



LOUISIANA MOORE RICKER
DIARY

1896



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Diary of Louisiana Moore Ricker – 1896

Transcribed by Felicia Wetzig, 2019

Portsmouth, O.

Wednesday, Jan 1st, 1896

Weather very much as it was last year, a warm Christmas followed by colder weather, it was quite cold today.

Will was home most of the day, made a very few calls late in the afternoon. This being prayer meeting evening, I went as I usually do. The two girls went to Henley this afternoon and Lizzie Peebles came in on the evening train to stay all night with us.

Thursday, Jan 2nd, 1896

Growing colder and colder. Have not done much of anything but tend the fires and try to clean up a little.

Have had a great many interruptions. Mr. Straub came and put a new hammer in the piano, one having been broken when I took the keyboard out after the fish globe was broken and water spilled in the piano.

Aunt Mary was here.

Friday, Jan 3rd, 1896

A bright cold day, one that keeps us firing up most of the time.

Will has been about the home most of the day and I have been doing a few little things for him. Have written to Jas, but heard nothing from him today.¹

Saturday, Jan 4th, 1896

Very cold. It takes about all the time to fire up and we have to turn off the water at night.

¹ Louisiana's husband James Wood Ricker, began work at the Ohio Iron Co. in Shawnee, Ohio in 1895.

Mr. Smith appeared again tonight to stay over Sabbath with us. It was freezing cold when Carl took the carriage out after the girls and brought them and him back with him. They were laden with gifts from the Henley larder.

Wrote to Jas as usual and had a short letter from him.

Will left today expecting to spend Sunday in Buffalo.

Sunday, Jan 5th, 1896

Still quite cold but is beginning to moderate a little where the sun shines. This was Mother Ricker's birthday and I shall always think of her on Jan 5th.

We all went to Sabbath School as usual and the reorganized classes and new classes began anew. I had five girls in my class, to begin the year. Lizzie, Lucy Moore, Carrie Hadley, Margaret Ludwig and Alice Meyers.

Monday, Jan 6th, 1896

Cold. I wanted to settle down and sew but felt obliged to go to Mrs. Evans to see about some Mis. Soc. business and while I was out I went eight different places, among them called upon a strange family who have recently come to our church and have had five cases of diphtheria since they moved to town but are now over it and the children are able to be out again. Were behind us at church yesterday.

Padan Bros. & Co. made an assignment today.²

Week of Prayer

Tuesday, Jan 7th, 1896

Moderating for which I am glad. Two letters from Jas. This morning. He is somewhat better.

Mrs. Tappan came today bringing two complimentary tickets for the Musical, from Julia to Margaret and myself. Mrs. Pritchard had sent one to Lizzie and Laena Richardson gave one to Bessie so all of us except May were invited and she stayed at home and studied. I never left her alone before and think I shall not do so again.

Went to prayer meeting and was very late to the Musical.

² Padan Bros. & Co., was a manufacturers of fine shoes on Front St. run by Henry, Albert and George Padan and Frank Kendall.

Wednesday, Jan 8th, 1896

Damp, but no rain.

Have done almost nothing at home as I set out early to do what I could in the matter about cigarettes as I had promised to do.

Perhaps little was accomplished after all, though the great need demands an effort.

Went to a Com. meeting for the Missionary Meeting and afterwards to an Aid Society meeting and then prayer-meeting in the evening, surely enough for one day.

Letter from Jennie.

O.C. McCall Died.³

Thursday, Jan 9th, 1896

Damp and chilly, a little colder in the afternoon. Letter from Jas today to Carl stated he was better. Wrote him and Will. Sewed part of the day, mending several articles. Was not out any where except to the grocery. Went to prayer-meeting with Carl for company. Came home and wrote and read until 11.30.

Was the last one to go to bed.

Friday, Jan 10th, 1896

Damp and cloudy.

Did a little sewing, but not much. Wrote to J.W. and went to see the doctor for him then was surprised to see him come walking in at five o'clock, having been sick in bed a day so the doctor there advised him to come home.

Has not been well since he went back.

I went to prayer-meeting in the evening.

Saturday, Jan 11th, 1895

Brighter and warmer. Have had a busy day. Had to go down street first then went up to Mrs. Evans' and round by the doctor's before dinner. Mrs. Cotton was here to talk over matters a little in regard to the Aid Society. Was home all the afternoon. Edith Barlow was here. We have had more letters from the Kirkwood friends, Carl had one from Jennie tonight, she writes from Brooklyn.

³ Likely written here in error since she talks of O.C. McCall's funeral in 1898.

Sunday, Jan 12th, 1895

Cold, ground frozen but it thawed in the sun later in the day.

We went to Sabbath School as usual and I remained to prayer-meeting then came home before church. Spent the day as usual. Jas. Was not able to go out, but sat up most of the day. Had five good lessons from my girls.

Maggie Peebles fell on the pavement at the corner of 3rd and Court St. this evening and hurt herself badly. They had intended going south Wed.

Monday, Jan 13th, 1896

Bright and cold.

Jas was unable to be up today. He had a number of callers yesterday, among others Dr. Kline whom we sent for. He came again today but made change in his medicine. I wrote to Will as usual. Helped Ruth and went up to see Maggie Peebles who is suffering very much with her ankle and knee.

Went to church in the evening. Barton, Mary and Dwight came from Zanesville.

Tuesday, Jan 14th, 1896

A beautiful day, cold and ground frozen.

Have been sewing a little today, began a night dress for myself. Mrs. Evans was here this morning to talk over the meeting we are to have tomorrow. Went out to do an errand before supper, went twice to the drug store and to see how Maggie Peebles was resting.

Mr. Smith came in this evening from Henley.

Wednesday, Jan 15th, 1896

Cold. Have been sewing today and if I could only have time to attend to my own affairs should get along very well with them but there comes so many calls from outside. Went to church in the evening.

Barton, the two children and Mr. Smith left on the 10.28 train for Columbus.

Thursday, Jan 16th, 1896

Fair. Arose early and went again to Mr. Miles' to do what I could to assist him in making the arrangements for the funeral. Was called up at 1.15 to go over there and before I reached the house she was dead. Dr. Kline was only a moment later than I and said she was gone. He notified the undertaker Mr. Fuller, who with his brother was there in a few minutes and I, assisted by a neighbor washed and changed and prepared for the undertaker. The shock was very unexpected. She had been unusually well and went bed at 11.30 in her usual health. It must have been heart disease.

Mrs. Frank Johnson and I made a robe for Mrs. M.

Friday, Jan 17th, 1896

A pleasant mild day. Slept over home last night and had a good rest which I needed after yesterday's experience. Spent the forenoon in assisting Mrs. Johnson arrange Mrs. Miles' burial robe, then to meet Mrs. Evans but changed plans. Mrs. Miles funeral was held in the afternoon at 2 o'clock in the lecture room of our church. Dr. Tappan's remarks were very appropriate, based upon the words "Surely, I come quickly" Rev 22:20.

Went to church in the evening. Farmers' Nat'l Bank closed by order of the Comptroller Mother came back bringing Margaret Peebles.

Saturday, Jan 18th, 1896

Damp but sunny most of the day. Rain in the evening. Have had nothing but outside work all day, after doing a little house work. Went to Mrs. Draper's with Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Drew, before dinner, then to Miss Bell's at 1.30 P.M. and worked on Relief work until 3 o'clock when I went to preparatory lecture, after which I went to see Maggie Peebles and Mary, then to see Mrs. Silcox and after tea Mary Ellen Moore came to see me, and she was followed by Ella Overturf.⁴ Was invited to Mrs. Patterson's but could not go.

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

Sunday, Jan 19th, 1896

Weather more damp than cold though it did not rain. We all went to Sabbath School as usual, except J.W. who was not feeling well. He went to church however and Norma Hadley came home with us and stayed until after supper. Had a fine class and lessons this morning. It was Communion day and Arthur Boyd and Leroy Tappan were received in full membership in the church having been baptized before. Mrs. Annis Cook died tonight.

Monday, Jan 20th, 1896

Still damp under foot but bright overhead. Relief Corps meeting occupied the afternoon after a busy forenoon. It was time for installation of new officers which was done by Mrs. Evans. I am again sec'y.

Was busy all the evening with Relief Corps work. Father is sick again and Jas is better. Wrote to Will as usual this forenoon.

Mrs. Silcox called early and Anna Purdum later this forenoon.

