Deuel. They are going to the sea-shore next month, and were there during part of Feb. and March. It seems strange, when we were so cold here.*

Sunday, April 26, 1891

Sunday Apr. 26.

*A bright, beautiful day. I feel so happy and thankful that I am so well and strong. We have a lot of tulips and hyacinths out, and daffodils coming.*

Thursday, April 30, 1891

Thurs. Apr. 30th.

Amy's last day here; how I wish we could afford to keep her a month longer. She has made me so lazy that I almost dread to take up the burden of living like other folks again.

But I am so well and strong, it would be absurd to let her wait on me any longer.

Last Wednesday Leonard was three wks. old, and weighted 12 lbs. and I went to Mrs. Holmes' tea-party. They had the stove in the {#61, p.100} dining-room down, and two long tables arranged so that the backs of the inner rows touched, and we were all packed in like sardines. After we had talked a few moments and Mrs. H. had shouted introductions across the room 'till we were all acquainted, we were ordered out, pell-mell, to the dining-room. Mr. Holmes (being the host!) went out first, and sat down alone!, then the rest of us were herded together and driven out, and I was placed next to sister Platt, and I had rather eat my supper next to a tomb-stone. The only consolation was that "Oliver" Ainsworth and frau were just opposite, and Mrs. George fitted closely to my back.

When all were seated, Mrs. H. shouted to Mr. H. at the other end of the table: "Now, Pa!!" and he said a blessing.

Mr. Cowell waxed facetious, and used several good-sized words (studied up for the occasion) like: "exonerate." (Ben turned & asked me what it meant) and he only referred to the steamer he came from England in, once, and then told about the man who sat opposite him "eating so much currey [curry]."

{#61, p.101} I left very soon after tea, and Ben got excused and went afterwards to Committee meeting and to a social at Mrs. Lowe's, where the new minister lives. Ben says Mr. Putnam is a poor, harmless little fellow, and his wife is a sweet little thing, and their child is cross-eyed, but a nice little girl.

I must go to bed early, for I expect to make a night of it. Amy has spoilt the boy so, by grabbing him up every time he cries.

She is a good old soul, but after we get in order, we shall be more comfortable as a family, than when she is here. (Not mentioning my comfort, as an old lazy-bones.) Put away my furs today and cut my toe-nails, for I told Amy no-one knows when I can find time for such things, after she is gone.

Very warm, today until towards night. Shall we or shall we not let our furnace fire go out? That is the question.

Friday, May 1, 1891

Friday. May 1st. '91.

Amy saw me through the morning, and as Lillie was cleaning the front hall – she tended to dinner, and ate dinner with us, and then left us. The last thing she did was to take off Helen's bib, at {#62, p.102} young lady's request – and to bring me my gargle and the slop-jar, as I was nursing baby.

By the way, bi-chromate of potash. A rather hard day for me, this day.

Furnace fire out.

Wednesday, May 6, 1891

Wed. May 6th. '91.

Jen D'Ooge's wedding day. Ben started for G.R. at about nine o'clock and aunt Ida came soon after, to spend the day. All glad to see her. She worked hard all day, but seemed to enjoy it, too. Furnace started again. Helen having trouble again with her four last teeth, the same as she was when she first came from A.A.: feverish in her mouth, lips and head & hands, towards night, and wants to "rock bye-o please, mamma," when ever I am busy with Leonard. Poor little girlie. It breaks mamma all up, to have to neglect her.

Thursday, May 7, 1891

Thurs. 7.

Expected the dimpled Simpson to help Lillie clean house, but she did not come.

Helen felt badly – Lillie had a bad sore throat and I had a felon or something coming on my thumb. Altogether, there was some credit in being cheerful.

A telegram from Ben said the Ents would spend the eve. with us, on their way to their new home in {#62, p.103} E. Canaan Conn. The dear old boy took them to the hotel for supper because he thought we would be all torn up. Bless his heart! What should she have done with them?

They looked all over our house, and approved of every-thing, and we treated them to wine and ginger-snaps.



Leonard slept most of the eve.

Friday, May 8, 1891

Friday 8.

Nothing occurs of unusual importance or worth recording. I am in the house all day, except for a minute's walk perhaps. Leonard has considerable wind, so he has bad luck with his dinners, and needs to have some-one love him.

No more worry about my bonnet – for aunt Ida took it to A.A. She is such a comfort.

[Undated newspaper article reporting on a University of Michigan Board of Regents meeting, which included the appointment of Benjamin L. D'Ooge as a special lecturer on Italic dialects]

BOARD OF REGENTS.

An Appropriation of \$4,500 for the Athletic Grounds—Special Lecturers.

Ann Arbor, May 1.—(Special.)—An adjourned meeting of the Board of Regents was held today, Regents Clark and Hebbard being the only absentees. Their work was all done in executive session, the principal part being the discussion of the new buildings to be erected. The sum of \$4,500 was appropriated for fixing up the new athletic grounds. The salary of Wm. F. Edwards, accountant in the chemical laboratory, was fixed at \$900. The following appointments of special lecturers were made: Hon. Thomas M. Cooley, on inter-state commerce law; Marshall D. Ewell, on medical jurisprudence; James L. High, on equity jurisprudence; B. L. D'Ooge, of the Normal School, on Italic dialects.

{#63, p.103}

Saturday, May 9, 1891

Sat. 9.

Mart and frau drove out for a call. Baby slept, and looked very sweet. Mart prophesies that he will be a jolly fellow, as is indicated by his dilating nostrils and the shape of his upper lip.

They pronounced him “a regular boy” – and remarkable in every way.

Miss Densmore sent me some lovely pansies, forget-me-nots & daisies. Going to have our first strawberries tomorrow.

{#64, p.104}

Friday, May 15, 1891

Friday May 15.

A letter from Jen D. Westerhoff at Chicago, and a pretty cap for Leonard. She seems very happy with her "Johnnie."

I put up five cans pineapples.

Mrs. Platt & Wood & Mrs. Barbour called. Babe out for first time.

Ben went to Normal entertainment at opera house in the eve.

Saturday, May 16, 1891

Sat. 16.

Mrs. Watling called.

Leonard's eyes are quite accustomed to a little light – and his ears are getting better. The Dr. says, as Amy did – that his ears lie so flat, they sweat and cause the inflammation [sic].

I have had such a time with my thumb, I could not write or sew, respectably. A sort of blind felon. No fun to have sick thumb.

Thursday, May 21, 1891

Thurs. 21st.

What is the diff. [difference] between my nurse Amy and this diary? Amy has no lap to speak of & this is most all lapse.

Joke.

My thumb is feeling better.

Today Mrs. Simpson (Dimple) came and helped Lillie at cleaning Ben's study, and the parlor and sitting-room.

A letter from Jen D. W. congratulating us on Helen's birthday.

{#64, p.105}

Friday, May 22, 1891

Friday May 22d.

Our Helen's second birthday.

Rainy and cold, but we had a good time. Aunt Ida came and spent the day, bringing a pretty spoon for the little maiden. A dress from Grandma came.

Auntie stayed to tea and "got left" so stayed till 8:45.

Art Loan at A.A. for benefit of the Y.M.C.A. building. Wish I could go.

Grandma sent a dress for Helen and spoon for Leonard.

Saturday, May 23, 1891

Sat. 23.

All the little D'Ooges out for an airing, this P.M. Started for down town, but I got discouraged, they went so slow – fearing we should never get home.

Must leave at least one at home, if we expect to do anything.

Mr. & Mrs. Putnam called, in the eve. Left Lillie in the sitting-room with babe, but she felt drawn to the back piazza, to sit in the cold with the girl next door.

Result: baby cried and I had to take him in the cold parlor. I must have a talk with her. She is getting worse every day, about minding.

Wrote to Miss Scott tonight.

Baby Leonard tries to talk "googoo" when we talk to him. He laughs a great deal.

Papa and girls went down st. and brought home a boochiful express wagon for H's birthday.

{#65, p.106}

Sunday, May 25, 1891

Sunday May 25th.

A bright day – not very warm.

I went to service first time. Babe seven weeks old Tuesday. ~~tries to say "googoo" when when Ida is in bed [god?] talks to her.~~

The above written when I was actually asleep. I am so sleepy now-a-days, from being awake nights and drinking so much milk, I suppose. Ben at Normal "Field Day." Babe is not what would be called a troublesome baby either; only I am such a sleepy head. Auntie, Hattie Bruce & "Miss Elizabeth" were here.

Monday, May 26, 1891

Monday 26.

When Lillie brought Helen out to dinner from her nap, she looked so bright and sweet and said: "Here me, mama, here me." When her banana [sic] is eaten (which I have to give her in slices, she is such a little pig) she sings out: "Nanna gone-y gone-y gone me, mama!" She never teazes for anything, at table, but says: "I like beddy butty" or "I like dink mik-y," or whatever she wants.

While Ida's appetite has been so poor, papa has had to coax and threaten to make her eat anything. And this morning, when Helen noticed I did not eat my breakfast very well, she tipped her head side-ways, and shook her small fore finger at me, and said: "Eat {#65, p.107} 'oo bekkyy mamma dear – I tate it (take it) away!"

They both love brother Leonard so heartily, it is all I can do to keep them off, sometimes. We are wondering if Helen has the mumps. She is not sick at all, but has swellings under her jaws.

Went riding with all the babes.

Tuesday, May 27, 1891

Tuesday 27.

I must begin to make out my annual calling list. O, Dear!

I wish Leonard's ears would get better. They are still inflamed, and discharging. The wash which Dr. F. gave me does not seem to help them any more.

Wednesday, May 28, 1891

Wed. 28.

Went to Y.W.C.A. reception in the eve., taking Lillie with me. Miss Lockwood had it in charge, and every-thing was very nice and pretty, and the refreshments, though simple, were served in good style.

Miss L. is going to send a girl to me to do mending and repairing beach week. I prefer that, to hiring help to care for my babies, as Ben has suggested.

## Sunday, May 31, 1891

Sunday May 31st.

Ida and Elizabeth (cannot remember her other name) drove out, and Lillie & I took Ida jr. & Helen for a short drive.

Went to see Dr. F. who called to see Leonard {#66, p.108} and pronounced his trouble eczematic rash. (Of all things in the world) Why should our great healthy boy have that? Dr. says he frequently finds it among strong, healthy babes.

Auntie brought my shade hat – but I couldn't stand the poppies, so she took them back. The other trimming I like real well, and did not cost much.

Yesterday Ben took the girls down town and brought Helen home with her hair cut. She looks ravishingly sweet but I was a little disappointed not to have her 2 yr. old picture taken with the longer hair and little bow on top of her head.

The Blessed has a beautiful head.

Ben attended the Field Day at A.A. and Choral Union concert yesterday, reaching home about eleven. Said the concert was very fine. He went with Ida.

## Monday, June 1, 1891

Monday June 1st. '91.

Quite warm and showery.

Mrs. Newton had a surprise party and as I couldn't go so far, they sent for me. Very kind, I'm sure. When I reached the house, found about twenty ladies sitting around a little stuffy parlor, {#66, p.109} mostly people from our church.

Had for supper: bread & butter, pressed veal, dried beef, coffee & about fifty kinds of cake.

They said they would have supper at five o'clock. but did not until six – the time I had expected to be home. The best I could do was to "eat and run." Mr. N. brought me home. Seven o'clock. and my boy was sound asleep. Lillie said he did not worry much. Bless his sweet little heart.

Tuesday, June 2, 1891

Tues. 2d.

Rainy. Took off Ida's and Helen's winter flannels. It has really been too cold and uncertain to have them off any earlier.

Mrs. Childs & Barnum called after tea. I had just put on an old wrapper for tending baby – but slipped on my violets again. It fills a long-felt want – that gown does. The flowers and garden fairly jump ahead with these rains. We have sweet peas in bloom! Some that I had in the house this winter.

Wednesday, June 3, 1891

Wed. 3d.

Mrs. Holmes in to see us before starting for Petoskey tonight. The time for us to go will be here before we know it.

Mrs. Platt began to consult me! about a lawn social at Cowell's – as if I could be roped in to any socials now. All out for a lovely ride.

Babes' flannels on again. I have not taken mine off yet, except skirts.

{#67, p.110}

Thursday, June 4, 1891

Thurs. June. 4th. '91.

Attended senior reception at Sill's in the evening. Every one felt called upon to welcome me back to "society?" like a long lost brother.

Sunday, June 7, 1891

Sunday 7th. Leonard 2 months old

Ida and Miss Fellows drove out and carried Helen home with them. How we shall miss the old sweet pudgy girl.

Forgot to put her night-dress in the bundle! That shows how lunny [loony] I am getting.

Wednesday, June 10, 1891

Wed. 10th.

More head-ache, so in looking back I find everything seems blank.

Today we took Ida & baby and went on the street-car to A.A. after Helen.

Found her sitting on her chair, and her first remark was: "aw foo, mamma" which means: "all through."

Had a horrid time because it was a German gala-day and " [because] I forgot to consult the time-table " " [and because] it was hot and my head was almost jumping.

First time I have been to A.A. since last December.

Thursday, June 11, 1891

Thurs. 11th.

I must take something for biliousness. Miss Doty came again today to mend, and seems to work very neatly, though slow.

{#67, p.111} Rec. a beautiful picture of Sara Myrick's Helen, aged 5½ yrs.

It does look affected and studied though, the more I look at it.

Had a lovely ride, after the rain.

Saturday, June 13, 1891

Sat. 13.

A Missionary-tea at Miss Higley's, but I am not going. Sent some chocolate cookies from Harris'.

Rejoiced to see aunt Ida come skipping along about 5 o'clock to stay all night. Brought a little cap for Helen, my old bonnet (trimmed for travelling, with blue ribbon) and a white silk bonnet for Leonard. Such an auntie!

Sunday, June 14, 1891

Sunday 14.

“Children’s Day,” and we took Ida & Helen. The latter behaved beautifully, only talking aloud softly a few times. The flowers were pretty and the music, but oh, the remarks!

Poor little Rev. Putnam has no command of simple words. Talked to the little things about “disregarding the sabbath” etc.

Ida has symptoms ~~after the first~~ (asleep) of measles, ~~so Good-bye~~ (asleep). I am too sleepy to do any-thing. Babe was quite restless last evening and all night.

Monday, June 15, 1891

Monday 15.

Hot. All my flannels off except stockings. Must invest in six prs. for all of us girls, as soon as I can get down street.

At progressive tea-party at Mr. George’s. {#68, #112} Ben won the first prize for being the most fluent conversationalist. They gave him a Japanese pear made of some material which is very natural and soft. It was quite funny to talk for ten minutes on a prescribed topic as “the weather,” “books,” “birthdays,” “needles and pins” etc. Had quite a nice lunch. Did not get home ‘till 9:30 instead of eight, as I had expected, but found the three best babes in the world all right, and Leonard did not wake up ‘till his usual time: one o’c.