Tuesday, Jan 21st, 1896

Fair. Was busy at home this forenoon.

Mrs. Annis Cook's funeral occurred this afternoon and the Public schools were dismissed to attend it. She had been a teacher for about sixteen years. May had gone to school to her.

I was busy with my writing again this evening.

Had the tooth-ache and went to bed early.

Wednesday, Jan 22nd, 1896

Damp and rainy again. Was busy all forenoon in getting Jas ready to leave on the 10.28 train N. & W. Drove out to the station with him and then came home and went to work again. He has returned to Shawnee.

Had the doctor examine my tooth and treat it a little so I would not be kept awake tonight. Went to the Aid Society meeting in a hard rain and then called to see Mrs. Richard Spry who is sick. Did not go to church on account of my tooth.

Thursday, Jan 23rd, 1896

No hard rain today but some sprinkling. Was busy all forenoon then went to Dr. Dennis' after dinner and had some work done on my teeth but did not finish. Went to see Maggie Peebles afterwards. She is still confined to her bed but does not suffer so much as she did with her limb. Wrote to Will yesterday and sent the letter today. Went to Mrs. Johnson's this morning on an errand.

Friday, Jan 24th, 1896

Weather damp. Father better but not up. Lizzie Peebles came in but did not take Margaret home. She will wait for Mr. Smith. He came on the 4 o'clock train much to Margaret's disappointment as she is in no hurry to go home. Richard was here in the evening but Margaret Peebles, Lizzie and May had gone with Mr. Smith to see May Pursell.

Carl is almost sick did not go out this evening at all.

Saturday, Jan 25th, 1896

No rain but very damp. After breakfast wrote to J.W. then had a card from him in the afternoon. Went up to see Mrs. Evans and later to see Mrs. Tappan. We are in quite a tangle about our arrangements to entertain the W.F.M.S. society in the spring. Margaret and Mr. Smith went home this afternoon. Carl feels better today.

Sunday, Jan 26th, 1896

Rained but not all day. All went to Sabbath School as usual. Also to church. Had special music in the evening and a full church. Father still sick in bed but somewhat better than he was. Norma was not here but Edith Barlow came after dinner to see Margaret. Geo Wesley Fulton died at his home near Peebles this morning at 5 o'clock. Carl heard it and told me this evening. We are very sorry when such an excellent young man is taken away.

Monday, Jan 27th, 1896

Weather still damp and unpleasant. Wrote the usual letters to J.W. and Will. Father seemed better today and sat up awhile. Was busy all day, cut out some sewing, some night shirts for Carl.

Tuesday, Jan 28th, 1896

Bright. Carl, Ed Reed and eight other went on the early train to Peebles to attend Wes Fulton's funeral. He, Ed and Fred Tynes were chosen by him as pall-bearers some weeks ago. It was a hard day on Carl he feels the death of his friend very keenly. When he came home tonight he broke down completely.

The Foreign Mis. Society met here this afternoon. Only a few present but we had a good meeting and those present subscribed 12.50 to the Fund for the spring meeting.

Wednesday, Jan 29th, 1896

Another beautiful day. Was bus at home all the forenoon. At 2 o'clock Mrs. Evans called for me to go to Mrs. Draper's to a Com meeting. After that she and I went to see Mrs. McCall at Mrs. McGundy's. I was out to see Mrs. Silcox before church. Went to church and when I came home found Father was worse had had a chill so went and stayed all night with him. Mr. Jns Schwartz sat up with him.

Thursday, Jan 30th, 1896

Not so fair as it was yesterday. Sprinkled some during the day.

Went to Dr. Dennis this morning and he began work for my teeth but can not finish for some time.

Went to see Maggie Peebles when I got through at the dentist. She is improving slowly not yet able to sit up.

Wrote to Will and J.W.

Friday, Jan 31st, 1896

Wet again. Have been sewing as I found opportunity and finished Carl's shirt, began the second one and sewed all evening on it.

Father is better again. Enos came this afternoon, quite unexpectedly to me.

The children have had a hard week with their examinations and are tired out.

Lizzie and May were invited to tea with Lucy and Edith. Some guests whom they expected failed them so the girls were asked.

Saturday, Feb 1st, 1896

Wet and disagreeable. Father better. Finished my sewing and did some other things. Mr. Smith came in at noon to stay over Sabbath. Had letter from J.W. enclosing one from Will. The girls have been making a lot of popcorn balls, working up a nickle investment for the C.E. Society.⁵ Mr. Teller tuned the piano for which I paid 3.00 paid several bills today.

Sunday, Feb 2nd, 1896

One of the darkest, rainiest days of the season. All went to Sabbath School as usual but I felt so badly when school closed that I came home and went to bed. Had the doctor later in the day. Had taken cold which affected me differently from my usual experience. Margaret and Bessie were both at home also and M. Smith who came last night, stayed in the house most of the day. Mr. Chas Barlow, Edith's father died today of quinsy, diphtheria and pneumonia after a week's illness.⁶ We are very sorry for the family.

Monday, Feb 3rd, 1896

Still dark and disagreeable. was better this morning and continued to improve all day. Did a number of little things which have been waiting for me to find the time. Wrote to J.W. and Will.

The entire household, except myself went to see the trained dogs and ponies. I went to bed at 7.30.

Tuesday, Feb 4th, 1896

Not so rainy, but colder and light snow before night. Went to do some errands and make another appointment with Dr. Dennis, where I went again after dinner and had more work done. Had a letter from Will. Ed Reed is twenty-five years old today. I called at Mrs. Joe Reed's a few moments. Mr. Reed has been quite sick for some time. He was a little better today.

Mr. Barlow was buried today, his father and mother came last evening.

⁵ The Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor is a nondenominational evangelical society founded in Portland, Maine, in 1881 by Francis Edward Clark. Its professed object was "to promote an earnest Christian life among its members, to increase their mutual acquaintanceship, and to make them more useful in the service of God."

⁶ Peritonsillar abscess (PTA), also known as a quinsy, is pus due to an infection behind the tonsil. Symptoms include fever, throat pain, trouble opening the mouth, and a change to the voice. Pain is usually worse on one side.

Wednesday, Feb 5th, 1896

Weather unpleasant. Have been busy all the time and cannot tell what I have done. Much time is occupied in common place things which have to be done over and over, and which are like the small boy's definition of salt, "it is something which spoils things if it ain't put on." It is just the omission which counts and that on the wrong side.

Thursday, Feb 6th, 1896

Weather damp and gloomy was busy at home all forenoon. Went to W.C.T.U. meeting in the afternoon then hurried home.⁷ Wrote to Will, also to J.W. this morning. The furnace will stop this week and perhaps Jas will not be away much longer.

Friday, Feb 7th, 1896

Weather unpleasant, not cold but damp. I went out this afternoon and made several calls which I have intended making for sometime past. Went to get some medium for J.W. first then went to see Sallie Seamans who is just recovering from Typhoid Fever. Then to call on Julia Johnson who was not in then, Carrie Brooks, Mrs. Sam Reed, Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. J.E. Miller.

Saturday, Feb 8th, 1896

Wet and disagreeable. Was busy as usual all day. Miss Bessie and Lizzie were gone all afternoon doing Miss B.'s errands. May dressed a paper doll for Maggie Peebles to send to Texas. Sister made a lot of pop-corn balls to fill orders and Carl went out in the slush and distributed the goods. The girls are working on an invested nickle to see what they can do with it by June.

Mr. Smith came in this evening to stay over Sabbath.

Sunday, Feb 9th, 1896

All went to Sabbath School as usual and were in time. It began snowing before dinner and by evening there was quite a good deal of very wet snow on the ground. We went to church in the evening through bad walking.

⁷ Woman's Christian Temperance Union: one of the first organizations of women devoted to social reform. Originally organized on December 23, 1873 in Hillsboro, Ohio the group influenced the temperance movement and supported the 18th Amendment.

Monday, Feb 10th, 1896

Sun came out and melted the snow making walking very bad. I sewed some today, made one garment in the intervals when I was not busy in other ways. Oella was here a few minutes before supper on an errand. Had a letter from Helen Catao Boardman from her home at Hartsville, Pa.

Was over home a few minutes before supper. Had no letter from J.W. today. Mr. Smith left for Zanesville this forenoon. Elizabeth Peebles came in to visit her Aunt Maggie.

Tuesday, Feb 11th, 1896

Bright and mild. River is high and began falling so we had the cistern filled today.⁸ Very windy.

The Woman's Foreign Mis. Soc. met here this afternoon and I was again elected President the eighth time in succession. I very much wanted to be released but all thought no changes should be made until after the spring meeting. In the evening went to hear Dr. Tappan lecture on France and the Huguenots, before the Woman's Club.⁹ Was invited by Aunt Mary Ellen Moore.

Wednesday, Feb 12th, 1896

Weather brighter and rather mild. A little sprinkling of rain in the evening.

Was at home, busy all forenoon. After dinner did some writing. Had letters from Will and J.W. Went to Aid Society at 4 P.M. having called upon Mrs. Bullard at Mrs. Cotton's on my way. Was called out of the meeting to come home and see a caller who proved to be Everett Bierce. Was on his way from Pittsburg to Cin. and while the boat stopped he made the call. Mrs. Silcox was here. It was told at the Aid Society meeting that Mr. Peebles is going to give 100.00 and Mrs. Peebles, a new carpet to the church.

⁸ Cistern: a tank for storing water, especially one supplying taps or as part of a flushing toilet.

⁹ Huguenots were French Protestants who held to the Reformed tradition of Protestantism. Largely Calvinist, the Huguenots suffered severe persecution at the hands of the Catholic majority, and many thousands emigrated from France.

Thursday, Feb 13th, 1896

Rained hard in the night and continued during most of today. Had a call from Mrs. Draper this forenoon. In the afternoon Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Wm. Gates came to do some Committee work. Mrs. Draper did not come, sent her resignation as a member of the Com. After the meeting I went to returned a paper to Mrs. Cotton and she told me more about the gift to the Aid Society.

Friday, Feb 14th, 1896

Bright, clear, and colder.

Was busy at home all the forenoon and in the afternoon I went to make a few calls. Went first to see Mr. Dodge on business then to see Margaret Johnson who was not at home. Found Mrs. McClure at home, also Mrs. Cakey whom I have not seen before since her brother Mr. Fulton died. I then went to see Mrs. Barlow and her children, who are packing up to go to Detroit. I then went to inquire about Tina McCall who is recovering from Typhoid fever, and to see Mrs. Beauregard whose daughter died this week. Lastly to see Martha Poffenberg who has been sick.

Saturday, Feb 15th, 1896

Bright but very windy. Was not feeling well enough to do much work today. Edith Barlow came to make us a little visit before she leaves Portsmouth. Elizabeth Peebles was here nearly all day. This is Margaret Peebles' birthday. In the afternoon I went with Bessie to call upon Miss Damarin and Mrs. scudder who were not at home. Then to Mrs. Hadley's and then to see Maggie Peebles who is now sitting up. Afterwards I went to see Mrs. Folsom and Mrs. Copeland. Oella was here.

Sunday, Feb 16th, 1896

Weather damp, but no rain. Cold and windy in the afternoon. All went to Sabbath school and were in time.

Remained to morning service. In the afternoon Carl went up to see Alex Ricker, came home very cold. All went to church in the evening. It is the last Sunday in the audience room before the work of renovating is begun.

Monday, Feb 17th, 1896

Quite cold. This is the birthday of Uncle J.L. Wood, Dr. Pratt and Mrs. Hall, Bessie's Mother.

Wrote to Will and J.W. as usual. Was out to see Mrs. Gates this morning about the Com business. In the afternoon I went to Relief Corps meeting. Edith Barlow went to see her Mamma but returned before supper time. Came right after dinner in fact.

Tuesday, Feb 18th, 1896

Light snow again.

Was busy at home nearly all day. Went to Aid society meeting at 4 o'clock. The bid of Bryant Bros. of Columbus for frescoing our church was accepted at the meeting. Fresco to be 450.00 and they furnish scaffolding for 40.00 additional.

Grace Cotton, Margaret Johnson and Mrs. Gates were Com. on frescoing. The latter not present. Barton and little Willard Greene came down from Zanesville. Edith is still here. no letters yesterday nor today.

Wednesday, Feb 19th, 1896

Very cold, with snow on the ground and a little in the air. Ripped up my black cashmere skirt to be made over. Wrote to will and his father. Mrs. Evans was down this afternoon, after she left I wrote a note to Mrs. Draper which is to be signed by Mrs. E. also. Went to prayer-meeting in the evening. The pews from upstairs are placed in the lecture room while the repairs are going on in the audience room.

Thursday, Feb 20th, 1896

Very, very cold. Sent Will's letter. Went out to Mrs. Will Gates with the note then up to Mrs. Evans' and finally home which I reached very cold. Edith Barlow was with us until after Margaret came from school and took her up to her mother, at her friends' from where they will start tonight for Ind. Mrs. B. was here this A.M. Edith is a dear little girl and we shall be very sorry to lose her from Portsmouth.

Friday, Feb 21st, 1896

Very cold. Frozen hard. The girls went to a C.E. social at Mr. Knowles' this evening. Oella Lauman came to stay all night with Margaret, as Mr. L. is away. All four of the girls dressed up in old fashioned dresses and had a good deal of fun before they left home. Mar'gt wore my wedding dress. Lizzie wore Grandma's dress and May wore an old light silk of mine, Oella wore my black silk and white lace shawl.

Saturday, Feb 22nd, 1896

Very cold in the morning but began moderating in the after noon. Lizzie and May went skating in the forenoon, then again after dinner when Margaret and Miss Annette went. I was busy at home all day. Mrs. Titus called to see Miss Bessie and before she left May came home with a cut on her eye lid. It was fortunate the cut was no lower as it would have been in her eye. Hot water, and vase line will soon help it. Dr. Mary Cotton brought May up from Front st. in her buggy.¹⁰ Had to have the hot water pipe thawed out under the house.

Sunday, Feb 23rd, 1896

Weather moderating. All went to Sabbath S. except May who had to stay at home all day and bath her eye in hot water. It was most fortunate that the injury was no worse. We had our first service in the lecture room it will probably be several weeks before we are in the audience room again. I had seven girls in my S.S. class this evening.

Monday, Feb 24th, 1896

Weather much warmer, and quite fair. Jennie Ricker's birthday. Was busy as usual. Wrote to J.W. and Will, had letters from both. Lengthened May's plaid dress. Her eye and face were much better and she sent to school today. I went after 4 o'clock to see Maggie Peebles and found Mr. and Mrs. P. and Mary expect to leave tomorrow for Florida. Lizzie took her music lesson as usual. Mrs. Foster was here this morning. Mr. Wm. Moses of Brooklyn died today.

¹⁰ Vaseline is an American brand of petroleum jelly-based products introduced in 1872.

Tuesday, Feb 25th, 1896

Pleasant. Bright and springlike. Was busy all forenoon sweeping and ducting, then washed and pressed my black dress skirt preparatory to making over. In the afternoon the For. Mis. Soc. met here, the topic being China, but Mrs. Pratt was not present and we occupied the entire time with business. As we closed and some were leaving, Julia and Margaret Johnson called. They have become most interested in Foreign Missions. Mrs. Tewksbury had China for years as her topic and now Julia has it in Freeport.

Wednesday, Feb 26th, 1896

Weather rather pleasant. Am trying to get a black dress ready to make over. Have the skirt ready to wash. Mother is able to come out nearly every day. Had a little Com. meeting after church to see what was wanted for the Sunday School Library.

Thursday, Feb 27th, 1896

A little cloudy. Milder than it has been. Went to the W.C.T.U. meeting in the afternoon. was up to see Maggie Peebles this forenoon and went again after supper as I wanted especially to see her. Went up to see Julia Johnson this forenoon, also did some other errands.

Friday, Feb 28th, 1896

Fair, dusty in some places. Indications of rain. Mrs. Evans was here this afternoon talking over the arrangements for the Missionary meeting in April. Mother was here. I was out a little while. Miss Coates, Miss Bessie and I made out a list of book for S.S. Library.

Saturday, Feb 29th, 1896

Mild and cloudy, no rain. There will be no Feb 29th again for eight years. Have been at home nearly all day. Went to do some errands after 5 o'clock. Miss Lauman and Carrie Hadley were here when I left. Heard that Jas will be home Monday. Wrote to him this afternoon.

Sunday, March 1st, 1896

All went to Sabbath school as usual and attended morning service, no three were at home, Carl and Lizzie and Miss Bessie. Margaret, May and I did the church going.