A thunder shower has cooled the air a little. Helen said: “Da comes the funder, out air. Heavin, Mama?”

These first hot days are so oppressive Ben wore his shirt-sleeves to dinner-table, and Helen pointed her wee finger and said: “put coat on, papa, put it on!”

She sings Leonard to sleep, rolling him in his cab – although she has to reach her little hands way above her head, to get hold of the handle. Sings: “Bye-o bye-o” like a bird. Also says, motioning with her dear hands: “Dare baby’s ball a-big a-soff a-loun. Dare baby bellella a-keep a-baby die. A-der baby solyer tanny in a wode. Dare baby’s kadoe, Lock a baby bye.”<sup>10</sup>

{#68, p.113}

Saturday, June 27, 1891

Saturday June. 27.

A very busy week. We sent off our boxes and beds and the last two days have been making my annual tour of calls – about thirty-vie and only left over a few.

Yesterday we were invited up to the Conservatory to hear Marshall Pease’s betrothed sing.

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<sup>10</sup> King County Library System, *Here is a Ball for Baby* - <https://kcls.org/content/here-is-a-ball-for-baby/>



When I came home to go up with Ben, I found Ida, Lill Follett and Mrs. Loving and Nell. Took them all with me.

This Miss Gerison has a wonderful contralto voice. Has studied in Germany three years, and is about to return there. Sang from Mignon with great affect.

On Wednesday I went up to the Alumni dinner at the Normal. Home at about three o'clock, gave babe his dinner, then took Ida down street and did a little shopping. Took the five o'clock motor home, and after tending to my baby started for A.A. at 6:30 (where Ben had gone at 2 o'clock.) and attended the Commencement concert, followed by the Alumni reception. Ben's class reunion, after ten years. Pretty thin lemonade.

Thursday our sixth anniversary and we did not think of it 'till night, when Ben came down from his study and reminded me. Well, we have done well to have three dear babes in six yrs. and I have much to thank God for. There are few women healthier & happier than I.

{#69, p.114} We start for Charlevoix next Monday. Poor dear Ida had looked forward to at least a little visit with us before we go, but now that Lill had dropped down upon her, unexpectedly, she must give it up.

It makes me cross when I think how selfish Lill is, and how abominably she has treated Ida.

She bro't a jacket for Helen, socks for Leonard and a little box of hdkchfs for little Ida. She looks dreadfully since she has banged her hair.

The poor thing has had lots of trouble lately, in settling uncle Morwick's estate. Mary Olcott and husband made themselves hideous by grasping after every-thing and treating Lill horribly.

Sunday, June 28, 1891

Sunday, June 28.

Attended service for the last time, and said my good byes to those who acted as if they wanted to.

Aunt Ida came in the P.M. (having left Lill to attend to supper). Just right, too.

Monday, June 29, 1891

Monday 29.

All hurry and flurry. Could never have got off without dear aunt Ida's help. She was every where present – sewing on buttons, putting in pockets, tending babies etc. We left at 5:30, and auntie a short time before.

At the depot little Ida distinguished herself – when our train and one for Chicago came together – {#69, p.115} by slipping out of sight, and when Ben found her she was comfortably seated in the other train. It was by mere chance that a lady saw her get aboard who had seen her with us. It was a narrow escape.

Wednesday, July 1, 1891

Wed. July 1st. '91. Mackinaw.

We had expected to take the “Grand Rapids” for Charlevoix, but our boat was late, and we failed to make connections, so spent the afternoon by taking a drive over the island, where Ben and I walked six years ago, alone. The occasion was diversified by the children, who took turns “throwing up Jonah” at the sides of the carriage, and each point of interest will be associated in our minds by “I wanto dickie, mamma” or something like it.

We had a nice time, in spite of everything.

In the night Ben and I took our turn at being sick; and next day I continued to have b-a [belly ache?]. Lillie also took her turn, so that when we reached the cottage Ben and the babies were the only ones able to run around, while we hung on to ourselves, only moving when absolutely necessary. Ben tore down street and returned triumphant with some brandy, which helped us wonderfully.

*The next day day [sic] and Friday we worked faithfully, and celebrated the 4th.*

{#70, p.116}

Thursday, July 9, 1891

July 9th.

*Charlevoix.*

Ida said she saw a “lady going to Heaven. She was in the die-bus just starting.” Another time she saw the pile-driver working down in the bayou, and called it the “screw-driver.” She asked a lady if she was home-sick, coming up here, and said: “I was very home-sick and threw up my breakfast.”

Saturday, July 11, 1891

Sat. 11th.

Ben off trout fishing for the first time. Caught 27 trout. While he was gone we had a grand surprise. It was raining a slow drizzle and I heard a bus drive up, but thought nothing of it. When I came into the sitting-room there stood aunt Ida. Lill Follett had insisted upon keeping house for father, and paying Ida's fare to visit us. We will never say anything against Lill again. When Ben came home and saw her, he just wilted down to the floor.

The babies were just as delighted as any-one, but did not appreciate how far she had come, to see us.

Sunday, July 12, 1891

Sun. 12th.

We were lazy all day 'till eve. when Ben and Ida attended service in town. Leonard seemed to have colic.

Monday, July 13, 1891

Mon. 13.

Jane (Mahon) Stanley came for us to go sailing {#70, p.117} but of course I couldn't go, and Ben was studying. I hurried and put up a lunch for Ida, but they did not go after all, as it was too windy. Amy Fuller called on Ida.

Tuesday, July 14, 1891

Tues. 14.

The yachting party went after orchids today and did not return 'till nearly seven o'clock. Ida enjoyed it very much. The yacht is owned by Mr. Kimball of Kenosha, who is an acquaintance of the Mahons.

I was settled with my mending out under the trees, and my babes around me, when Ben came and carried us off for a boat-ride. Left Leonard asleep in his cab, around where Lillie was ironing. She is a smart girl to get through so early with her ironing. Mrs. Wood called.

Wednesday, July 15, 1891

Wed. 15.

Auntie, Lillie and I with Helen & Leonard went to the green-house, so auntie could see the wonderful begonias. We took the cab, Leonard and all in the bus, and rode up, walking home, and going down street.

Found a lovely hand-painted puff-box to send Lois Mc. [McLaughlin] Her infant is expected next mo. Cost us \$4.00.

Thursday, July 16, 1891

Thurs. 16.

Ben took us all (seven) in a surrey, and we had a family drive. However not attended by so many disasters as our Mackinaw ride.

{#71, p.118}

Friday, July 17, 1891

Friday July 17, '91.

It rained so we could not take the ride to the Observatory with the Mahons, as we had planned. Had a grate fire and a cozy time. Finished Tolstoi's "Katia." Didn't like it very well.

Saturday, July 18, 1891

Sat 18th.

All hands went with the party in a bus to Macksawba's hill, where we had a terrific climb, but felt repaid by the fine view. Could see Harbor Pt. and even Beaver Isl., nearly sixty miles away, and all over Pine Lake and the surrounding country. Little Ida climbed with the rest, while Leonard and Helen remained behind with Mrs. Mahon & Miss Eams, and little Jack Stanley.

Reading "Between Whiles" by H.H.

Sunday, July 19, 1891

Sun. 19.

Ben saw a man yesterday whom we used to see at auntie Morwick's about 25 years ago. That seems a long time to look back upon. Judge McKegan [likely McKeighan] of St. Louis. I wonder if he is anything more than circuit Judge. People speak of him with the utmost respect.

In the eve. we three went down to meet Hortie Bruce & Miss Fellows, who were passing through, from Chicago. The boat was late, so we went down and found a place on the Lake shore, sheltered from the wind, and watched for it. Ben amused us by running bow {#71, p.119} legged, and bothered us by making the sand slide under us, when we were sitting on a side hill. It was fearfully cold, but Ida had on her fur cape and I wore my redingote and blanket shawl, & Ben his over-coat.

The girls wanted Ida to go back with them, but we had persuaded her to stay a little longer. Cousin Lill had written that every-thing was all right at home.

Mrs. Holden called yesterday.

Monday, July 20, 1891

Mon. 20.

We took our supper on Lake Mich. beach. Lillie got her washing out and in again, and clothes rolled for ironing, and was ready to go with us at 3 o'clock. I do not believe there is another girl on the grounds who goes out as much with the family. We had a fine time. Took a hammock for Leonard, and he laid in it three hours, swinging gently by the wind, and gazing at the trees when not asleep.

Tuesday, July 21, 1891

Tues. 21.

Hot every-where except under our trees. Annual meeting at Music Hall where they had some lively times "sitting down" on some of the projects of the Board, who are getting decidedly arbitrary.

Met again in the eve. until nearly 10 o'clock., so we could not go over to Bishop Gillespie's where we were invited to meet a Chicago friend of theirs.

I sat in my brown silk all the eve. waiting and darning stockings.

Called on the McKegans [McKeighans].

{#72, p.120}

Wednesday, July 22, 1891

Wed. July 22d.

All off for E. Jordan on the little steamer "Gordon" – I stayed home with babe because my head felt bad and it was too windy for Leonard. Mrs. Olney called; also Mrs. Mahon & Jack and Mr. & Mrs. Brooks. My babe slept too much today in the wind and had two hours of colic when it came bed-time. I wonder when he will get so he will go to sleep at night like a christian. Poor little chappie – he felt pooty bad.

Thursday, July 23, 1891

Thurs. 23.

Aunt Ida off on the "Soo City" at about 12 o'clock. Ben and I went down with her & saw her safely on board. Am so sorry she has to make the trip alone. We shall miss her so much. She is so good to help with the babes that I shall miss her that way, too.

In the P.M. I took my darning-bag and went over to see neighbors the other side of Gillespies. A Mrs. Waring – sister Miss Hard and friend Miss \_\_\_ did not catch the name. They are very pleasant people from Detroit.

Lillie and the girls played down at the foot of the terrace, and babe slept.

This A.M. the McKegans [McKeighans] called, and Jane Stanley and cousin Miss Eams and Miss Cowan, Mr. " [Stanley]'s cousin, all to see our Ida and say good-bye.

Reading Anderson's: "Only a Fiddler," not very interesting.

{#72, p.121}

Friday, July 24, 1891

Friday 24.

Down street with Ben in the boat. Threatening rain, but no rain comes. The grass is all brown and dry and the forests around are burning in many places. When the wind is us-wards it is horrible [sic].

Saturday, July 25, 1891

Sat. 25

Rainy by spells – not enough to do any good.

All gone to the village but Leonard & me.

Sunday, July 26, 1891

Sun. 26

Attended service in the P.M. with Ida, who really behaved very well for her first sermon.

All down to the beach in the A.M. except me & my baby.

Mrs. Ed. Hinman (Daisy Risdon) and two daughters (Carrie's) are here. One of them has typhoid fever. Ben & Lillie to the song-service at the hotel, in the evening.

I wrote to Fannie, Lois and home. Sent by sister Ida, a china puff-box, hand-painted (\$4.00). Ida shared the expense with me.

*Reading "Story of Keedon Bluffs" by Craddock. Very good.*

Monday, July 27, 1891

Mon. 27.

*The woods are burning in many places near here so that it is very smoky at times.*

*Our boy really puts up his paddies to be taken. He laughs most every time any-one speaks to him. He is so good.*

{#73, p.122}

Tuesday, July 28, 1891

Tues. July 28. '91.

*All over to Chicago beach, where Lillie & Ida waded. Hardly dared let my Helen do so, as her bowels are not quite right. In the eve. went to "Book-party" at Mahon's. Each person represented – by his dress or appearance – the title of a book.*

*Ben had four of his books on a string over his shoulder: "Among My Books" by Howells.*

*I had several round pieces of paper sewed on me, for Thackery's [sic, Thackeray's] "Round About Papers."*

*One of the best was Mr. Mahon with maps of the world tied on him before and behind: "The Wide Wide World."*

*"Sevenoaks" was a white dress, decorated with seven branches of oak.*

Thursday, July 30, 1891

Thurs. 30.

*How giddy I am! Went to an afternoon "Coffee" at Mrs. Wood's cottage, taking our work. Had a pleasant time. Served coffee & wafers and olives. Chocolate and cocoanut cake & cookies. About 10 ladies.*

Friday, July 31, 1891

Friday 31.

*Is it possible that this is the last day of July! A letter from Jen says that mother cannot visit us, as she dreads the journey and fears she might have head-ache! It is decided that the little Hinmans {#73, p.123} have gastric fever. Their mouths are full of canker sores.*

*Ben, Lillie and the girls off fishing. Helen enjoyed picking up the fish out of the pail of water.*

*Miss Hard brought us "Black Beauty" to read. By Miss Sewell.*

*Can see the light of the forest fires at night just south of us two miles.*

Saturday, August 1, 1891

Sat. Aug. 1st. '91.

Insufferably hot. The first time I ever remember that it was hot under our trees. All bundled off to Lake Mich. beach with our dinner. Took the three hammocks and put the little chicks to bed.

Wednesday, August 5, 1891

Wed. Aug. 5th.

Neither mother nor John Verdier can visit us here this summer. Reading Geo. Sand's "Snow Man." It is exceedingly Frenchy in its improbable situations and exaggerated style. But the plot is interesting – and the scene – laid in Sweden – so unusual that I enjoyed the bits of description.

"Black Beauty" is a queer mixture of moralizing and recipes for horse-feed.



Thursday, August 6, 1891

Thurs. 6th.

Sent a sweet baked apple to the little Hinman who is still sick. Daisy and the other one were over – and said she had been longing for baked apples, and hinted for more. Was obliged to tell her they were {#74, p.124} the last we could find.

Saturday, August 8, 1891

Sat. Aug. 8th.

Very hot. Mr. Sprague came to tea, and gave his entertainment at Music Hall.

Only about fifty there. He did very well indeed for a beginner. His “Micawber” was really excellent and his “Betsy Trotwood.”

It rained in torrents near the close of the evening – making it very hard for poor Mr. S.

Up to Mrs. Wortley’s to borrow some butter. They are in the Richards cottage – very poorly arranged and poorly furnished – costs \$75.00 for the season.

Sunday, August 9, 1891

Sun. 9.

Hot. Home all day. Reading “Looking Backward” by Bellamy. A man of wealth and culture takes a sleeping potion for insomnia and dreams that he wakes after sleeping a thousand years. Then he describes his native place: Boston as it appears after that time has passed, showing the improvements in social and business relations – manners and habits of life as he conceives possible and advisable. Rather visionary – but quite interesting in parts. Too long drawn out, though.