Monday, March 2nd 1896

Beautiful day, somewhat windy. Helped Ruth and then tried to help myself a little. Wrote to Will.

William Peebles came in turn this afternoon to begin work at the Machine Shop tomorrow. Jas. Came home from Shawnee this afternoon the Furnace there having sopped, so he is again out of employment.

Tuesday, March 3rd, 1896

Weather beautiful and mild.

Have been trying to get my dress skirt cut out and made. Find it very awkward when I have so little time for sewing. Intended going to the Home Mis. Society today but Mrs. Schwartz came up to talk about a matter in which we are both interested so I did not get off.

Wednesday, March 4th, 1896

Bright and pleasant. Worked on my black dress skirt without accomplishing much today then went to get some linings and while out went to see Maggie Peebles who is able to be about her room a little. Saw Mattie, and Miss Huston who was writing, or rather calling there. Went to the Aid Society meeting and after supper went to church.

Thursday, March 5th, 1896

Weather rather mild and damp.

Have been taking cold and did not feel well today. Wrote to Will as I usually do on Thursday. Went to the W.C.T.U. meeting in the afternoon. Had gone to Miss Emma's but she was not at home.

Was over home a little while.

Mars Taylor and I visited our district this forenoon to ascertain how many delegates we could have accommodated in our territory. Found people very kind and willing and think if all the others do as well we shall have no trouble in caring for our guests.

Friday, March 6th, 1896

Damp and raw and unpleasant.¹¹ Have a very bad cold but went up to see Mrs. Evans, also Miss Emma Bell on Committee business. Went to the Doctor's for a change of medicine and later in the day to the Foundry Office to do an errand for Father who did not go out today. Was down to see Oella a few minutes after dinner.

Saturday, March 7th, 1896

Rained and blew hard last night, was bright and windy today. Had such a bad cold that I did not get up early and lay down again after dinner for awhile. Managed to do some mending and several odd jobs which were awaiting me. Have not been out, even to go over home today. Andy was brought home from Dr. Lake's and seemed glad to get back.

Sunday, March 8th, 1896

Beautiful day but rather chilly. We all went to Sabbath school, the full representation this time, except Will who is not at home. I am somewhat better but still not at all well. Attended the usual services. William Peebles and Arthur Titus were here all the afternoon. Enos came over home just after I left there.

Monday, March 9th, 1896

Beautiful day, bright and windy. Have been busy most of the day with the housework, did not get much sewing done. Julia was here to give Lizzie her lesson. After they began the lesson I went up to see Mrs. Drew a little while then to see Mrs. Evans and then came home, my cold not having improved much.

Tuesday, March 10th, 1896

Milder. My cold is very bad and I went after medicine for it after dinner. I have worked on my dress but did not get it done, it has proved quite an undertaking. This evening Miss Bessie and I went to the Organ Concert at All Saints church. Mrs. Rice, Julia Tappan, Mary Purcell and Miss Graham played. Enos was here quite awhile this afternoon. Was down to see Oella.

¹¹ Raw: unpleasantly cold and damp weather.

Wednesday, March 11th, 1896

One of the stormiest days of the winter which grew worse in the evening. I wrote Jennie an anniversary letter today and soon after it had gone to the P.O. Mrs. Behreus came over to say that John had come from Zanesville for a visit. I went to do an errand down at Dr. Dennis' and Anderson's new store and then to give Mr. Taylor the copy for the works for the S.S. Books.¹² When I got home John and Enos had gone down town. After church I went again and saw them.

Letter from Will.

Tuesday, March 12th, 1896

Ther 12°

Snow most of the day with a little bright sunshine. Wrote to Will this afternoon. Oella was here this morning to see me and again in the afternoon to see Margaret. was at home all day not feeling very well. John and Enos went to Henley this afternoon to see Lizzie.

The diphtheria is still in town, another death this week and a new case upon the same square.

Friday, March 13th, 1896

Bright and pleasant though still cold. Ther 14° this A.M. Moderated some during the day. Mrs. B. was sick today and Macy had invited Carl, Mr. Cappa and Carrie Hadley to take tea with John, Enos and Wm Peebles. John Peebles came in and was asked also. I went over and helped her a little. Margaret went as soon as she could after school and then I went and waited upon the guests. After supper they all came to our house for the rest of the evening. Mrs. Silcox was here this forenoon.

Saturday, March 14th, 1896

Milder but not like summer yet. John left on the early N&W train to go to Athens for Sunday. Enos left in the afternoon.

Have been at home all day. Helped the girls make a lot of pop-corn balls. Miss Lawman and Irene Hadley were here. Aung Mary was here this morning.

¹² Louisiana is likely referring to the Anderson Bros. store at 603 Chillicothe Street. Listed as a "home factory shoe store" in the Portsmouth City Directory, Anderson Bros. succeeded Bradford & Summers in March of 1894 according to the Portsmouth Times. The first Anderson's store was G.W. Anderson & Son, opened at 134 W. Second Street on March 16th, 1892 and sold dress goods, trimmings, and shoes.

Sunday, March 15th, 1896

It began snowing around 10 o'clock last evening and has been snowing steadily all day and up to bed time this evening. More snow has fallen than at any other time this winter, I think. We all went to Sabbath School and remained to the usual services though I coughed so much I thought I should be obliged to come home. William Peebles was here all the afternoon.

Monday, March 16th, 1896

Ther 12°

Deep snow but none fell this afternoon. Ruth washed and I helped with the work all forenoon. Went to W.R.C. meeting in the afternoon, after which I went to Dr. Davis' to get some R.R.R. and Borax.¹³

Wrote to Will and Miss Yoshi Kajiro, the Japanese girl at Holyoke who wrote our For. Mis. Society a letter last summer.¹⁴

Tuesday, March 17th, 1896

Cold and snowy. Ther. 14° Thawed some during the day. Walking very bad.
Letter from Will.

Painters came to work in the dining room and closets so Ruth and I had a busy time getting things out of their way. We also took the old loose paper off the dining room ceiling. The closets are to be a pale green and the new paper is light green. Miss Emma came and we made out W.R.C. reports. Went to Dr. Van Tine after supper and got medicine for my cough.

Wednesday, March 18th, 1896

Cloudy. Ther. 24° this A.M. Thawed during the day, snowed a little. I got a carpenter to come and do a little work in the china closet to close up the cracks and keep out the soot and smoke. Late in the afternoon I went to see how Father and Mother were, then to see Mrs. Johnson, who was in and Miss Bell, Mary Ellen who were not. Began a letter to Will.

¹³ Woman's Relief Corps, recognized in 1883 as the official women's auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic.

¹⁴ Mt. Holyoke, est 1837, was a liberal arts college for women, in South Hadley, Massachusetts, United States.

Thursday, March 19th, 1896

Still cold but moderating some. Finished Will's letter and have been carrying on some correspondence in regard to the Missionary meeting which I have not kept recorded.

Friday, March 20th, 1896

Cold. Nothing to record but work. We are making all possible haste to get as much done as we can before Will and his friends come as they will be here some time and then will not be time enough after they go until we may expect the W.F.M.S. delegates.

Saturday, March 21st, 1896

The men came and varnished the dining room this morning while I was busy up stairs. They have done a good job and done it quickly having begun only last Tuesday. I have not done much this week but attend to the housecleaning.

Sunday, March 22nd, 1896

Weather cold.

All went to Sabbath School and the other usual services.

At 3 o'clock Lizzie William and I attended the meeting of the new Christian church which was dedicated this morning. It is a handsome little church, nicely finished and furnished. Rev. Mr. Harp is pastor. The Pres. and M.E. pastors six or seven were present and took part in the exercises which were excellent.

Monday, March 23rd, 1896

Began snowing about 6 o'clock A.M. and snowed all day. Several inches fell during the day. Mr. Kirtland came and papered the dining room this afternoon and after he had gone, Ruth, Mr. Jack on, Jas and I took up the sitting room carpet and got the room nearly ready for the paperers who are to come in the morning. was to have gone to Miss Lehman's to see what she wants of me but was so busy I forgot. Wrote to Will as usual.

Tuesday, March 24th, 1896

Snow melting and streets very sloppy. Had a man come and clean the carpet which was hung on a line and the snow shoveled from under it.

The sitting room was papered today, all done but the border. Gave the order for glass doors to be put in the china closet. Learned that Miss Lehman wanted to try my new dress which Margaret bought for me. J.W. and I called for Mattie Ward and Maggie P.

Wednesday, March 25th, 1896

Cold but moderating. Mr. K. finished papering the sitting room, and in the afternoon Ben Lewis came and put down the carpet. Dr. Dennis came to invite Jas and me to take tea with them tomorrow evening.

Went to prayer meeting in the evening as usual.

Thursday, March 26th, 1896

Shower in the forenoon, cleared off later. Have been hard at work all day cleaning pictures wiping walls and doing various things. Mattie Ward called this afternoon just as I was ready to go and dress for the tea party at Mrs. Dennis'. Mother, Jas and I went and enjoyed a pleasant evening with Uncle Enos, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Taylor and their wives and Dell Ramsey. Julia Beyerley died today.

Friday, March 27th, 1896

Had a busy day in the front part of the house. The painters came and put the finishing touches on the kitchen which is newly painted through out. Messrs. Kirtland and Weber have papered the sitting room, grained and papered the dining room, painted the closets, three of them and painted the kitchen sides ceilings and as much of the floors as I wanted for \$34.50.¹⁵

Got Carl's room in order again today, carpet down and all done but setting up his bed which needed some repairs to the castors.

Saturday, March 28th, 1896

Bright and pleasant.

¹⁵ Messrs: used as a title to refer formally to more than one man simultaneously, or in names of companies.

We had a great deal to do to get the house in order by evening but got about all done that we had planned. The sitting room, dining room and closets and kitchen are all in nice order with fresh paint and new paper. A telegram from Will announced his coming on the evening train with his guests, Ossian Ward and Harry Griffin. We were ready when they came with a warm welcome. Miss Lehman finished my new green serge dress but I did not get it.¹⁶

Sunday, March 29th, 1896

Showery, somewhat like April. We all went to S.S. as usual except Will and his guests. Went to church both morning and evening. was over home in the afternoon. Arthur Titus and John and William Peebles were here in addition to our two boys and two guests.

Monday, March 30th, 1896

Sprinkled in the morning bright in the afternoon. Have not undertaken any special work today aside from the usual occupations. the boys seem to be enjoying their visit. I was down street before noon, and after dinner went to dr. Tappan's in the carriage, the first time I have been out since Andy was taken sick. We went to the church and worked in the Library awhile, finished putting in the new books. Bessie Hall went to Cin. today. Eli Perkins lectured at 6th st M.E. church. The boys went, also J.W. and the two girls.

Tuesday, March 31st, 1896

Cloudy with light showers. Was busy at home all the forenoon and went to the Foreign Mis. Soc. at Maggie Peebles' in the afternoon. It was her topic day, Mexico and as usual she had an interesting program after which she served lemon ice and cake. The boys began working at their test of Drew & Selby's Machinery and put in thirteen hours I believe. They are just making their preparations for testing.

¹⁶ Serge is a type of strong woollen cloth used to make clothes such as skirts, coats, and trousers.

Wednesday, April 1st, 1896

Weather fair but somewhat windy. The boys had an early breakfast and did not come home to dinner, we sent them a lunch. We had gone to church when they came to supper. it was the afternoon for a Com. meeting at Mrs. Evans' so I went and stayed until about 4 o'clock.

It was the evening for the annual congregational meeting which was held and Mr. C.B. Taylor and Jas. Bratt were elected trustees in place of Messrs. Thompson and Molster whose term expired.

Thursday, April 2nd, 1896

Bright and windy, river high and rising. Boys worked all day at the Shoe Factory but came home to dinner. Sister and I finished making a catalogue of the S.S. Library and sent it to the printer. I called upon Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Scott, Prof. Lewis sister. John and William were here this evening and with our own boys and guests we had quite an array of gentlemen.

Friday, April 3rd, 1896

Weather pleasant. Have not done much at home today. Mary invited our family of seven with our two guests over to tea, the two girls and I waited upon the table at which were seated Mother and Jas., Will, Mr. Griffin, Oella and Mr. Lowman, Carl, Margaret, John, Wm Peebles, and Mr. Cappa. After tea Mr. and Mrs. Taylor and Julia Tappan came to spend the evening. Arthur Titus was to have been present but failed to appear.

Saturday, April 4th, 1896

Weather pleasant. was at home all day but in the evening Jas. and I went to Prof. Lewis' to tea. Dr. and Mr. Dennis, Mr. and Mrs. John E. Miller and ourselves being the guests asked in honor of Mrs. Scott, Prof. Lewis' sister who is visiting here.

We had a pleasant evening, only that Jas could not remain after 7.30 o'clock being obliged to attend to some election business. Carl was not feeling well and remained at home all the evening. Miss Bessie came back from Cin.

Sunday, April 5th, 1896

A little cloudy in the morning but no rain during the day. It was a beautiful day. we all went to Sabbath S. and church as usual. Our audience room being still unfinished we had no Easter music but expect to have it next Sabbath if the room is ready. Our congregation was small in the evening, so many went to other churches. the boys went to the 2nd Pres. in the morning and to Bigelow in the evening while the girls went to All Saints.

Monday, April 6th, 1896

Sprinkled a little about six in the morning, then cleared up for the day. The boys are waiting for instruments so could do nothing today. Mother, Will, Mr. Ward and I were out in the carriage awhile then I came home and the boys drove awhile longer. Mr. Griffin went over the river. The Spring Election was held today. Republicans nearly all elected. Dr. Tappan, Mr. Ives, Frank Lynn, Rob't Clare and H.P. Pursell, Mr. Doty were elected to the School Board.

Tuesday, April 7th, 1896

Weather pleasant.

The boys went to Henley this afternoon and came back in the evening. I went to make my call upon Mrs. Lewis and her guest Mrs. Scott, neither of them were at home.

Wednesday, April 8th, 1896

Pleasant. The boys are still waiting and watching for the instruments with which to finish their tests. Went to the Aid Society at 4 o'clk. The first payment, \$4.00 was ordered paid to the Bryant Bros. for the frescoing of the church. Electric lights were spoken of today and by night 80.00 of the 100- necessary was raised. Was at prayer meeting and heard that I had been elected Treasurer of the Y.M.C.A. Aux. Had a pleasant evening with Mr. Ward who came in before the other boys and visited with us.

Thursday, April 9th, 1896

Rained almost all forenoon but did not begin until after Margaret and her Father had taken Mr. Griffin to the C.P. & L. train en route for Louisville. The instruments the boys have been waiting for came this morning but have proved useless after all as the wire burned out as soon as they attached it. Mr. Ward left on the Shirley in the evening for Louisville, both he and Mr. G. intending to return in a day or two. Will is quite undecided as to his monuments.

Friday, April 10th, 1896

Weather quite pleasant. After considerable talking and thinking. Will decided to leave on the 4.42 train for Ithaca in order to be ready for work Monday. The boys will come back from Louisville and finish their thesis tests next week then go on about Wednesday.

I am glad to think Will has so nearly completed his course that this is to be his last time to leave for school. The few weeks left will soon pass.

Saturday, April 11th, 1896

Weather pleasant.

We miss our three boys today but have been pretty busy with the usual Saturday occupations. Nothing very new or strange happened today.

Sunday, April 12th, 1896

Pleasant. We had hoped to be in our audience room today but it could not be finished in time so we shall have to wait another week.

All went to Sabbath school and the usual services today.

Monday, April 13th, 1896

Very warm and very dusty. Was busy at home all forenoon. Wrote to Will as usual. The two boys returned from Louisville on the C&O train this afternoon. Mother and I were out for a little drive and after I had left her at home. I came home just in time to take Mr. Ward up to the Factory. We are glad to have them with us again.

Tuesday, April 14th, 1896

Weather fine. This is the anniversary of the death of Abraham Lincoln. The boys have been busy all day with their work at the Shoe Factory. In the evening all the young folks of the family went to Bigelow to hear the Temple Quartette. After the Concert we had cakes, ice-cream and lemonade, which Carl said he would pay for if I would order. He and Carrie came after the concert and the others all gathered in until we had quite a lively crowd.

Wednesday, April 15th, 1896

Quite warm. We have not tried to do much today. Mr. Ward and Mr. Griffin had to finish up their tests at noon and then they got ready to leave on the 4.47 N&W train. we are all sorry to see them go, have enjoyed their stay and hope they will come again some time. Went to prayer-meeting in the evening.