Monday, August 10, 1891

Mon. 10th.

Mrs. Whitley is at Bay View, and we have written to her inviting her to dinner next Thursday.

{#74, p.125}

Tuesday, August 11, 1891

Tues. 11th.

A little cooler. Went to see Mrs. Weidemann & Mrs. Demmon. Jane Stanley's boy is about well again.

Wednesday, August 12, 1891

Wed. 12.

Mrs. Barbour had a daughter last Monday. Ida's letter, written that day, says it was 102° in the shade at A.A.

Thursday, August 13, 1891

Thurs. 13.

Mrs. Whitley did not come. Perhaps she returned to Coldwater. I wrote to Laura.

Saturday, August 15, 1891

Sat. 15.

We took a grand family drive.

Tried to turn around and backed into a stump and broke the carriage (five miles from home). Strapped & wired it up and we finally returned in safety, by walking up and down the hills. Lillie carrying Leonard, Ida & Helen hand-in-hand – Ben holding back on the carriage and I leading the highest-headed horses I ever handled. All the ride (3½ hrs.) and repairs the man only charged \$1.75.

Wednesday, August 19, 1891

Wed. 19th.

Wrote home and to Grandpa Deuel.

A letter from Ida told that Lois McG. [sic, McL(aughlin)] has had a boy, born last Sat (15th).

Today all hands went to Lake Mich. beach and had a lovely time. Ida & Helen took off their shoes and stockings – but H. was afraid of the waves.

{#75, p.126} In the eve. went to prayer-meeting because Mrs. Brooks poked me up to it. Heard a Mr. McLennan – returned Missionary – on Mexico. After service some-one asked him if he had his opals with him. And he had, and showed us four papers of them in all sizes, shapes and colors.

I bought one to put in my engagement-ring, as I never liked the sapphire in the centre as well as the opal which got broken. Then I saw such a pretty one for a little pin, and thought I might as well improve this rare opportunity and get one for Ida's Christmas. They were so extraordinarily cheap – buying from the importer. I got them all for \$5.00.

Thursday, August 20, 1891

Thurs. Aug. 20.

When I saw my opals by day-light, I was disappointed in one of them, so availed myself of his offer to change any of them.

Found also, in his collection, a peculiar reddish-yellow opal which I could not resist at 50 cts. Mrs. Wood was over.

Friday, August 21, 1891

Friday 21.

Head-ache. Mr. Cook came again to play Cribbage with Ben, and got beaten six times. Mr. Mahon was over, also the Warings.

I sat out doors all day, and groaned and mended stockings. Babies were good as kittens.

{#75, p.127}

Saturday, August 22, 1891

Sat. 22d.

Ben gone fishing. Lillie and I took the babes and went down to the village – not that I wanted to go, for my head still felt queer. I must take Nux at night and Pod. in the morning occasionally to avoid these nervous head-aches. They always come after Leonard has two or three restless nights.

I stopped (with Ida & Helen) at the Mahon's cottage to see Hattie (Ailes) and boy Ross – thirteen months old. Lillie had our babe in the cab. Little Ross is a picturesque little scamp who gives the

most spiteful little yells every three minutes or oftener. They all think him wonderful of course. And – equally of course – I do not think he begins to compare with my babies.

Ida went off with Louie Stanley to sharpen some knives, and we came home. When she returned she told me they invited her to stay for tea, but she infused.

Ben home with thirty trout, at eight P.M.

Sunday, August 23, 1891

Sun 23.

A lazy day. I read Bayard Taylor's "Hannah Thurston" instead of writing home.

Hannah is a sweet, modest, high-minded quaker girl living in central N.Y. She {#76, p.128} feels drawn to speak as advocate for women's rights. But in spite of her plans for a career of public usefulness – along comes the hero – Max Woodbury who convinces her that woman's sphere is home – though not necessarily confined to that place, under all circumstances. It is a good story, well told. Rather blunt and plain in many places, so that I should not recommended for undeveloped minds.

Lillie & Ida at service.

Monday, August 24, 1891

Mon. 24. Aug.

My head seems all right again. We spent the eve. at Mrs. Waring's, playing whist.

Tuesday, August 25, 1891

Tues. 25.

Another bright, breezy day.

Mr. & Mrs. Ware of Chicago came for me to ride. Took Ida and had a delightful time. Ida was happy because he let her drive the span of horses up hill.

Wednesday, August 26, 1891

Wed. 26.

Ben went fishing with the Demmons and Stanleys. Went to 26th lake and took their dinners. All decided that it is a beautiful place for a picnic next year. Jane lost her water-color box and Louie a valuable fish-pole.

Mr. McKegan [McKeighan] came with a telegram from cousin Lill {#76, p.129} Follett, that she would be here today. We all went down town by boat. Put Ida & Helen on the stern seat, Leonard on cushions in the bottom and Lillie and I rowed. Put the canopy from the cab over him, and he seemed happy.

Thursday, August 27, 1891

Thurs. 27.

Rainy again. Ben and I went to the village for birthday presents for Lillie (19 yrs.). Ben gave a nice gold ring and I gave her a bottle of perfume and two handkerchiefs., a mull and a silk. She seemed pleased. Helen gave her a veil and Ida a pair of belt-pins.

I stopped to see Mrs. Irish and then at the McKegans [McKeighans].

Friday, August 28, 1891

Frid. 28.

Lill came after breakfast and spent the day with us. Thought our cottage very cozy and pleasant.

We had for dinner fresh bread and butter chicken, currant jelly, green-corn, new potatoes, rice pudding & jelly with cream and sugar.

In the afternoon we sat on the front piazza a while, but it proved to be too cold for us, and we were glad to get back to the grate fire.

Mrs. Mc. came after Lill, about half-past-six.

Saturday, August 29, 1891

Saturday 29.

More rain. I went up after Lill to come and spend Sunday but they had company: {#77, p.130} The Misses Ladd and Mrs. Irish. Mrs. McKeegan [McKeighan] invited Ben and me to dine with them at the Hotel on Sunday.

Sunday, August 30, 1891

Sunday Aug. 30.

The rain has actually stopped. We went to dinner at the hotel and brought Lill home with us. In the afternoon we attended service at Music Hall, and listened to a little talk on home-life, by Bishop Gillespie.

Monday, August 31, 1891

Mon. 31. A bright day.

Lill went about 10:30 and then we flew around and packed our box and sent it.

After dinner Ben, Lillie and the girls went off for a boat-ride. I preferred to stay home with my sonny, and make calls. Went to Mrs. Wood's and to see Amy Fuller who, of course, was away from the cottage.

Tuesday, September 1, 1891

Tues. Sep. 1st. '91.

Another beautiful day. Every-one is going off, this week, and the cottages look forlorn enough, all boarded up for winter. Helen has a little bowel trouble again, but blackberry is helping her. I do not intend that she shall get as bad as little Jack Stanley, who does not seem to improve very fast.

After dinner we all planned to go off, but Helen had trouble, and so I stayed home with her & Leonard, as I had been down town in the morning.

{#77, p.131} Painted my old white straw bonnet blue, and it looks very well for travelling and common.

We went up to say good bye to cousin Lill, who left for home today.

The McKieghans seem to have lots of money, but are queer people.

Wednesday, September 2, 1891

Wed. 2d.

All torn up and packing. Mrs. Wood & Mrs. Demmon called. I was lying down with Leonard, and the rest were down town – so I did not go to the door.

Thursday, September 3, 1891

Thurs. 3d.

Left Charlevoix in company with the Gillespies, on the "Gazelle." It was quite rough, and I dosed them all around with Nux.

After leaving Petoskey we had the boat about to ourselves. The dining saloon was heated and was so large we sat in there. The girl babies played on the floor, Leonard sat in a high chair, Ben read and I sewed.

Reached Mackinaw about seven, and waited there a long time for the "City of Cleveland."

Friday, September 4, 1891

Friday 4.

It continued rough and Lillie and I gave up to sea-sickness.

Glad the babes were not at all troubled by the rocking. A great many were ill, on board. Towards night I was all right, and enjoyed the eve. on deck with my Ben.

{#78, p.132} Lillie and I changed our dresses for our shopping expedition at Detroit.

Saturday, September 5, 1891

Sat. 5th Sep. '91.

Found a mean drizzly day at Detroit. I had half a mind to give up shopping but after having our breakfast at the "Wayne," who should come walking into the ladies parlor but aunt Ida.

Ben and the girls went on home, Lillie spent the day at the hotel, because it was too wet to take Leonard out.

Ida and I paddled around and did some shopping. I bought chintz (in blue and pink) for the girlies' room, draperies for our windows up stairs, shoes for me, fur for Helen's winter cloak etc. etc.

Reached Ypsi. about ~~five~~ six o'clock and found the gas burning and a cheerful grate fire.

Auntie stayed all night with us.

Sunday, September 6, 1891

Sun 6th.

Father drove out after Ida. All glad to see him looking so well. The Barbours came and her babe is about 2 1 mo. old. Old pudgy wants to kiss every baby that comes here.

Tuesday, September 8, 1891

Tues 8th.

Wednesday, September 9, 1891

Wed 9th.

All hands off for a ride.

day, September 10, 1891

Thurs. 10.

~~Aunt Ida came.~~

{#78, p.133}

Friday, September 11, 1891

Friday 11th.

Reading "Knight Errant" by Edna Lyall. It develops a side of Italian character very seldom touched upon – that of self-sacrifice and holy endeavor after the best living, taking Christ as a model. A young Italian sacrifices friends, wealth and reputation to save his sister from dishonor. A very fine book.

Down street with my son, who behaved well. Got me a cloak of plain camels' hair – black (\$10.00).

Ordered peaches for canning.



Saturday, September 12, 1891

Sat. 12.

Put up pear, pickles and peaches. At the dentist's in the afternoon.

Sunday, September 13, 1891

Sun. 13.

Aunt Ida and cousin Nan Codington came. The latter here for a few days, having left Maud in school at Chicago.

They took Helen home with them. Grandpa came in the carriage and Ben and little Ida went to A.A. too, for a call on uncle Mart.

Tuesday, September 15, 1891

Tues. 15.

Grape jelly. In the afternoon we took a ride in the surrey with "Dr.," a very gentle horse.

Wednesday, September 16, 1891

Wed. 16.

Another tooth filled.

{#79, p.134}

Friday, September 18, 1891

Friday Sep. 18. '91.

Mrs. Farnam [Farnham] came to sew. Making dress for Helen of striped outing-flannel.

Saturday, September 19, 1891

Sat. 19.

Crab jelly, grapes etc. that had to be attended to before Monday. Cake also, in which I put starch for baking-powder, by mistake.

An awful day of blunders and accidents. Ben off to a picnic with a lot of the teachers.

Sunday, September 20, 1891

Sun. 20.

Another head-ache. It always follows after getting a back-ache the day before, and not much sleep. Of course babe was restless after my hard days [sic] work.

Monday, September 21, 1891

Mon. 21.

Thursday, October 1, 1891

Thurs. Oct. 1st. '91.

My last tooth that is decayed was filled today. Bill for the three \$5.00.

A very hard day, before I am taking Nux at night and Pod. in the morning to see if I can do without a head-ache next Sunday.

Friday, October 2, 1891

Frid. 2d.

A card announcing Laura Whitley Moore's new daughter – Gertrude.

A hot day. Aunt Ida came and with her a Miss Rogers from G.R. who boards with them this winter. They took Ida home, to stay {#79, p.135} until Sunday. Mrs. Farnam [Farnham] fixing my brown broadcloth dress for another winter's wear. It has done me good service for three years already. We like our room upstairs very much.

Saturday, October 3, 1891

Sat. 3.

We were flying around doing our Sat. work when who should come but Walter Verdier; we ~~footed~~ surprised Ben when he came from down street by making him believe a book agent was waiting for him in the parlor.

Sunday, October 4, 1891

Sun. 4.

Tenth anniversary of our church. Had expected to have Leonard baptized but it showered all day.

Yesterday was Mrs. Farnam's [Farnham's] last day. Had worked 13 days, and did good work too. Paid her \$9.75.

Aunt Ida was going to bring little Ida home today – but it is too wet.

Monday, October 5, 1891

Mon. 5.

I was glad I did not attend the anniversary meeting when Ben did not reach home until nearly 2 o'clock. Four hours of talk by Wood, Cowell etc. more than I could have stood.

A letter from Clarence telling of Grandpa Deuel's death. He took a long walk after eating dinner, as usual. Then lay on the lounge, having complained of colic and been relieved some-what. They were reading to him {#80, p.136} when he fell gently asleep, with a smile on his face. Dear old Grandpa, I hope he was smiling at the sight of his beloved Irene.

A letter from Ben's mother that they will be here next Thursday or Friday. I must fly to get the house all settled before then.

Wednesday, October 7, 1891

Wed. Oct. 6 7th. 91.

I made the thin curtains for the guest chamber and hung them, after Ben put up the brackets. Also hung the chintz curtain to Ida's closet door, made her cover for bed and fixed the bolster. Think their room will be very pretty.

Last night we called on the minister Mr. Putnam and Mr. & Mrs. Lewis (Ida Wall, an old pupil of Ben's).

Rained a little. Today quite cold again. Put on the girlies' flannels (light) and Ben started the furnace fire.

Thursday, October 8, 1891

Thurs. 7 8.

Card from Jen saying they will be here at six o'clock tomorrow night. We are flying today.

Friday, October 9, 1891

Frid. 8 9.

They came in time for tea. All glad to see them. Helen a bit shy at first but soon got acquainted with "Gamma" and "aunt Den."

{#80, p.137} They look just as usual. Jen perhaps a trifle happier, now that she has a "Johnnie" at home.

Saturday, October 10, 1891

Sat. 9 10

Mart came out to see them. Mary couldn't come because she had made an engagement for the afternoon. They all think she might have come if she wanted to take the trouble.

Mart unusually gay and jolly to fill any lack on her part.

Only the second time he has seen Leonard, although he tried to deny it when I told him so. Very devoted to his nephew?

Sunday, October 11, 1891

Sun. 10 11

Walt came out for dinner, and went to church with us. Ida went with us, and behaved very nicely. To walk in the afternoon.

Monday, October 12, 1891

Mon. ~~11~~ 12th.

Mrs. Holmes called on us, after we returned from down street.

Tuesday, October 13, 1891

Tues. ~~12~~ 13.

A copy of Grandpa Deuel's will came from a lawyer in Cal. Estate valued at about \$7500 to be divided between the four grand-children after aunt Electa has \$1000 of it.