Thursday, April 16th, 1896

Beautiful weather and quite warm the leaf buds are coming out rapidly. Mother went to Henley on the after noon train, Jimmie and I taking her out to the train then going up on Jackson st. on an errand. We miss the boys very much, the table seems quite deserted and the house lonely without them.

Friday, April 17th, 1896

Weather very warm. Was busy at home all day. And went out for a little drive late in the afternoon. Jimmie and I went to the train after Mother but she did not come at noon so in the evening he and Sister went and brought her in. I was at Mrs. Evan's but she had not yet returned from Ironton where she had been attending the Presbyterial meeting.

Saturday, April 18th, 1896

Had a very busy day and late in the afternoon got into the carriage and went up to see Mrs. Evans who was just starting to the Aid Soc. meeting at the church. I did not know of it but hurried down just in time to get into more work as the lecture room must now be cleaned and there is little time left for it. Mattie Peebles and I were appointed to do the work, or rather have it done and we went at once to find the necessary help.

Sunday, April 19th, 1896

Beautiful day. Our audience room was opened again for service this morning and it looks very beautiful to us. The frescoing, new carpet, new decoration in the organ, the electric lights and all being very satisfactory and harmonious. We had extra music both morning and evening, it being the last time Mr. Cappa will sing for a long time, if ever again as he leaves tomorrow to have his feet operated upon to straighten them.

Monday, April 20th, 1896

Fine day. Ruth washed today as I had to be at the church all day attending to the house cleaning. Mattie Peebles and I spent the forenoon there working alone, then had a helper for the afternoon.

Tuesday, April 21st, 1896

Weather delightful.

Ruth and I spent the day housecleaning in Margaret's room. I wiped the paper on sides and ceiling and Ruth did the paint. Had a note from Mr. Smith saying he would be here on the 4 P.M. train so when Margaret came from school, we drove out and brought him in. We had a letter from Will in which he said Mr. Herman ward is very much worse and little hope is left to his friends.

Wednesday, April 22nd, 1896

Beautiful weather but quite cool. The usual "dog-wood winter" that we hear about.¹⁷ Spent much of the forenoon at the church as did Mattie Peebles. The job which was assigned to us was finished this evening and the Lecture Room well cleaned, paper, paint, furniture and all, including the Primary rooms, study and ladies' parlor, excepting paper in last three, costing 8.67. Two elders were elected after prayer-meeting. Dr. Kline and Mr. Scudder, both being already ordained.

¹⁷ Dogwood winter is a colloquial expression used in south and midwest North America, referring to a cold snap that often occurs in late spring.

Thursday, April 23rd, 1896

Beautiful day, not quite so cool as yesterday. Trees are in fool leaf, grass has been cut once and the fruit blossoms are dropping off. Wrote to Will as usual. Have been busy at home all day, put up some curtains and pictures and did a variety of other things. Sewed on Margaret's dress skirt after supper. Mr. Smith took a picture of one corner of the sitting room this morning. After dinner he went to Henley.

Friday, April 24th, 1896

Pleasant. Mr. Smith came back today noon and took a picture of the sitting room. We have had visitors nearly all this month and have enjoyed them exceedingly.

Saturday, April 25th, 1896

A busy day spent in making preparations for the coming meeting next week. There are errands and errands and arrangements of all kinds which are nearing completion. Mr. Smith went home this forenoon, not having heard from home as he expected. Mrs. Richard Lloyd died at her daughter's (Mrs. Tracy) home in Columbus this morning.

Sunday, April 26th, 1896

Beautiful day. We all went to Sabbath School and then to church. I was our communion day and four of five were received into the church. Went to church in the evening as usual.

Monday, April 27th, 1896

Have had a busy day doing the last things in the way of completing arrangements at the church and at home. Wrote to Will early this morning. In the evening we all went to the Y.M.C.A. Gym entertainment. Jennie Greene and Dwight came down this afternoon and brought rather a startling bit of news. The two little boys came but will go home tomorrow. Dwight stayed here all night.

Tuesday, April 28th, 1896

The great day so long expected dawned beautiful and bright. Have been busy all day making the final preparations and meeting of the guests. The first to come was Mrs. Doolittle of Toledo, then Mrs. Hyndman and lastly Mrs. Calhoun.

Went to the meeting at the 2nd church with Mrs. Turner, Mrs. Thorp and Miss Evans whom I had met at the hotel in the afternoon and offered to escort them up on the street car to the evening meeting. Had a fine meeting.

Wednesday, April 24th, 1896

Rained some today and threatened to storm very hard. The meetings today were intensely interesting but I was so busy here and there that I missed much of it. Lizzie was excused from school to serve as messenger and May will be tomorrow We had a grand address in the evening from Mr. Robert Speer. We have four ladies at our home now. Mrs. Calhoun, Mrs. Robbins of Pa., Mrs. Hyndman of Cin., Mrs. Doolittle of Toledo.

Thursday, April 30th, 1896

Rained some today.

The meetings today were very interesting and well attended. We were to have had Mrs. Willard and daughter to dinner but Maggie Peebles wanted them and I agreed to let them go. We had Miss Fanny Evans to tea with us and then all went to the evening meeting at the Second church at the close we found it hard to break up. We have all enjoyed the meetings greatly and regret parting with our new friends.

Friday, May 1st, 1896

Beautiful day. After breakfast Mrs. Hyndman of Cin. left for home and then we took Mrs. Calhoun and Mrs. Doolittle for a drive before time for them to go to the 10.28 train. WE had a delightful drive and then went to the station where we found the waiting room full of departing delegates and visitors and their friends. All seem well pleased with the entire meeting. We enjoyed our guests exceedingly.

Saturday, May 2nd, 1896

Fine weather. We had our usual, regular work to do today and everything is in place again as though there had been nothing going on. I went to the train this morning with Jennie who went home on the 10.28. In the afternoon we were to have had a Com. meeting here but it was postponed. Have been busy all day, and was very tired in the evening.

Sunday, May 3rd, 1896

Ideal weather. We all went to Sabbath School as usual and then to church. In the evening Mother and I went to Sixth st. to hear Mr. Bierce talk upon the Y.M.C.A. This being the third Anniversary there were mass meetings at our church and the sixth st. M.E. church. The address of Mr. Bierce was very interesting. Mr. Will Varner died very suddenly today.

Monday, May 4th, 1896

Beautiful weather. The trees and grass are beautiful. Was up early and after the family had gone to their usual duties. I took Mother out in the carriage to do some errands. In the afternoon I went to the Woman's Aux. of the Y.M.C.A. where I had been elected Treas. and Oella Lawman Sec'y, this being the first time I have ever served as Treasurer. After that meeting I came home and met the Gen'l Com of Arrangements and closed up the affairs of the Missionary meeting. We had more than enough to pay all expenses. Wrote to Will.

Tuesday, May 5th, 1896

Pleasant though it looked a little threatening this morning. Sewed a little today. Was out in the carriage with Mother this morning. Miss Bessie and I attended the wedding at All Saints' church at 6 o'clock P.M. when Fannie Newman and Mr. E.H. Shaw were married. After tea J.W. and I went up to see Mr. and Mrs. Peebles and Mary who have just returned from their trip to Florida and the Bahama Islands. They look well.

Wednesday, May 6th, 1896

Beautiful day. Have been sewing some today. Was out with Mother a little while in the forenoon, no it was after her supper and before mine. I walked up to the P.O. in the morning and mailed a little book which I had promised to Ossian Ward. Sent it to Will. Went to prayer-meeting. Mr. and Mrs. Peebles and Mary were there and had quite a reception after their long absence.

Thursday, May 7th, 1896

Delightful weather cool in the morning, warm late in the day. Wrote to Will as usual. Sewed part of the day on Lizzie's underwear. Ruth began cleaning my room today and I put the back room in order for the new girl who came this evening to try the work. Her name is Gertrude Wilson and she is about eighteen.

Friday, May 8th, 1896

Beautiful weather. Ruth came and finished cleaning the room then left for the summer. Am fortunate in having some one to take her place at once.

Saturday, May 9th, 1896

Quite warm but very delightful, I think. Have been trying to initiate Gertrude into the ways of the house. Have been out in the carriage with Mother who is so much better now that she is able and anxious to go all the time.

Sunday, May 10th, 1896

Beautiful weather.

Uncle Sam Moore's 63rd birthday. We all went to S.S. and church as usual except that Miss Bessie was not feeling well and did not get up until nearly dinner time. Dr. Tappan preached upon the Scottish Reformation this evening.