Father and Ida came out to tea. We rode until four o'clock, when they came; also {#81, p.138} the neighbors whom I had invited in, to see mother. The two Mrs. Lamberts, Mrs. Stannard, and Mrs. Hay. I passed catawba grapes and blue plates.

Miss McMahan and Miss Pierce and Mrs. Putnam called.

Wednesday, October 14, 1891

Wed. Oct. ~~13~~ 14.

Another head-ache. Too much excitement yesterday, I guess. Raining by spells, today. Mother and Jen are so good, taking care of the children and letting me sleep and rest as much as possible. I was up at all hours last night.

Mr. Strong and Lillie came for tea, and my head was enough better so I could appear half-way respectable, and sit at the table, if I did have to "womick" just before they came.

Thursday, October 15, 1891

Thurs. ~~14~~ 15.

Mother and Jen spent the day at Ann Arbor. Ben went down for this second lecture at the U. of M. Says that Prof. Kelsey is very much pleased with his method and spoke to the class in praise of their teacher.

Ben was surprised to find twelve pupils waiting for him. Generally there are only three or four to study those advanced subjects. Those "Italic Dialects" have never been offered in any American university before, {#81, p.139} nor in Germany, 'till within about three years.

Friday, October 16, 1891

Frid. 45 16.

We all visited the Kindergarten in the morning, taking Helen with us. The little fat thing went in the ring with the others and had great fun.

I do not think their teacher is nearly the equal of Miss Lockwood.

We went to ride at half-past-two, in a fine landau with span of white horses which I drove. Made me feel too horsey to be real comfortable. Jen and mother made their calls (nine). Mrs. Clark came after our return and brought cream "for the professor." I rustled around and sliced my cold ham (for the church tea at Mr. Wood's) and trimmed it with parsley. Ben and Jen went at 6:30 and I a little later, but in time to eat with the waiters. Had a nice supper, and a little music interspersed with the business. Jen wore her handsome black silk with a demi-train, and made quite an impression.

Saturday, October 17, 1891

Sat. 46 17.

Mother & Jen gone to Mart's, and will come back next Wednesday for a company in the eve. and to remain over a part of Thursday.

{#82, p.140} Aunt Ida came soon after they left, and stayed to dinner, taking our blessed Helen home with her.

What a dreadful hole it would make if our Darling could not come back to us. We went down street and bought Lillie's cloak. Ida Jr. sat on the front of the cab, while we were in the stores and was a good girlie.

My tooth, which Dr. James filled last troubles me too much. I fear it was not thoroughly cleaned before filling.

Sunday, October 18, 1891

Sunday Oct. 18. '91.

A bright day most of the time.

Lille and Ida at church in the morning.

All went to the new lot for a walk after dinner. Mr. Strong came to dinner with us. All went for a walk, after he had left. (This sounds pretty sleepy.)

Helen went to say her prayer the other night and said: "Barber, Barber shave a pig." The little scamp. She says her little prayer so cunning – with hardly a word pronounced right. Leonard in short clothes.

Monday, October 19, 1891

Monday 19.

Rainy so I did not have Ida go to school. She played very happily alone all the morning. First she was busy "cleaning house" in her attic. Then {#82, p.141} she made cookies out of some dough I had left after making sweedish [sic] sweet cakes for our little company on Wednesday eve.

Tuesday, October 20, 1891

Tues. 20.

Made white cake with very good success, frosting with chocolate.

Down street in the afternoon, with Lillie, Ida & Leonard. Got my ring which Hough had sent to N.Y. to have the opal set. Also the scarf-pins for Ida's X'mas and for me. They cost rather more than I had expected, but it is once in a life-time. And it is not often that I make Ida a really fine present.

Wednesday, October 21, 1891

Wed. 21.

Mother and Jen came about 3 o'clock bringing Helen with them. It seemed as if I could not kiss her enough.

In the eve. Mr. & Mrs. George, Grace & Mr. Lodeman and Hilda (Mrs. L. had head-ache) and the Barbours spent the eve. with us. We played games and sang "rounds" and had chocolate, cake and grapes.

Little mother seemed to enjoy it as well as any-one.

To bed at 11:30, and up with Leonard seven or eight times in the night.

{#83, p.142}

Thursday, October 22, 1891

Thurs. Oct. 22. '91.

Mother and Jen off to A.A. when Ben went for his lecture. They took little Ida to spend the afternoon with them.

I went down street to see about my hat. Walked both ways, and I'm tired, and my head is dizzy. Lillie off to prayer meeting with Barbour's girl Emma. I do not like her at all. Feel sure she will make trouble sometime. She has a bold, bad face.

Friday, October 23, 1891

Frid. 23.

Invited to spend the eve. with Miss Pierce, but my boy was so restless last night I feel the need of all my strength and sleep I can scare up. Very much disappointed. I did not know what a social body I was until the time came when I have to give up such things.

Sat up to finish my mending 'till about ten o'clock. It seems as if I should fly out of my skin when I think of all I want to do and can't.

Saturday, October 24, 1891

Sat. 24.

Ben realizes that mother D. was right when she said I was working too hard. He is determined to stop these head-aches, and brought me a box of phenyo caffeine [Phenyo-Caffein]<sup>11</sup> {#83, p.143} pills; also some lime for me to dissolve and take in my milk; also he has secured Mrs. Vroman to come every Thurs. to help me mend and sew. Bless his old heart. What a weight he has lifted for me.

Have promised to retire every night at or about 10 o'clock.

Had Leonard's picture taken.

Sunday, October 25, 1891

Sun. 25.

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<sup>11</sup> Smithsonian National Museum of American History, *Phenyo-Caffein* - [https://americanhistory.si.edu/collections/search/object/nmah\\_720035](https://americanhistory.si.edu/collections/search/object/nmah_720035)



Commenced going to S. School again and teaching my infant-class. They all seemed very glad to see me back. And no wonder, for they have been so long without any-one.

A beautiful, bright day. We took a long walk in the afternoon.

I am wearing my black hat – for I never did see such a looking thing as my brown one, which was finished yesterday, by Miss Dennis.

Monday, October 26, 1891

Mon. 26.

Leonard in a gingham apron, playing on the floor. He almost sits alone without any pillows. He is so lively, he almost springs from my lap, every day. No teeth through yet, but he is working hard at them – biting every-thing he can get hold of and wetting his bibs in a dreadful way.

Ida's speeches should be recorded more than they are. She was eating some tough meat, and {#84 duplicate; #85, p.144} she remarked that it would "make such good gum."

We had some baker's cakes which she did not like very well, and they lasted a long time. She asked me meekly, one night if they were "almost gone now."

Tuesday, October 27, 1891

Tues Oct. 27th.

We listened to Dr. Gunsalus of Chicago on "Cromwell." He is a wonderfully strong speaker. Paints the most striking word pictures in a dramatic way which is very impressive.

Babes sat for pictures at Waterman's.

Wednesday, October 28, 1891

Wed. 28.

We called, in the eve., on the new prof. of mathematics – Smith and his little frau. They room at R. W. Putnam's and have quite handsome furnishings, books etc. Came here from Syracuse or vicinity. She is quite pretty and rather bright. Rides a bicycle.

Friday, October 30, 1891

Frid. 30.

The Lodemans called in the eve.

My days are all about the same, also my nights, which are spent in prancing with the babes. Leonard is about fifteen times as restless as the girls were, at night. And now that I am up stairs, I have them all on my hands to cover up, get handkerchiefs, "dickie" etc., besides nursing Leonard twice and changing him anywhere {#85, p.145} from five to seven times in a night.

But always, when they wake up so bright and sweet in the morning, I have to forget the hours of longing for daylight.

If I could only have naps in the daytime it would be easier to keep decent.

Mrs. Vroman came yesterday, and helped me splendidly, but Ben was surprised to find me mending last night. The dear old boy seemed to think she could do everything in half a day. How little a man (even the best of men) can understand the amount of work to be done in a house with three youngsters under five. I suppose when my lively little rascal gets older, I shall look back on these days and wonder how I employed my time. He is getting so wild. He will be a regular tearer when he grows up to the tearing age.

Saturday, October 31, 1891

Sat. 31.

Ben up to A.A. last night for the Psi U. banquet, took Prof. Smith who is also Psi U. They did not get to bed 'till after 2 o'clock. They stayed at Mart's.

Home all day, but went for a walk around the block with Ben, after he returned from choir-meeting. Then we played cribbage – first time in ages.

Am letting down Ida's blue calico for Saturday romping dress. How she does grow.

Sunday, November 1, 1891

Sunday Nov. 1st.

Quite cold, and a wee bit of snow flying, in the afternoon, so the girlies wanted to have their sled out "right away."

When papa plagues me, my Helen holds her arms wide open and says: "Come right here, mama, and let me hug you tight." She reverses many words – speaks of mamma's hegate (headache) – of playing in the ackit (attic).

Tuesday, November 3, 1891

Tues. 3d.

Sold six tickets for Sayles' stereopticon at our church tonight. I took Lillie and Barbour's girl. It was entertaining for them, but on the whole rather slow.

Wednesday, November 4, 1891

Wed. 4.

Nothing unusual happened except that the Smiths called in the eve.

Thursday, November 5, 1891

Thurs 5.

Mrs. Vroman again, to sew. I took a walk around the block after it was too dark to sew. Went to Holmes' to "get up an interest" for the Y.W.C.A. work. She talked so fast and had so many things to show me, it was hard to work around to it, but I finally managed it, and she was going to give me 25¢ but had only 15¢ and said perhaps she better wait 'till she had more, and I said yes I guess she had better. {#86, p.110} Then I told her about Mr. Todd giving \$25.00 and others in proportion.

They have plenty of money to do something large for them if they wanted to.

Went to see poor Mr. Weeks (who has the consumption undoubtedly). He spends the day thinking of, and watching his symptoms.

They are greatly to be pitied.

Mrs. Sill & Graham called while I was away.

Friday, November 6, 1891

Friday 6th.

At Strong's in the eve. About twenty there. Played Whist and Pedro and had sandwiches, olives, cake, wafers & coffee. They are slow at entertaining, because they are so very quiet. The Smiths were there, and the Lodemans, Georges, Misses Vandewalker, Pierce, McM. & St. John etc.

Mrs. Daniel Putnam called.

Saturday, November 7, 1891

Sat. 7th.

Walter walked part way out here, and rode with a farmer, as it rained, some. He brought his clarinet. Ben and he had a round at checkers. Mrs. Smith & Mrs. R. W. Putnam called.

Yesterday Ida & the Lovings and Winifred Newcomb McKinley or McKinney came out for a little visit with the babies. I gladdened the Loving hearts by serving chocolate & cookies. (Great folks for eating.)

Just before tea Walter and I went for a little walk with the babies. Took Mr. Weeks some apricots. She told me he likes sour things. {#87, p.148} How few boys of eighteen would have liked to roll the cab and have the other babes clinging to him on the street.

Sunday, November 8, 1891

Sun. Nov. 8th. 91

In the morning, Walter played in the choir on his clarinet. Sounded well, Ben said. I cannot go to church now, that I go to S.S. Mr. Cowell got my infant class up on the stage to repeat about five words of Golden Text, and then invited them, without any warning, to sing the little song he had heard them practicing. As it was a song for Christmas, and we had just commenced learning it, I politely declined. He is such a lunatic.

In the eve. I went with Ben and Walter to the union meeting at the Presbyterian church. Heard Dr. Angell on Christianity as compared to Buddhism etc.

Monday, November 9, 1891

Mon. 9.

Rainy. Mrs. Higley & Frances called in the morning. Grandma H. stayed here while F. took me down town to get materials for a cheese-cloth quilt (for the babies' room) and to Mrs. Adams to leave them for the Ladies' Aid to tie.

Tuesday, November 10, 1891

Tues 10.

Rain again, all day, but we went up to hear Mrs. Ellen Foster lecture on “Crimes on the {#87, p.149} ballot” or something like it.

I was prepared to not like her – but, in spite of some eccentricities of manner and gestures, she is a wonderfully strong thinker and interesting speaker. An earnest, bright, hard-working Christian woman, and not a bit man-ish.

Wednesday, November 11, 1891

Wed. 11.

Mrs. Smith called in the morning and returned “Rab and his Friends”<sup>12</sup> which I had lent her.

I escalloped a dish of oysters for the “C social.” They went on the menu as “Clams’ cousins covered with cracker crumbs.”

Ben went, but I felt as if I couldn’t spare the time, especially if I go to A.A. with the Smiths next Friday eve. to hear the great pianiste Fannie Bloomfield Somebody beginning with Z.<sup>13</sup>

I must work on Helen’s cape for her brown cloak. Think she will look very cunning when I get the fur on it.

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<sup>12</sup> Dr. John Brown, *Rab and his Friends* - "**Rab and his Friends**" (1859) is a [short story](#) by [Scottish](#) writer [Dr John Brown](#).<sup>[1]</sup> It was very popular in the 19th century and often considered John Brown's best, or at least most well known work. Even though short in length it was often published as a single volume with illustrations.

The title character 'Rab' - the [Lowland Scots](#) form of 'Rob' - is "a huge [mastiff](#)" dog. He is described as being "old, grey, brindled, as big as a [Highland bull](#)", as well as being extremely loyal and loving.<sup>[1]</sup>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rab\\_and\\_his\\_Friends](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rab_and_his_Friends)

<sup>13</sup> Fannie Bloomfield Zeisler, Zeisler was born **Fannie Blumenfeld** on July 16, 1863, in [Bielitz, Austrian Silesia](#), to Jewish parents.<sup>[4]</sup> She emigrated to the United States with her family at the age of 4 in 1867. The family settled in Chicago, Illinois, where they later changed their name to Bloomfield. She was the sister of [Maurice Bloomfield](#) and the aunt of [Leonard Bloomfield](#).

At the age of six, before receiving any musical instruction, she began picking out tunes on the piano. Her first teachers were in Chicago; Bernard Ziehn and Carl Wolfsohn. In 1877, [Annette Essipova](#), then on tour in the United States, heard her play and advised that she became a pupil of [Theodor Leschetizky](#). She made her debut at the age of 11 in February 1875. In 1878, she returned to Austria to study in Vienna, under Leschetizky. While in Austria, she changed her name from Blumenfeld to Bloomfield. She returned to Chicago in 1883.

Bloomfield performed in concert in Chicago in April 1884. In January 1885, she debuted in New York City. Around the turn of the century, she made [piano rolls](#) of various piano compositions, Chopin's [Waltz No. 11 in G minor](#) being among them.<sup>[5][6]</sup> In 1888, she was honorably initiated into musical women's fraternity [Alpha Chi Omega](#).<sup>[7]</sup>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fannie\\_Bloomfield\\_Zeisler](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fannie_Bloomfield_Zeisler)

Thursday, November 12, 1891

Thurs. 12.

A package from Nan: an old white dress and a cloak of Maud's and three old picture-books. They are good enough, but I should not dare send such things to them.

Friday, November 13, 1891

Friday 13.

At afternoon reception at Higley's. Aunt Ida and Nell Rogers came. Everything was very prettily served. Had sandwiches, olives, tea, {#88, p.150} coffee, cocoa, salted almonds, cake etc. Miss H. in white looked very nicely. Dear old Grandma Higley received, sitting in her chair, and Mrs. Cleary in her usual white china silk with blue sprays.

At home to eat my supper and nurse my Leonard, then took the 6:30 car for A.A.

Found about fifty going up to the concert. Mrs. Owen came and sat by me, and we had a nice visit. Was very sorry Mrs. Smith had a bad cold and could not go.

Fannie Bloomfield Z. played wonderfully. She had a most velvety touch; but oh! how she acted! Raised her hands from the keyboard higher than her head – and sank her head at times so it seemed as if she would touch the keys with her nose.

Spalding sang very sweetly and the "Detroit Philharmonics" played with their usual exquisite taste and harmony. Reached home about eleven o'clock.

Saturday, November 14, 1891

Sat. Nov. 14.

A nasty day. Mrs. D'Ooge washed picture glasses after dinner and didn't change her dress. Mrs. Miller (Hiram), Miss Norton and Mrs. George called.

Sunday, November 15, 1891

Sun. 15.

Rain all day, but I had eleven in my infant class. Expected to have a "Circulating Library" social at our house next Sat. but Rev. brother Putnam wanted it.

{#88, p.151}

Monday, November 16, 1891

Mon.

Rain as usual. Lillie certainly does keep pretty good natured, considering the rainy wash-days we have had lately.

Attended Sappho Club at the Green's down on the corner, in the eve.

Tuesday, November 17, 1891

Tues. 17th.

At 4 to 6 reception at Mrs. Fairfield's. Thought we never would get away, it took them so long to serve their cream. Mrs. Burton and I almost decided to leave without it, for fear the parlor full of ladies waiting would not have any chance. Mrs. Hough received up stairs, and Mrs. F. haunted the door of the refreshment room, casting reproachful glances at us – as if we could help it.

Mrs. Farnam [Farnham] came a little before noon today. Mrs. Barbour's girl is sick, and will be returned to the school. She thinks to return when well – but not very much, I don't believe she will see Ypsi. again. Mrs. B. will be glad to get rid of her, as she ~~could~~ ~~was~~ is not satisfied with her, at all.

Leonard's first tooth.

Thursday, November 19, 1891

Thurs. 19.

Down street shopping for the children and getting a flannel night-gown for myself. If I must prance every night this winter, I shall do it in style and with as much comfort as possible.

Am going to bed early, whenever at home for the eve.

Helen and Ida have bad colds.

{#89, p.152} Aunt Ida came out for a little visit. I found her when I came home from down street.

Friday, November 20, 1891

Friday Nov. 20. '91.

Rainy for the Vroman's reception tonight. I worked fixing a vest (of light blue china silk with pale pink geraniums on) to wear with my black silk, which Mrs. F. pieced down, and put more fullness in the back and a pleating around the bottom of basque. But Helen seemed so croup-y that I did not feel like leaving her, so here I am at home, Ben having gone to represent the family.

Saturday, November 21, 1891

Sat 21st.

Eva Putnam, Cecil Lambert and Ruth Hay came to play – and the five made a great racket and had lots of fun. I am surprised to see how little they disturb me.

At pea-nut social at Putnams in the eve. They had pea-nuts hidden all around the rooms, and at a given signal we searched for them, giving prizes for the greatest and least number found in three minutes. One young man found 37 and was presented with a Japanese doll.

Sunday, November 22, 1891

Sunday.

Rain, rain, rain. We are enjoying the "Christian Union" very much, now-a-days.

{#89, p.153}

Monday, November 23, 1891

Monday 23.

Rain again. I told Ida stories of Jonah, Daniel and Elisha last night. Today, her papa was asking her about them. She said they threw poor Jonah into the belly of the ocean, and in telling about Daniel, said: "There was a great naughty man threw Charlie King into the lion's house."<sup>14</sup>

She told me she thought we had all better be good christians so we wouldn't get "etten all up."

She was singing today: "There's a work for me and a work for you  
Something for Jesus and me to do."

Mrs. Farnam [Farnham] is making drawers for the girls, and theirs will graduate down to the boy when he gets ready for them.

Helen declared she had a bad heg-ate (head-ache) right in her "tomick."

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<sup>14</sup> *Ann Arbor Argus* - <https://aadl.org/node/103777>



At something I did, she said: "What a funny girl you are, mamma."

She announced to me, after looking at Leonard – "Mamma, dat (rascal) rackel is wet as sop."

Tuesday, November 24, 1891

Tues. 24.

~~At reception at Mrs. Fairfield's & Hough's. Lots of funny things happened. They received {#90, p.154} in two rooms, and had only one for refreshments. Result — when I left at 10 min. of six, they had two parlors full of guests waiting for a chance to refresh — while Mrs. F. wandered through the halls like a black ghost, casting reproachful glances at us, because we ate so long.~~

~~Their cream didn't come, or something else happened wrong in the kitchen, and caused the delay.~~

~~Mrs. Hough received in gloves.~~ [Written over the crossed-out text ] too sleepy

Wednesday, November 25, 1891

Wed. Nov. 25. '91.

Allie Cheever was married at the Episcopal church, to Mr. Todd, who has been going with her 10 or 15 years – and rumors afloat that he had a wife in the insane asylum until recently.

He has lots of money, but oh! My!

In the evening, we attended a wedding reception at neighbor Lamberts' – between two and three hundred invited to their poor little house. Ben bumped his head on the top of the door when he went to take off his coat. Their refreshments were nicely served and were good.

Ben had a paper napkin that looked like the rest but was stiff as writing paper. When he used it, every-one stopped talking to see what was the noise.

Mr. & Mrs. Sill over in the evening.

{#90, p.155}

Tuesday, December 1, 1891

Tues. Dec. 1st. 91.

Attended Guitar, banjo, mandolin concert at Normal Hall, and enjoyed the most of it very much. Of course Mrs. Lodeman was disgusted with it. Ben says she is teutonic (too tonic) – too critical to be comfortable, anyway.

Wednesday, December 2, 1891

Wed. 2d.

The babies' colds are nearly well, owing to my prompt treatment. Leonard and Helen are built croupy so they tell me; but their bark-y coughs are about well. Two or three nights I did not undress, because I expected the midnight call that every-one tells about, but the kali-bichr.<sup>15</sup>[kali-bichromium] and bryonia<sup>16</sup> did the deed.

Sonny distinguished himself by pulling the wash-bowl and pitcher full of water from the washstand, by jerking with one hand at the stand-cloth. I was up stairs, and he was sitting in the high chair, peacefully gazing from the window when I left him. He is such a scamp.

Mrs. F. fixing my light blue evening dress of lang syne for any possible occasion. Ben has opined that I look best in light colors.

It will look quite well – as the watteau back<sup>17</sup> and court train have not gone out of style in seven years as other kinds of backs have.

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<sup>15</sup> Free Materia Medica Books, James Tyler Kent, *Materia Medica* - <https://www.materiamedica.info/en/materia-medica/james-tyler-kent/kali-bichromicum>

<sup>16</sup> WebMD, *Byronia* - <https://www.webmd.com/vitamins/ai/ingredientmono-46/bryonia>

<sup>17</sup> Sack-Back Gown, The **sack-back gown** or **robe à la française** was a women's fashion of 18th century Europe.<sup>[1]</sup> At the beginning of the century, the sack-back gown was a very informal style of dress. At its most informal, it was unfitted both front and back and called a **sacque**, **contouche**, or **robe battante**. By the 1770s the sack-back gown was second only to court dress in its formality. This style of **gown** had fabric at the back arranged in box **pleats** which fell loose from the shoulder to the floor with a slight **train**. In front, the gown was open, showing off a decorative **stomacher** and petticoat. It would have been worn with a wide square **hoop** or **panniers** under the **petticoat**. Scalloped **ruffles** often trimmed elbow-length sleeves, which were worn with separate frills called **engageantes**.

The **casquin** (popularly known from the 1740s onwards as a **pet-en-l'air**) was an abbreviated version of the robe à la française worn as a jacket for informal wear with a matching or contrasting petticoat.<sup>[2][3]</sup> The skirt of the casquin was knee-length but gradually shortened until by the 1780s it resembled a **peplum**.<sup>[3]</sup>

The loose box pleats which are a feature of this style are sometimes called **Watteau pleats** from their appearance in the paintings of **Antoine Watteau**.<sup>[4]</sup> The various Watteau terms, such as *Watteau pleat*, *Watteau back*, *Watteau gown* etc., date from the mid-19th century rather than reflecting authentic 18th century terminology, and normally describe 19th and 20th century revivals of the sack-back.<sup>[5]</sup>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sack-back\\_gown](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sack-back_gown)

Thursday, December 3, 1891

Thurs. 3d.

Invited to tea at Mr. Sill's. Quite pleasant.

{#91, p.156}

Friday, December 4, 1891

Friday Dec. 4. '91.

Helen repeats so many nursery rhymes. Has taken a sudden start to do so, and hardly says a word plain. Wish I could write down some of them as she says them.

"Packita packita – bakers man" for "patticake" is one of them.

Leonard sleeps much better now – rarely wakes up more than once or twice in night.

At Mrs. E. P. Allen's for 5 to 8 reception for ladies. It strikes me the men are getting decidedly left. Mr. Barbour & Ben think so, too.

Saturday, December 5, 1891

Sat. 5th.

Margaret Weidemann<sup>18</sup> came down on the motor from A.A. to see us. Came as we were at dessert, and helped us eat some oranges and nuts.

Aunt Ida came for a call. She thinks she cannot come to meals, the girls she has now are so wild and careless.

Rec. word from California that they are willing we should take the Cull mortgage of \$3000 for our shares of Grandpa's property.

Went to M. E. [Methodist Episcopal] fair and got a bread doilie for Fan's Xmas.

Sunday, December 6, 1891

Sun. 6.

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<sup>18</sup> University of Michigan Bentley Historical Library, *Weidemann, Margaret* - [https://bentley.umich.edu/legacy-support/um/voices/voices\\_search.php?id=2853](https://bentley.umich.edu/legacy-support/um/voices/voices_search.php?id=2853)

Snow and rain. Small attendance at the Missionary concert in the eve. My infant class {#91, p.157} sang: "I've two little hands" nicely, only a third of them were there, though.

Monday, December 7, 1891

Mon. 7.

Heavy snow. The children are perfectly happy to romp in it 'till they are "wet as sop." Wrote to Fan, yesterday.

The children are singing the Xmas song which the infant class in practicing. Mr. Barbour is sick.

Tuesday, December 8, 1891

Tues 8.

Ben & I went to Presbyterian church tea and sale. I bought some things for Christmas presents, for the G.R. folks.

Aunt Ida and a Miss Rogers from G.R. came for a call.

Wednesday, December 9, 1891

Wed. 9.

A great treat in the eve. – heard Mrs. Mrs. [sic] Bishop of Chicago sing and came home fairly intoxicated. She is the same superb singer that we heard last Commencement concert at A.A.

Thursday, December 10, 1891

Thurs 10.

All down for photos again. Tried at Gibson's. Had all sorts of ill-luck: Ida fell in the mud twice – because we missed the motor and had to walk – I got my brown silk muddy too – found we must wait an hour for our chance so we went to see Gramma Higley and they were out. Went in and saw Mrs. Cleary and infant Charles, who hugged Helen, and Helen hugged him most of the time.

Prayer meeting in the evening. Mr. Barbour is some better, but very weak, and has still much pain.

{#92, p.158}

Friday, December 11, 1891

Friday Dec. 11th. '91.

A lovely winter day over-head – but very muddy. Reception at Prof. Pease's for Mrs. Smith, after four o'clock. I went at five and after standing an hour and talking I had to leave without any refreshments. Do not know why except that I wasn't asked, and couldn't wait any longer as I was afraid I should miss the motor. Guess I looked so well-fed Miss Hendricks thought I had been out to the dining-room.

Our pictures of yesterday are rather good but we ought to do better.

Mr. Barbour some better – but very weak & nervous. I have a tired head-ache coming on, but will use the last of my phenyo-caffeine [Phenyo-Caffein] pills and a wet bandage.

Saturday, December 12, 1891

Sat. 12.

A bright day. We had Willard Barbour to spend the day – oh! what a noise!

Mr. Lodeman came to ask us there for tea tonight, but Leonard threw up everything to such a degree I didn't want to go.

Then Walter came, and I had a good excuse – so Ben represented us.

Leonard's photos came home, and they are very good.

Walt will spend Sunday with us, and play in the choir on his clarinet.

{#92, p.159}

Sunday, December 13, 1891

Sunday 13.

Rec. an answer to my letter (written to Lelia [Stocker] Runkel) sent from Philadelphia, where she is studying medicine. We were greatly surprised, but glad to see she has lost none of her old independence.

She has her boy Guy in kindergarten.

I have been busy today copying verses for my infant-class to recite on Christmas day at the church.

Last night and Friday night Leonard felt badly and my old back about gave out. Today have felt an approaching headache and tonight it is in full force.

Moral: Do not use up all the phenyo-caffeine pills.

Helen & Ida had a grand romp with Walter this afternoon. He is so nice to them.

We are to have a circulating library social next Sat. evening.

Monday, December 14, 1891

Monday 14.

Rain again. Helen almost killed me laughing, in spite of my head-ache. She plays baby with Lillie, and she puts on all the airs of a little mother – even trying to hold her on her bit of a lap, and rocking her bye-o. All the time just as sober and earnest about it. She asked her babe today if she was wet. Leonard insists on standing every chance he gets. He is such a jolly rogue, and so good too, most always.

{#93, p.160}

Thursday, December 17, 1891

Thurs. Dec. 15 17, '91.

Auntie stopped on her way to Detroit last night. Left here early this morning. Going to Ch. Gayley's wedding this afternoon, with Jane M. Stanley. We were down for a final wrestle with pictures and got a very good group of me with my three kittens.<sup>19</sup>

Mrs. Rexford and little girl were here while we were away. Ben and I called at Dan'l Putnam's in the eve. Found Mrs. P. hugging the register in their great parlor. Deliver me from living in large rooms. I shall always want at least one cozy room for chilly, quiet evenings.

Leonard does truly pat-a-cake when told to.