Monday, May 11th, 1896

Fine day. Ruth came and took the washing home. Gertrude will do the ironing. Storm threatened in the afternoon but it passed by. I was out with Mother as I am nearly every day. Wrote to Will as usual. The time is rapidly passing and he will soon be home, I hope.

Tuesday, May 12th, 1896

Beautiful day. A little breezy and cold. Bessie took her botany class to Henley. Mother went to Otway, and was there to attend the W.C.T.U. meeting which was attended by several Ports. People. The Mis. Soc. met here in the afternoon and the Committee of Arrangements made the final report upon the business of the late great meeting. After all expenses were paid we had 2.70 to donate between the tree societies, our two and the one at the 2nd P.

Wednesday, May 13th, 1896

Weather delightful. The new girl does very well for one so young and is very agreeable. I managed to do a little sewing today, but not a great deal. Sister has had a busy day and evening. Went to the rehearsal at the O.H. after prayer-meeting and the Golden Rule Circle. Brought Miss Lowman home to stay the rest of the night which was pretty well gone by the time they were home. Aid Society reported all business finished and .28 cts in the Treasury.

Thursday, May 14th, 1896

Warm and pleasant. A very little cooler than it was a few days ago. Went to the W.C.T.U. meeting this afternoon. In the evening went to see the Scottish Reformation as given in an illustrated lecture by Mrs. Monroe under the auspices of the Woman's Aux. to Y.M.C.A. It was fine, I thought. Lena Kline being Mary Queen of Scots and Harry Ball was John Knox. Received a pleasant letter and fine photos from Ossian Ward. We are all greatly pleased. Wrote to Will.
C.D.G.

Friday, May 15th, 1896

Beautiful weather. Pretty warm in the middle of the day. The roses are in full bloom and as we drive along the streets we can smell the perfume. J.W. had a letter from Mr. Smith today with a letter of introduction to his friend. Mr. Fisher whom he says is coming here soon. We all went to the Opera House this evening to see the Scottish Reformation which is good.

Saturday, May 16th, 1896

Delightful day, cool breeze and somewhat cloudy. Was out with Mother a while in the morning and again in the afternoon. Took Macy a short ride after 3 o'clock. Father went to Ironton and returned this afternoon. Did some mending but was out too long to accomplish much work.

Lizzie and I went to Whittaker's after dark, then walked up to see how Mary Ellen is, she having been sick all day.

Sunday, May 17th, 1896

Beautiful day and delightful weather. Went to Sabbath School as usual, remained to Teachers' prayer meeting and morning service. Spent the most of the afternoon sleeping and then did not feel quite satisfied. Went to church again in the evening.

Monday, May 18th, 1896

Rained quite hard. Ruth came after the clothes and washed them today. It rained very hard after dinner, just before I went to W.R.C. meeting and we had to hurry home to escape a second threatening storm. In the evening four of our ladies went to the Post meeting to consult about the arrangements for Decoration Day.¹⁸

Wrote to Will, also to MR. Smith who had sent me the negative of a corner of our sitting room.

Tuesday, May 19th, 1896

Weather fine. Rained in the night. I do not accomplish much at anything because I have so many different things to do. Wrote to Mrs. Ward and Ossian today, acknowledged the receipt of the picture he sent me last week.

Have been sewing a little. Lizzie and I went to Mrs. Edwards' recital and heard some very good music. It was May's first attempt in public and she did nicely.

Wednesday, May 20th, 1896

Pleasant. Cloudy but no rain. Sewed some on some white work. Margaret bought the material for Lizzie's graduating dress, plain white Li// de Iude/, very much like her own, though this is finer.

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

Went out to the trains at two o'clock to take Lizzie P., Mother and Lizzie went also. It sprinkled a little as we drove out and back. Went to prayer-meeting in the evening. Carl had a letter from Will, he had his little finger hurt playing ball.

Thursday, May 21st, 1896

Delightful, cool and pleasant. Went out with Mother and Lizzie in the carriage this morning. L. has had her last examination and her High School work is ended but she hasn't her grade yet. Went to the W.C.T.U. this afternoon, Mrs. Hadley came home with me and got one of the letter tracts which I read at the meeting this afternoon. Wrote to Will as usual. Did some sewing.

Friday, May 22nd, 1896¹⁹

Saturday, May 23rd, 1896

Rained some. Was busy sweeping, dusting and mending, Margaret made bread and baked cake this forenoon. She is trying to finish a piece of embroidery which Mother wanted her to make by June 18th. Lizzie Peebles' birthday.

Sunday, May 24th, 1896

Rained last night, was fine today. Our church is 79 years old today and Dr. Tappan recognized the fact in his sermon. "They shall prosper that love thee" being his text. Queen Victoria still lives to celebrate her 77th birthday and Oella Tappan Lawman is _____ today.²⁰ We attended the usual S. S. and church services. Memorial exercises were held at Bigelow M.E. Ch. Rev. Mr. Dick preached a fine sermon. Twenty one or two members of the Relief Corps were present.

¹⁹ No entry.

²⁰ Louisiana left a blank space here, apparently intending to write Oella's age in later.

Monday, May 25th, 1896

Cloudy and quite cool in the morning but very warm later in the day. Wrote to Will and sent pictures of the sitting room to him and Ossian Ward, made from the negative M. Smith made the day he left. Made a gingham apron for myself.²¹ Took Lizzie out to the train, Mother and Lizzie Ricker went with us. Did a few errands and then came home. Rained this forenoon.

Tuesday, May 26th, 1896

Delightful weather. The Foreign Mis. Society met here today as usual, only Mrs. Peebles, Mary, Dell Ramsey, Mrs. Tappan and myself being present. It was Mrs. Tappan's day, and we had an interesting meeting even though there were few of us.

Wednesday, May 27th, 1896

Weather cool and peasant. Rain came often enough to keep the dust well settled and makes the driving delightful.

Went to prayer-meeting this evening as usual. Letter from Will this morning says he is almost through his work.

Thursday, May 28th, 1896

Pleasant after the rain. The thunderstorm last night was unusually severe but no damage was done here. The news papers brought news of a terrible cyclone in St. Louis last evening in which several hundred people were killed and millions and millions of dollars worth of property destroyed. The worst storm ever known in this century. Carl wrote to Will Ricker at Kirkwood. We have seen no mention of damage done at K.

Friday, May 29th, 1896

Weather cool and pleasant. Lizzie is at home most of the time now, being practically through with her work. I have been driving nearly all day. Took Mother this morning and then again right after dinner. Then I took Macy, Mary Y. Moore and Lizzie down in the country after daisies. We all had a pleasant time. ~~Head from Will Ricker that none of the family were hurt.~~

²¹ Gingham: lightweight plain-woven cotton cloth, typically checked in white and a bold color.

Saturday, May 30th, 1896

A most beautiful day for Decoration. Was busy at Brushart's new building on Chil. St. most of the morning and after dinner took Miss Bell to the Park to arrange the school children for the procession. Took Miss Bessie Hall and Jas W. to assist and the procession was unusually good. The boys and girls were quite an addition to it. We had a larger number of the Corps at the Cemetery also, about twenty-five. No rain and nothing to mar the day.

Letter from Will L. Ricker to Carl said none of the family were hurt in the storm.

Sunday, May 31st, 1896

Cool and cloudy with rain in the evening. We all went to S.S. and the usual church services. Dr. Dennis is away and J.W. swerved as superintendent. The school was small. Congregation small in the evening.

Monday, June 1st, 1896

Cool and rather cloudy. Delightful for work or anything.

Father went to Cin. and Mother to Henley today. I have done little but drive about. Took Mother and Mrs. Taylor's Mother, Mrs. Campbell out this morning. After dinner I went to the W.A.Y.M.C.A. meeting in the capacity of Treasurer. Began Lizzie's graduating dress when I came home. wrote to Will and a note to sister Jennie. Gave Bessie a fan for her birthday present.

Tuesday, June 2nd, 1896

Delightful day. Gertrude Wilson went home before noon, her mother being sick, sent for her so I got dinner with Lizzie to help. After the work was done I took up the sewing again and got the yoke of Lizzie's graduating dress put together ready for cutting out. It is made of inserting, lace and se/ embroidery. Sister bought the materials and I am to make it.

The news of the St. Louis storm is still the topic of the day. The loss of life will reach up into the hundreds. The girls went to the C.E. business meeting at Dr. Tappan's.