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<sup>19</sup> Familysearch, *Jane P. D'Ooge and her children Helen, Ida & Leonard* - [https://www.familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/108903114?cid=mem\\_copy](https://www.familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/108903114?cid=mem_copy)

Friday, December 18, 1891

Friday 18.

Committee here working for the social tomorrow. I went down street and to the Episcopal fair. Treated myself to a netted bread doilie made by an old lady over 84 yrs. They had put the ridiculously low price on of 75 cts.

Saturday, December 19, 1891

Sat. 19.

Our Circulating Library social was a great success. Took in \$5.00 for Missionary maps, and had a good time. Grace George won the first prize of Lowell's "Heartsease and Rue."

Sunday, December 20, 1891

Sun. 20

Leonard stands right up when he takes hold of our fingers to be taken. Sits on the floor with only occasional tumbles.

{#93, p.161} I had 22 infants in my class today. Looks significant of approaching Xmas.

Auntie brought Helen home; said she cried to go home to "mamma and all of them."

We all took a walk in the sine-sine. Ida was telling of our trying to have Leonard christened, but the weather prevented. She said: It rained every Sunday that mamma wanted baby advertised.

Monday, December 21, 1891

Mon. Dec. 21

Guess this is the shortest day is the year. It commenced late enough any way.

Took Helen and Leonard for an outing out the "booful sine-sine." Met Mr. Barbour out for his fist walk. He looks very thin. They are much worried now about his mother.

In the eve. Ben and I called at the Lodeman's and looked through some of the stores but did not buy anything.

Tuesday, December 22, 1891

Tues. 22.

Mart came out to tea. Although it was ironing day, we had scalloped oysters, potato croquettes, celery, chocolate cake and a good supper.

In the eve. gave him wine and wafers and cigar, and – by special request – apples.

He brought Ida a doll on a handle, with a sort of music-box inside, and Helen a doll. As I had Helen's doll nearly dressed. I had to give that one to Ida and make over night-dress {#94, p.162} and other clothes for the new one.

Wednesday, December 23, 1891

Wed. Dec. 23. '91.

Out with Mrs. Wood – collecting for the pastor's present.

Commencing Christmas preparations. Sent Lois A. a pretty hanging match-safe, and Fannie the drawn-work bread doilie that I bought at the M.E. fair. We shall make photos go for many presents, this year.

Cowells in the eve.

Thursday, December 24, 1891

Thurs. 24

Ben had to sing at Mr. Snidecor's [Snedicor's?] funeral, in the country. There is so much sickness all over, it seems almost wrong for us to be so happy.

La Grippe is on every side, and very serious in many cases.

We baked a chicken for the Barbours and sent cranberries and pumpkin pie. They seemed much pleased. I fixed our turkey and baked chocolate kisses.

Down street in the eve. I got for Ben a solid silver napkin-ring, collars & cuffs, collar button, handkerchiefs, shirt, mittens and desk-sponge for wiping pens. (Returned the mittens.)

For aunt Ida, a pretty match-receiver and 100 engraved calling-cards and plate.

Her angel-food tin had not come yet from Detroit. (It is a fine patent with slides at the end to slip a knife in at the bottom and loosen the cake.)



Sent an embroidered doilie to Nell, a white veil and pretty silk hdkchf to Kate and group picture to Ent. The little ones have a hdkchf for Grandpa and picture. I am to pay half of a fine {#94, p.163} woolen blanket double gown for him.

We have a beautiful chiffon hdkchf with delicate silk embroidery for Ridie – a chair cushion for Jen and apron for mother. Pin-ball for uncle John A. W. [Westerhoff] and ball of string in fancy bag for uncle John V. [Verdier] Great fun fixing the 'tockies at night.

Friday, December 25, 1891

Warm and misty Friday. Merry Christmas.

The first thing I heard was a series of happy squeals from Ida, down stairs. We had a great time looking at our presents. I had such a big Christmas: A lovely silver oyster dish (something I have always wanted but never dared to hope for), a beautiful gold thimble (prettier than the one Ida lost), a fine embroidered muslin hdkchf and a box of flowers from my own loved ones here at home. A set of silver dinner forks from aunt Ida and 1 doz. nut-picks and cracker from father. After-dinner cup and saucer from Lois A. – pretty yellow and white pin-cushion from Fannie.

Ida brought Ben a nice neck-tie, and for Ida and Helen a set of silver (?) for their dolls, crochet caps for them also. A pretty pink and blue toilet cushion for their room. We gave them a toy piano (twelve keys), paint-box, transparency candles and holder, muffs for their dollies, etc., a drum and rattle for our boy, and he hugged them as delightedly as any-one could. {#95, p.164} He does enjoy sitting on the floor, with the children playing about him. They are all very happy.

We had a nice dinner. Rice soup, celery, scalloped oysters (new dish), olives, roast turkey, cranberries, sweet pickles, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes (cheese, pumpkin pie and mince we did not put do – they all seemed so tired of eating), orange jelly, cream puffs, oranges, apples, bannanas [sic], green grapes, candy and cuts. Coffee and chocolate kisses.

Then we had a grand romp which Grandpa enjoyed as much as any-one. Willard Barbour came too. Helen Field sent a beautiful book to our Helen.

At five o'clock. I went to put my boy to bed, and papa showed the infants the magic lantern. They enjoyed it immensely.

At six we took them all down to the Xmas tree at our church. Miss Switzer stayed with the babe. I gave the infant-class hdkchfs (2 doz.) and they all spoke and sang very nicely. Ida said her little verse as nice as any-one and she and Helen sang with all their might on the carol. We gave Mr. Putnam & wife a pretty plush cushioned rocking-chair, table-cloth & napkins and toilet-set. They were very much pleased. Also Mrs. Higley sent him a bag of candy, with five silver dollars in.

Saturday, December 26, 1891

Sat. 26.

A sort of lazy day. Clearing up and fixing the presents for Grand Rapids. Down street in afternoon.

{#95, p.165}

Sunday, December 27, 1891

Sunday 27.

Very cold but pleasant. Aunt Ida came to see about getting a girl from the School. Emma wants to leave and go to Mr. Dean's where they have a small family. It does seem as if we never could have auntie here for a visit. We had planned that next week she could surely be with us.

Monday, December 28, 1891

Monday 28.

Sent off eight letters and two pictures, and did not have a minute all day yesterday to read the magazine or Christian Union.

Since I lie down to nurse Leonard I cannot do any reading. He wouldn't let me anyway – even if I didn't need to rest my back while he lunched.

He walks whenever he can coax us to hold him on the floor. Seems perfectly delighted to be on his feet and dances and crows every time he is put on the floor. He has put his ~~head~~ mouth out to be kissed several times, and plays pat-a-cake quite nicely.

Ben off for Grand Rapids this morning – reaching there in time for dinner.

Tuesday, December 29, 1891

Tues. 29.

I took my three chicks and went for a walk around the block. Stopped to inquire after Mr. Weeks. He will never get well, and she is very much discouraged.

Rehearsal tonight here – for Sappho Club tomorrow eve. Two carols, and I cannot pipe a respectable tone. Must practice tomorrow.

Wednesday, December 30, 1891

Wednesday Dec. 30. '91.

Word came that Mrs. Joe. Miller is not expected to live, so they had no Sappho Club at Hewitts' after all.

Poor Miss Goodison has worked herself to a bone on her Christmas program.

Thursday, December 31, 1891

Thurs. 31st

Papa came home in time for late supper and to distribute the presents among us spoiled children. For Ida there was a singing top, and book of stories from Grandma, perfumery & dolls nursing-bottle! For Helen a music-box, jumping-jack, book (Three Kittens), perfumery, mouth-organ; and for me a pitcher, angel-food tin, and picture throw of daisies. We had great fun un-doing things and watching the happy little chicks. Ben brought me some holly, too. We had lots to hear and tell, of all the folks and what they did during the last three or four days. They all insist upon our visiting G.R. next summer.

The poor Switzers are all sick with the grippe. Shall we be next? A box of oranges came from cousin Ed. – containing twenty dozen. We sent some to the Barbours, Hays, Switzers and others after sorting them.

Friday, January 1, 1892

Friday Jan. 1st. 1892.

A dull rainy day out doors – but plenty of sunshine in the house. Ida & Helen playing together like little kittens.

{#96, p.167} Received word of the death of uncle Anson Pease. He has been failing for some months.

Saturday, January 2, 1892

Sat. 2d.

Another quiet day. Snowing, so the children had to [be] bundled up and have a frolic with Ruth Hay & George. Ruth is over nearly every day to play, and I much prefer that it should be so. They are so crazy to play in old upper halls and rooms, and I want to look after them, especially

when there is so much “grippe” in the air. The physicians have decided it is contagious, and in Eng. they are fining people £5 for spreading it by going into public gatherings.

Sunday, January 3, 1892

Sun. 3d.

Bright cold day. Ida really has settled into having no day nap, and going to Sunday school with me. She enjoys it very much.

Aunt Ida came out, for tea. Says it is the last time for a long, long time, as the girls will all be back tomorrow, and she has no girl. She brought the E. Canaan presents, which Mart took down to her. Two nice balls for Ida & Helen, a rubber baby for Len and a little bag for me.

Rehearsal at Prof. Pease’s for Mrs. Joe. Miller’s funeral, which will be tomorrow morning at nine o’c. Twelve of the Sappho Club will sing.

{#97, p.168}

Monday, January 4, 1892

Monday Jan. 4. '92.

The carriage came for me before nine o’c – and there were lively times here for a few minutes. I found every-thing all right, when I returned at eleven o’c. Helen asleep, Ida & Ruth playing and Leonard watching them.

Father surprised us today, and stayed to tea. Brought Helen a sled – and Papa brought Ida one this morning, so they are both happy. I had just got them dried and warm after a frolic in the snow, but they will be out tomorrow.

This eve. Ben & I called at Strongs and George’s. The girls were reading Riley’s “Rhymes of Childhood.” Wish we had them.

We took oranges to the Strongs – a dozen or so. Have given away more than ten dozen.

Wednesday, January 6, 1892

Wed. 6th. Mrs. Farnam [Farnham] came.

We heard the Emerson concert Co. in the eve. Walter Emerson, a little fat pig of a cornetist – an elocutionist lady (\$1000 beauty), a petite violinist who did very good work indeed, an alto whom

we could have spared, and Shover, a large pianist whom I enjoyed (whisper it softly), as well as the renowned paw-er-of-the-air and scraper-of-nose Fannie Bloomfield Zeisler.

Thursday, January 7, 1892

Thurs. 7th.

Very cold indeed. I go out every day for {#97, p.169} at least a few minutes, with the girlies, drawing them on their sleds. Ida slides down hill in a small way. Leonard blows his big whistle as well as any-one.

Lillie and I went to church in the eve.

Friday, January 8, 1892

Friday 8th.

Mrs. F. making flannel under-dress for Ida. Miss Norton came to tea, and afterwards L. and I took a run around the block to settle my herring salad.

Saturday, January 9, 1892

Sat. 9th.

Down street on the motor, and back. It is very convenient to have it stay down there half-an hour. The old blind aunt at Switzers' died today, at noon. It will be better for them all. Old lady Switzer is very low and Mr. S. too.

Sunday, January 10, 1892

Sun. 10. Ben's birthday. 32.

A fire broke out in church, at close of service, from over-heated furnace. Guess they have put it out all right, with only a little damage from water and smoke.

Monday, January 11, 1892

Monday 11.

I gave Ben a pocket knife, Jap. tray for his table, desk-sponge for wiping his pen and tooth-brush.

Ida was busily wiping her little silver (?) set after having water in the cups, because, she said she was afraid they "would get all chapped."

Wednesday, January 13, 1892

Wed. Jan. 13.

Called on our new neighbors, on the corner (Stanleys) and found they are Irish Catholics. They evidently have plenty of money, but she said: "Ma and I was goin'" somewhere. Went with Mrs. Hay for sleigh-ride.

At Sappho Club in the eve. at Hewitts'.

Thursday, January 14, 1892

Thurs. 14.

Very cold, so the children were not out except Ida at school. Lillie & I at evening service.

Friday, January 15, 1892

Friday 15.

Another cold day. If there had been a wind, we couldn't have been out, all day.

Had the youngsters out on their sleds, after I came home from down street. Helen is getting so she does not mind a tumble into the snow much more than Ida.

Mrs. F. finishing my light blue evening dress. I feel silly to have it done (almost). But it will be very refreshing to have something that I can jump into easy, in case I need to do so.

Made "angel's food" and had splendid luck. Think that with my new tin & beater and cup and the gasoline range, any-one ought to succeed.

I did something that Helen did not like and she said: "Mama, I'm dess 'gusted wiv' oo!" She is the spunkiest [spunkiest] monkey in our house, but oh! so sweet, when she is good.

{#98, p.171}

Saturday, January 16, 1892

Sat. 16.

Walter came for tea, and to spend Sunday with us. Ida of course had to play kindergarten, with Walter & Helen as pupils. He solemnly played naughty boy, and had to be scolded and stood in the corner, until he cried and promised to be good.

Sunday, January 17, 1892

Sun. 17.

Auntie came in the afternoon and we all went for a walk taking Ida and Helen on their sleds. Took jelly and whipped cream to Mattie Barnum, who has grippe. There are so many sick and dying on every side of us.

At eve. service with Walter, as Ben had to go early for choir practice.

We have scalloped oysters every possible chance now, so as to use our silver dish.

[A small swatch of lightweight woven fabric has been inserted with the January 18, 1892, diary entry; today it appears to be an aquamarine blue with white and pale pink stripes of varying widths]

{#99, p.171}

Monday, January 18, 1892

Mon. 18.

Down street in a snow-storm to buy a pattern for my flannel dress for next summer. Were reminded of Charlevoix by a call from Mrs. Cook with Mrs. Wortley.

Helen's prayer at night, I must record for her to read in after years: "Now I 'ay me down to seep; I pay de Lor' my soul to keep. Fi sood die afore I wake, I paydeLor' my soul to (keep) take. Dis I say for Desus sake. amen."

{#100, p.172} I am so happy to be able to put my girlies to bed, now that Len goes at five o'clock. We go up stairs then and he lunches until Lillie calls me to supper. Then wakes only once for refreshments in the night.

Tuesday, January 19, 1892

Tues. Jan. 19. '92.

Lillie has pains in her bones, head-ache, cold feet, sore throat and other symptoms of grippe. Giving her Belladonna [sic, belladonna] and blowing sulphur [sic, sulphur or sulfur] into her throat.

Too cold and snowy for Ida to go to school. She announced today that "Harison's papa is dead." (A little boy at kindergarten.) "Now his mamma is a poor widow. Cause when a little boy's papa dies, and there isn't anyone to give his mamma any money, then she is a poor widow."

Wednesday, January 20, 1892

Wed. 20.

Ben called in Dr. Frazer, who said Lillie has a cankered throat and left medicine.

Last eve. I went to Y.P.S.C.E. business meeting at Lillie Strong's. Poky, very.

A note from Ida that she will send her new girl away. Too much breaking of the ten commandments. (Cannot just remember which ones are about lying and stealing.)

Ben attended Y.M.C.A. Banquet (?) and responded to the toast: "The World's Fair" – meaning the ladies. The banquet was rather slim.

{#100, p.173}

Friday, January 22, 1892

Friday 22.

At Mrs. George's for L.A.S. meeting, and found I was on social committee and they want a social next week.

Saturday, January 23, 1892

Sat. 23.

Ben & I called on the Todds in their very elegant new home. After all, I do not admire so much pink & blue silk draperies, chairs, lambraguens [sic, lambrequins] etc. Just a little bit shoddy, it seems to me. (Sour grapes?) They are certainly very happy.



Sunday, January 24, 1892

Sun. 24.

Leonard took his first dinner without milk. Seemed to enjoy his baked apple and graham wafer and water. Did not nurse from eleven A.M. to five P.M.

We all went for a walk in the sine-sine. Len. in his new cloak looked perfectly ravishing. He is such a cute scamp. This morning he commenced making a noise while his Papa was reading something aloud – and when he spoke a little harsh to him the rogue looked a minute and then gave his little saucy wink with both eyes. He is just no trouble at all, but rolls & creeps around on the floor, playing with everything like a little fat kitten.

Helen and he are going to be great partners.

{#101, p.174}

Tuesday, January 26, 1892

Tues. Jan. 26th. '93.

At committee-meeting in afternoon at Mrs. Trim's, and in the eve. we attended Remenyi<sup>20</sup> concert. He is the best violinist we ever heard. The support was not very bad nor yet very good.

Thursday, January 28, 1892

Thurs. 28.

At a "fire-light" party at Mr. George's. There were about twenty, mostly younger members of the faculty. Very pleasant and informal. Had light refreshments: wafers & coffee, pop-corn, nuts, oranges, apples and toasted marsh-mallows.

Friday, January 29, 1892

Friday 29.

Out with Mrs. Childs doing errands for our social "Songs of all Nations."

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<sup>20</sup> Ede Remenyi, **Ede Reményi** or **Eduard Reményi** (January 17, 1828 [Miskolc, Austria-Hungary](#) – May 15, 1898 [San Francisco](#)) was a Hungarian violinist and composer. His birth date is disputed, and variously given from 1828-1830. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ede\\_Rem%C3%A9nyi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ede_Rem%C3%A9nyi)

Mrs. Stanley – our neighbor on the corner, called. Mr. Hewitt tuning our piano, so she came in the sitting-room where the floor was covered with babies and blocks. She did not seem to mind, though.

Saturday, January 30, 1892

Sat. 30.

Carried chicken stew to Mr. Weeks and was surprised to learn that he is better.

Mrs. W. said she did five washings last week besides taking care of her husband, also of her father, mother and grand-mother (who were sick next door) and doing their work!!

{#101, p.175}

Sunday, January 31, 1892

Sun. 31st.

At morning service first time since Leonard came. He takes his dinner now at the table like a little man, and only has four meals in the 24 hrs. anyway.

Lillie and I went for a walk with Helen and Leonard, and I did six errands relative to the social. Very muddy on the crossings.

Monday, February 1, 1892

Mon. Feb. 1st.

Sick all over inside, and Mrs. Hay used up all my head-ache pills.

Tuesday, February 2, 1892

Tues 2d.

A little better in the morning, and kept quiet all day, so at night L. and I went to the Y.W.C.A. entertainment. Mrs. Pease sang, and her quartette, Miss Worden, Jennie Hendricks, Abby Owen and Miss Hazzard. An elocutionist also.

Wednesday, February 3, 1892

Wed. 3d.

At Sappho-club at Mrs. Todd's. Mozart evening – very fine indeed with the new piano – very large attendance in their new house. It was more like a reception. The program closed with Mozart's minuet, played by Mrs. Pack and danced by eight ladies & gents. Very pretty and stately.

Thursday, February 4, 1892

Thurs. 4th.

Miss Doty came to mend. Glad to have her again. Took Ida to committee meeting at Trims, and left her at Barbours for tea. In the evening Ben & I heard {#102, p.176} Rev. Caton of Chicago on "Wellington and Napoleon." He is a strong speaker, if he does say: "immediately," and "We study Art like we do character."

He said many good things in a forcible, impressive way. Spoke of the "infinite fascination of genius." Said "Faith without reason is sure to be followed by its logical result of Reason without faith."

Napoleon was a man whose whole life was spent working for glory – Wellington, on the other hand spent his life doing his duty.

Called N. a moral idiot.

Friday, February 5, 1892

Friday Feb. 5th. '92.

Making out program for Missionary meeting a week from tomorrow, when Miss Higley asked Sue Ainsworth and me to take the meeting in charge. I took "Japanese girls" for the subject.

Ida has a bad cough today. I do believe they open the windows on them at Kindergarten.

Saturday, February 6, 1892

Sat. 6th.

Social at George's – took in over \$12.00. It was quite a success, too, in the enjoyment of our audience. Had doughnuts & coffee afterwards. I took 5 dozen and Mrs. Wood about as many.

Sunday, February 7, 1892

Sun. 7th.

Rainy. Miss Vandewalker to dine with us, and {#102, p.177} stayed 'till nearly five o'clock.

We all got rather sleepy.

Monday, February 8, 1892

Mon. 8.

Decorating a pine frame to one of my old crayon sketches. Putting on it sprays of holly & berries, in sepia.

Tuesday, February 9, 1892

Tues. 9.

Rather cold and blustering. Finished reading "Olive the Heiress" to the old people at Mr. Switzer's. They seemed to enjoy each chapter better than the last.

Out with Ida & Leonard for a few moments [sic, moments'] run around the block.

Have had almost a dizzy head-ache since drinking coffee at Mr. George's Sat. night.

Sue Ainsworth came to talk over our missionary meeting. Sent notes of reminder to different girls, and extracts from Mission Studies" for them to read.

Thursday, February 11, 1892

Thurs. 11.

Ben drove to A.A. and took Ida with him. They brought Walter home to tea.

Friday, February 12, 1892

Friday 12.

At Ladies' Aid Society at Ainsworth's. She proposes our giving an entertainment: "Frolic of the Seasons." Seems to me it is too much like "Temple of Fame," only flatter. Home just in time to give Leonard supper and tuck him in his little bed – then off for Ann Arbor, to {#103, p.178} hear Mrs. Johnston-Bishop and the Choral Union concert. By some mistake when I put my purse in my bag (after giving up my ticket, on the cars) it didn't go in. When I reached the street-car, behold! my purse was non est [Latin: not there]. I rushed back and looked along the track (in vain), then telegraphed to Dexter for the conductor to look for it. Fortunately my car-ticket was in my glove, and concert ticket in my bag. Rode on the second car up to Washington St., then walked up home, reaching there in time for a bowl of bread & milk.

Ida's girl Nettie is acting horrid, and I am sorry I had anything to do with getting her there. She made Ida fuss in the kitchen so we were late, and had to sit in the aisle on the steps. Hard on backs and on long legs, too; but the concert was delightful.

Home about eleven o'clock. Rec. word that they found my purse, but I am not sure yet that it will reach Ypsi. and my empty pocket.

Saturday, February 13, 1892

Sat. 13th. Feb.

Called on the Warners, when I went down to see if my purse had arrived. No, it hadn't!! "Hope deferred..."

Then to missionary meeting. Miss Higley is sick, so Lillie Strong presided. Nine there.

{#103, p.179}

Thursday, February 18, 1892

Thurs. Feb. 18.

Rain & snow.

Miss Doty mending Pd. [Paid] 50 for three times.

Leonard is pulling himself up to everything, then looks triumphantly around.

Nurses only at night and morning now, and sleeps from 6 o'clock P.M. to 6 in the morning. He is so precious, and is growing sweeter every day.

After his supper I put him in his bed. He watches me fix the curtains and leave the room, occasionally saying: "ba-ba" (bye-bye). Then he goes to sleep like a little kitten.

Friday, February 19, 1892

Friday 19.

At progressive whist at Miss Vanderwalker's. About twenty there and had a good time, and am ashamed to say did not reach home 'till one o'clock.

Saturday, February 20, 1892

Sat. 20.

What little romps our girlies are! They will be glad when this slush is dried up so they can play out doors.

At Cleary's hall in the eve. to hear Mr. Sprague "elocute" from Sheridan's "Rivals." It was very good, and we were glad he sent us complimentary tickets.

Asked him to Sunday dinner.

I wonder what my poor little sister is going, with that sick, un-amiable, ungrateful girl Nettie, to take care of, and do her work!

{#104, p.180}

Sunday, February 21, 1892

Sun. Feb. 21st. '92.

Wrote home, sending uncle Van's letter proposing to give us the Cull mortgage \$3000 and they keep the rest – about \$3400 besides aunt E[lecta]'s \$1000.

Mr. Sprague dined with us, and we followed his suggestion to critically consider his work. After he had gone we questioned if we had not criticized too much and not praised enough his really excellent work.

Wednesday, February 24, 1892

Wed. 24.

Our Ida is developing an all too vivid imagination. Tells yarns as fast as her tongue can go. Seems not to have the slightest approach to a feeling of moral responsibility.

Ben says: "Spank it into her."

At Sappho club in the eve. at Mrs. Pack's. Sat by little Mrs. Smith and had a good time, although I was the only one having my work. It seems so stupid to see a lot of women sitting around holding their hands while listening to music.

Thursday, February 25, 1892

Thurs. 25.

Mending most of the time between-whiles when I am not tending babies. My mender Miss Doty having left town.

Our old girl Flora Cattermole put in an appearance about four o'clock, and as she had no other place to go, we had her stay to tea and all night. She had come to spend the day with a friend who was away from home.

Ida still thinks a great deal of "Foy." She went to service with Lillie and me.

Friday, February 26, 1892

Friday ~~27~~ 26.

Down street in the afternoon, then met Lillie & babes and took a walk, inviting Karl Coe, Cecil Lambert and Willard Barbour & Ruth Hay to Ida's birthday party tomorrow. She is wild over her tea-party, and giving the invitations herself. We enjoy the sunshine after so many days of clouds, fog & rain.

Saturday, February 27, 1892

Sat. ~~28~~ 27th.

There is a very happy "White Kittie" at our house. Her party passed off in good shape. We played games 'till half-past-four, when papa came down stairs and gave the magic lantern show. Then to supper. Had little table for the seven, and Leonard stayed up, to see them eat. He enjoyed every-thing from his high chair. They had ham sandwiches, tea?, graham wafers, animal crackers, orange jelly with sliced oranges in it, chocolate cake, sugar cookies, ginger snaps, nuts and candies.

Ida poured the tea? (they drank about fifty cups) with great dignity.

They all seemed to have a very good time, and could hardly be persuaded when it was time to go home.

{#105, p.182} Ida's presents were: a silver spoon from auntie, white comb, brush, glass and a Japanese waiter for them, from Grandma, colored pencils from Karl Coe & a card from Ruth. We gave her some hair-ribbons, a tape measure (to save mine), some perfumery (which Helen spilled almost immediately), slate & pencil and a book about "Old Mother Hubbard's Dog."

Walter came at tea-time. Rainy.

## Sunday, February 28, 1892

Sunday Feb. 28.

Ida's fifth birthday. She seems surprised that no great transformation has taken place in her, now that she is five.

Walt and the youngsters had great fun together, playing doctor, and baby, and Kindergarten.

## Monday, February 29, 1892

Monday 29th.

Snow & rain as usual. At Y.W.C.A. in the evening, in the snow. Asked Miss Pierce, to come for Lillie to go down & hear Miss King talk Wed. eve. at the rooms.

## Tuesday, March 1, 1892

Tues. March 1st. '92.

A box with two little paper-dolls in came from Lillian Hazlewood, who has been confined to her bed for a long time. A card came from her mother, and they fear that the poor child must have another operation in May. If the bone of her leg has not all formed, they must cut it open again and insert a rabbit's bone.

{#105, p.183}

## Wednesday, March 2, 1892

Wed. 2d.

Ash Wednesday. No great rush of gaieties before Lent this year – on account of so much sickness, I suppose. Then, too, I am able to go out more this year – so of course... That is the way, always.



I did forget to mention the card-party at Mrs. Towner's last Sat. eve. Had a good enough time. Kind of a queer mixture of people, it seemed to us. The Smiths were invited but her eyes troubling her.

Friday, March 4, 1892

Friday 4.

Down street in the morning and aunt Ida came soon after my return, staying till about 5:45. Said she did not know how long she would have any girl – so thought she would run away today. First time she has been this year. All delighted to see her. Rainy & snow.

Saturday, March 5, 1892

Sat. 5th.

Made angel's food yesterday. Can't help having good luck, with the new tin, beater & bowl for stirring and gasoline range.

Had young ladies' missionary society – about \$10.75 taken for "Thank Offering" for Home Missions. There were twelve present, which is much better than we have had lately.

Invited Sue Ainsworth and Grace George for tea, as they were to be here for choir practice in the eve.

{#106, p.184}

Sunday, March 6, 1892

Sun. Mar. 6th. '92.

Almost a headache. Ben was asked to lead the Y.P.S.C.E. meeting – and could not, on account of choir practice – so I had to do it. Subj. "Sure punishment for sin." I read them what Lyman Abbott said of it, and got along so well that Miss Vandewalker was pleased to remark about it. Certainly was less frightened than ever before. XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Wednesday, March 9, 1892

Wed. 9th.

A blank of aches and pains all over. Was it the Grippe, I wonder?

Thursday, March 10, 1892

Thurs. 10.

Baking cakes for Ben's S.S. class who are coming Sat. eve. In the midst of it, rec. word from Mrs. Putnam "would I make a cake for the Missionary tea at Mrs. Wood's tomorrow (Friday). Was never so tempted to refuse.

While I was mending I got to thinking of a story for the Miss. tea and wrote it off as it came to me. Named it: "At Missionary Teaze" and Ben liked it so well, he thinks I ought to have it published!! The whole affair passed off nicely – had a large crowd – took in over sixteen dollars for Home missions.

Saturday, March 12, 1892

Sat. 12.

About fifty young folks to spend the evening, and all of them seemed to have a very gay time, and they were so frankly enthusiastic, it was quite refreshing.

{#106, p.185} We played games – had a song by Miss Fiske, Ben read a sketch and we fed them ice-cream and cake, macaroons & lady fingers. They got along nicely but were afraid to use the finger-bowls.

Ida not feeling well enough to sit up, so they were all tucked away, and did not wake up at all. Ida has the same symptoms that I had: sore throat, head-ache, back-ache, legs-ache, white tongue etc.

Sunday, March 13, 1892

Sun. 13.

Ida feeling wretchedly, so I did not go to church. Helen is such a torment – she cannot leave Ida alone, a minute. Ben so sick he ate an enormous dish of ice-cream for dinner.

Monday, March 14, 1892

Mon. 14.

Very cold. All home all day, as usual. Letter from uncle Van that they still stick for the remaining cash, after the notes are divided.

Ida much better.

Tuesday, March 15, 1892

Tues. 15.

I was anxious to take uncle Van's letter up to A.A. and talk with father & Ida – so went up on the motor. Ida seemed so bright and well and wild to go – I took her, as Ben thought her well enough.

The result was she was feverish, sore throat, sleepy, shivery etc. a short time after we reached home. I suppose it was changing from the over-heated motor to the electric car. {#107, p.186} "Therefore I say" little folks are better at home, in cold weather.

Wednesday, March 16, 1892

Wed. Mar. 16.

Colds all around. Helen & Leonard just as bad as Ida. Handkerchiefs in constant use.

Sappho Club here in the eve. Mrs. George had a bright paper on "Woman in Music." Smaller attendance than I usually have had. 25.

Thursday, March 17, 1892

Thurs. 17.

Wrote to Mary Scott Carter (who is visiting her father, having left a little babe in the Sandwich Isles) inviting her out to tea next week.

I have a scheme for inviting some others from A.A. out from 7 to 9 the same eve. Do not know as I have the spunk to carry it out.

Lillie and I attended evening service, found twenty there, and had a good meeting.

Friday, March 18, 1892

Frid. 18.

Home as usual, and mending. Was going to Ladies' Aid but there were too many noses needing attention, too many bumped heads and crying babies for me to leave.

Had a bad night last night, and couldn't get a nap today, so must hie me to my cot at an early hour tonight.

Had a nice letter from Jen D'O. – written hastily because her “Johnny was waiting to go to bed” (what Ben says she always writes).

Saturday, March 19, 1892

Sat. 19.

A ghastly attempt at a child's party, by Mrs. Stanley. {#107, p.187} She asked me to come with Ida & Helen and I went at 5:30 expecting to watch them eat and return for tea. They had dinner served at 6:30 and expected me to partake. There were lots of funny things, but I was too worried about Helen (who was complaining of sore throat etc.) to think of much else.

They had their parlor about 85° and then opened doors into a cold hall. Result was added colds to my babies. Some people do not have a grain of sense about such things.

I was glad when Helen was sleepy and teased to go home, for they positively wouldn't let us go any sooner! “Therefore I say” I never will keep people when they want to go home.

Sunday, March 20, 1892

Sun. 20.

Almost a headache – stopped by taking the phenyo-caffeine pills. Aunt Ida out.

Monday, March 21, 1892

Mon. 21.

Letter from Mary Scott Carter that she cannot come. They go to Boston Sat. and only stop over a day, when they return on their way back to Honolulu.

All got colds in full force. Handkerchiefs busy.

I never knew such a time, when every-one is having sore throat and colds.

Tuesday, March 22, 1892

Tues. 22.

Rain again. Invited to tea at Mart's on Thurs. to meet the Carters.

{#108 duplicate}

{#109, p.190}

### [Remedies for childhood illnesses]

Croup.

Give a table-spoon melted lard and molasses to cause vomiting, and loosen the phlegm.

Also powdered alum and sugar sprinkled in the throat or blown through glass tube into the throat.

Brown snuff or Scotch snuff sprinkled on a cloth which is smeared with lard. Spread across throat and chest.

Hives syrup good to cut the phlegm.

Measles.

Keep in darkened room.

Whooping Cough.

{#109, p.191}

### [Calling List]

Mrs. Cheever O/	Miss Gray O	
" [Mrs.] Cheeny O/	M McM.	
" [Mrs.] Putnam IO	" [Miss] Pierce " [Miss] Vandewalker O	Barnum
" [Mrs.] Burton O	Mrs. Hemphill	Beale

" [Mrs.] Ellis	Towner /	Childs
" [Mrs.] Sill O	Worden IO	Ainsworth O
" [Mrs.] Becker I	Vancleve IO	Lamb
Owen I	Smith	Wortley ?
Rorison O	Trim O Walter h Hough	Densmore I
Vail O	Dodge /	<u>Dr.</u> Owen
" [Mrs.] Bellows	Hough IO	Lewis
" [Mrs.] Cutcheon IO	Batchelder /	Pease I
" [Mrs.] Wood IO	Walton /	Adams
" [Mrs.] Smith O	Allen IO	Norton 510 Pearl
" [Mrs.] Green I	Gilbert IO	Hiram Miller, Huron
Miss Norris, Ellis	" [Mrs.] Perkins	
" [Miss] Miller I	Ellis	
" [Miss] Willcox IO	Cowell IO	
" [Miss] Goodison	R. W. Putnam	
" [Miss] Bernard	Wortley (bro.)	
" [Miss] Rathfon Θ	Lodeman I	
" [Miss] Glover I	Bradley I	
Sanders I	Watterhouse I	
Peckham O		
Higley Θ		
Wortley Θ		
Woodruff I		
Rexford Θ		
Watling I		

## [Addresses]

Mrs. Jno. Hattstaedt	212 51st St. Chicago.
Mrs. Geo. C. Mahon	
Mrs. Louis Stanley	16 Pitcher St. Detroit
Mrs. A. C. Angell	49 Watson St. // [Detroit]
Maud Codington	88 81st St. Chicago, So[uth?]
James Pease	611 Lincoln Ave. Res. 1623 Belmont Ave.
Mrs. G. M. Cady	321 Washington St. Jackson
Geo. Frost & Co.	31 Bedford St. Boston "Equipoise" wa[jist?]
Mrs. C. A. Whipple	129 Wall St. Davenport Iowa
Mrs. Chas. E. Field	3554 Prairie Ave. Chicago, Ill.

## Book Titles for a "Circulating Library" social.

Innocents Abroad, Pope's "Essay on Man," Vanity Fair, Portrait of a Lady, Tales of a Grandfather, Woman in White, Wide, Wide World, Middlemarch, Sevenoaks, Bitter Sw[eeet?], Roundabout Papers, Through the Dark Continent, Looking Backward, Veiled Lady, Escaped Nun<sup>21</sup>, The Spy, Only a Fiddler, Les Miserables, My Wife & I, Oliver Twist, Fair Barbara, Locke on the Understanding, Light of Asia, In Silk Atti[re?]<sup>22</sup>, The Moonstone, The Ring & the Book, Blue Stocking, Never too Late to Mend, Letters to the Joneses, Headsma[n?], Spanish Gypsy, Last Leaf, But Yet a Woman, Pickwick Papers, Called Back

{#110, inside back cover}

[Six clippings from newspapers or magazines have been pasted onto the solid blue endpaper, covering up notes and lists, written in pencil, which are only partially visible]

4 hrs.

3 hrs Miss Doty

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<sup>21</sup> Josephine M. Bunkley, *The Escaped Nun* - [https://books.google.com/books/about/The\\_Escaped\\_Nun.html?id=iYIXAAAAYAAJ](https://books.google.com/books/about/The_Escaped_Nun.html?id=iYIXAAAAYAAJ)

<sup>22</sup> William Black, *In Silk Attire* - <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/40111/40111-h/40111-h.html>

4 " [hrs] & 3 hrs pd. .50

[?]kittle granite

[?]ener

[?] masher

[?] sifter

[flo?]wer seeds

22 in. x 12 ft.

[?]ing-room rug 7 ft. by 7 ft. 6 in. sash curtain 1½ yd x 24 in.

'92 – Do not forget: riding whip

[?]ffing knife & bowl

[wr?]inger paring-knife

spices

rugs bathing-suits

riding-habit

glasses

crumb-tray & brush

[?]cloth for door

rubber boots

[?] rolling-pin

[At top left, a poem about the death of a loved one, by an unknown author; the attribution is partially cut off]

The young, the beautiful, the good die all too soon;  
Fair flowers, too early withered in earth's sultry noon.  
And one of these, a good and true, has passed from sight;  
A gentle, modest, loving man, yet strong to fight  
With error, wrong and ignorance unceasingly.  
Think you that such can die? Increasingly  
Good deeds live on and on forevermore.



And so the soul which wrought is only o'er  
The hindrances of earth, its cares, its fears, its pain;  
While ours is all the loneliness; his, all the gain;  
Our tears the tokens of his worth, the show of love  
That pities most itself. We know he is above  
The reach of grief;—and yet we weep above the sod  
That hides the form of him whose spirit is with God.

F. P. M. [?]

[Top center, a poem attributed to Tom Masson about a young woman who shirks household chores for intellectual and charitable pursuits]

WHAT SHE DID.

She warbled the soprano with dramatic sensibility,  
And dallied with the organ when the organist was sick;  
She got up for variety a brand new church society,  
And spoke with great facility about the new church brick.

She shed great tears of sorrow for the heathen immorality,  
And organized a system that would open up their eyes;  
In culinary charity she won great popularity  
And showed her personality in lecturing on pies.

For real unvarnished culture she betrayed a great propensity;  
Her Tuesday talks were famous and her Friday glimmers great.  
She grasped at electricity with mental elasticity,  
And lectured with intensity about the marriage state.

But with the calm assurance of her wonderful capacity,  
She wouldn't wash the dishes, but she'd talk all day on rocks;  
And while she dealt on destiny, or space and its immensity,  
With such refined audacity, her mother darned her socks!

—Tom Masson.

[At top right, a poem entitled “Her Talent,” published by Harry B. Smith in America, praising a woman who knows nothing of literature and philosophy but bakes great pumpkin pies]

Her Talent.

She does not prate of Browning  
Whose works I have not read.  
There is no laurel crowning  
Her shapely little head.  
She is not versed in Schiller  
And Goethe and the rest;  
She has no store of “siller,”  
As some, perchance, have guessed.

She knows no word of Dante  
And his Italian crew;  
She plays not “penny ante”  
As rapid maidens do.  
No more she knows of Spencer  
Than of La Rochefoucauld;  
On Darwin she is denser  
Than any girl I know.

With Kant and Schopenhauer  
Her speech she will not load,  
But fortune other power  
Upon her has bestowed.  
Though Mill and Huxley tire her,  
As she will frankly state,  
Yet still I must admire her—  
Her pumpkin pies are great.

*Harry B. Smith in America*

[At left, a poem from *Wide Awake* called “Birds’ Nests,” comparing a bird’s nest to a baby’s crib]

Birds’ Nests.

I know where meadow grasses rank and high  
A cradle cover,  
Because two bobolinks with tell-tale cry

Above them hover.

Some mullein leaves beside my garden wall  
Grow unmolested;  
And under their pale velvet parasol  
A sparrow nested.

An oriole toiled on from day to day—  
The cunning weaver!—  
Tying her hammock to that leafy spray  
Above the river.

No wingless thief can climb that elm's frail stair,  
Nor guest unbidden  
Can reach the swinging airy chamber where  
Her eggs are hidden.

A marsh-wren's cunning hermitage I see  
As my boat passes,  
Moored to the green stems of the fleur-de-lis  
By water grasses.

And stay! I know another pretty nest,  
Of woven willow;  
With dainty lace and bits of ribbon drest,  
And a wee pillow.

And just one bird, with moist and downy head,  
Herein reposes;  
He has no wings,—his shoulders grow in-stead  
Dimples and roses.

You have a nest and little wingless bird :  
At your house, may be?  
Of course you know without another word  
I mean—a baby!

—*Wide Awake.*

[In the center of the page, a poem called “After the Fourth of July,” attributed to M. Phelps Dawson, written from the perspective of parents tucking their young son into bed following a day of rambunctious patriotic celebration]

AFTER THE FOURTH OF JULY.

We put him to bed in his little nightgown,  
The worst battered youngster there was in town;  
Yet he said as he opened his only well eye:  
“Rah, rah, for the jolly old Fourth of July!”

Two thumbs and eight fingers with lint were tied up,  
On his head was a bump like an upside-down cup,  
And his smile was distorted, his nose all awry  
From the joys of the glorious Fourth of July.

We were glad he had started abroad with the sun.  
And all day he had lived in the powder and fun;  
While the boom of the cannon roared up to the sky,  
To salute young America’s Fourth of July.

I said we were glad all the pieces were there,  
As we plastered and bound them with tenderest care.  
But out of the wreck came the words with a sigh:  
“If to-morrow was only the Fourth of July!”

He will grow all together again, never fear,  
And be ready to celebrate freedom next year:  
Meanwhile all his friends are most thankful there lies,  
A crackerless twelvemonth ’twixt Fourth of Julys.

We kissed him good night on his powder-specked face,  
We laid his bruised hands softly down in their place.  
And he murmured, as sleep closed his only well eye,  
“I wish every day was the Fourth of July!”

M. Phelps Dawson.

[At right, a poem by John P. Sjolander called “My Friend,” about a man whose friend betrays him by marrying the woman he loves]

MY FRIEND.

BY JOHN P. SJOLANDER.<sup>23</sup>

I had a friend, a brother of my bosom,  
At whom my longings and my hope I flung  
    In words poetic.  
He was prosaic. To him bud or blossom,  
Or bird, or whisp'ring breeze ne'er sweetly sung  
    A song prophetic.

I loved maiden, she seemed more than mortal—  
An angel strayed from the sweet realm of bliss—  
    A pure, bright spirit.  
Who'd come to ope for me high heaven's portal.  
But quoth my friend: "What is she worth—  
that is,  
    Does she inherit?"

I wrote a sonnet on her golden tresses—  
The crown of glory on her precious head—  
    Ten thousand karats.  
And quoth my friend: "That's very nice, but bless us,  
How you are lying, for her hair is red,  
    As red as carrots."

And when I lost her—how the soft tears started.  
The day she married that most hateful clown,  
    Sir Supercilious;  
"My friend," I cried, "I'm dying broken-hearted!"  
"Ho ho," laughed he, "not by a darn sight, Brown,  
    You're simply bilious."

My friend is gone; no more will he be harried  
By songs of mine. Now sings he songs himself  
    In long, round numbers  
Upon the midnight air. One year he's married  
And sings to keep the baby, helpless elf,  
    From restful slumbers.

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<sup>23</sup> Texas State Historical Association, *Sjolander, John Peter (1851 - 1939)* - <https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/sjolander-john-peter>