Wednesday, June 3rd, 1896

A stormy day, the hardest rain and loudest thunder and sharpest lightening of the season. J.W. and Lizzie went to Alex Ricker's to dinner and brought Andy home from Mr. Dree's as they returned. It stormed so in the after noon that I kept Mary at home from school. She had an exam this morning. Went to prayer meeting as usual. Will's letter came this morning.

Thursday, June 4th, 1896

Warm. Have been sewing on Lizzie's dress today getting the waist ready for Mrs. Lehman to fit.²² Mrs. Duduit was here early this morning to give me some money for the W.A.Y.M.C.A. to make a payment on the piano bought of Mr. Ellison. Later in the day Mrs. Potter called on W.R.C. business. In the afternoon we were quite surprised to see Enos come walking in. Mother will miss seeing him as she is still at Henley. Wrote to Will this forenoon. Was very tired and went to bed at eight o'clock.

Friday, June 5th, 1896

Beautiful but warm. Heavy clouds indicated rain in the vicinity. Have been busy with the kitchen work, and sewing on Lizzie's dress between times. She sent away a few of her Commencement cards today. Enos left on the morning train for Cin. We were surprised this morning about day light to find the horse which we have been driving for a month past and had taken back to Mr. Prescott last night had escaped from the stables and was back here trying to get into the stable.

Saturday, June 6th, 1896

Busy day with the usual work. I managed to sew a little on L's dress.

Sunday, June 7th, 1896

Rained hard this after noon. All went to Sabbath school and the usual services. In the evening there was special music and the house was well filled as it always is on such occasions.

Gertrude came this afternoon but I told her we would not want any one.

²² Waist was a common term in the United States for the bodice of a dress or a blouse or woman's shirt from the early 19th century until around 1910.

Monday, June 8th, 1896

Rained some today. The Com. are planning to hold the P.H.S.A. Reunion at Camp McCulloch and the weather is rather against it, unless it changes. Had a busy day, was very tired and went to bed about 8 o'clock. Will's box came this morning, also a letter from Ithaca which looks as though he might be on the way himself, so I only sent him a postal-card. Called on Mrs. Campbell and then went to see Uncle Sam who is sick at home.

Tuesday, June 9th, 1896

Damp and showery. Was busy all day with the work and putting all the spare moments on Lizzie's dress. After supper Carl drove Andy for us, taking Mother and me for a short ride, stopping to say good-be to Mr. Gibson and his daughters who leave tomorrow for Schenectady to live. I stopped at Mr. Knowles to attend the S. S. Teachers' meeting and Sister came later. Had report from State Convention, other business and finished with cake and ices.

Mr. Smith came today.

Wednesday, June 10th, 1896

Beautiful day. Jas. I had the honor and great pleasure of attending the anniversary tea party celebrating the 61st anniversary of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Peebles. Only about sixteen aside from the family were present. Father, Mother and Mary were among the number. It being prayer-meeting evening, we came home before church and found Lizzie with a bad sick headache so after prayer-meeting we went to the High School to take her excuse for not being present at rehearsal. Upon our return we found Will at home, he came before his school closed, his work being done.

Thursday, June 11th, 1896

Very warm all day. Had all we could do to get ready for Commencement which was held at the High School in the evening. A class of eleven graduated, Lizzie being one of the seven girls. The exercises were quite creditable throughout. Essays were very good also the music. I rode up after Margaret and Lizzie had gone, then Miss Bessie, Will and I walked home when it was over. May, Bessie Martin and Julia Taylor went together.

Izzie was kindly remembered by several friends. Carl gave her his class ring, Miss Bessie her fan, Sister her dress, gloves and shoes, Miss Alice Connors sent her a bouquet, Mrs. Smith gave her beautiful roses and a handsome silver spoon, Mrs. Taylor brought her a cake instead of flowers. Jennie sent her a blue silk sash. Birdie Spry sent her a white belt.

Friday, June 12th, 1896

Fair in the forenoon, shower before night. Was busy until time to hurry to the train. J.W., Margaret, Will, Lizzie and I attended the P.H.S.A. Reunion at Camp McCulloch in the afternoon and had a most delightful day. It was thirty years this month since I graduated from the P.H.S. and this year Will graduates from Cornell and Lizzie from the P.H.S. May stayed at home and prepared supper for Carl, Mr. Smith and Mrs. Bessie. We found Carl with Andy at the station upon our return and were glad to ride down as it was sprinkling.

Saturday, June 13th, 1896

Hot in the middle of the day with a cold rain in the evening. All very busy. Bessie Martin and Mr. S. left on the early train for Henley. Elizabeth and Margaret from Peebles came down to go with Bessie but F. only went to the station with J.W. and he then took her to Mrs. J.G. P.'s. Bessie Hall then left on the 10.28 train for Cleveland and Monday will go on to Brooklyn. At noon just our own family of seven were alone together, not often it is the case. This evening the house is somewhat straight and quiet. Mrs. Silcox was here.

Sunday, June 14th, 1896

Beautiful morning, this being Childrens' Day the two morning services were combined, Sabbath school assembled at 9.30 and went up stairs at 10 o'clock when the exercise began and lasted until 11.30. The usual service was held in the evening. Will was with us a week sooner than we had expected to have him.

Monday, June 15th, 1896

Rained some. This is Carl's birthday. Jennie Ricker sent him several neckties and a nice collar button. His Aunt Macy gave him 20.00, I gave him a small book. We should all like to do something nice for him.

I was at the W.R.C. meeting in the afternoon then went to Miss Emma's to make out reports and then to see Maggie Peebles and say good-bye as she goes to Unadilla, N.Y. tomorrow.

Tuesday, June 16th, 1896

Rained very hard for a few minutes in the northern part of the town. Up the Chillicothe pike there was a bad was out. The alumni officers and Committee met here this evening to attend to a little business. I was made President of the Association for this year. Mrs. Silcox is on the Ex. Com. and came early to talk matters over a little. Elizabeth and Margaret Peebles came in this evening.

Wednesday, June 17th, 1896

Rained again this after noon. Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Campbell, Sister and I went to take a drive and were caught in a hard rain.

Will went to work at the shop this morning but does not know just what he is going to do. Went ot prayer-meeting as usual.

Mr. Smith, Elizabeth and Margaret Peebles left on the 10.28 train for Zanesville.

Thursday, June 18th, 1896

Rained again this afternoon, a hard dashing rain. The regular work took most of the day. I got in a little sewing. Will took Sister and May out in Mary Cotton's boat again this evening. They were out last night that is Will and Sister were. J.W. took Mother, Lizzie and me for a drive after supper.

Gov. Wm McKinley of Ohio was nominated for the Presidency this evening at the Republican Convention in session at St. Louis, Mo. Great enthusiasm over it in Ohio.

Friday, June 19th, 1896

Warm. Julia Tappan was here this morning to talk about Lizzie's music, she advises us to have Lizzie take lessons of some one who has a class, she wants to prepare herself to go as a missionary and does not care to have a class. Ralph Moore came home from Cornell this afternoon.

Saturday, June 20th, 1896

Very, very warm, and in all had a busy day. Julia Tappan was here, no, it was Mattie Ward who came after tea and stayed until nearly nine o'clock. We walked up to Mr. Peebles' with her and then went to the grocery. Ella Robb as here to play croquet with the girls she has just come to visit her Aunt Mrs. Barr. Took Uncle Sam and Mother out for a ride this forenoon. He looks very badly. Had a letter from Mrs. Bond of Toledo saying she is coming to see us. I shall be glad to have her do so.

Monday, June 21st, 1896

Very hot. All went to S.S. as usual and all were at church excepting Margaret who came home and got dinner. I was not at all well and did not go to church in the evening, have not missed a sermon before since sometime in Jan. or Feb.

Lorenzo Dow McKinney, an old man of Scioto C. had his funeral preached today at Fallen Timber, about 4000 people being present hundreds of whom shook hands with the old man after the sermon. He is eighty years and four days old, and may live for years yet as he is well and active.²³

Monday, June 22nd, 1896

Very warm. Clouds and a very slight sprinkle. Did a little sewing, made some alterations in some thin waists,

Went to see Miss Gharky about giving Lizzie music lessons for a while to see what she can do when she gives it her attention.

L. has the headache this evening and went to bed before supper.

Tuesday, June 23rd, 1896

Lizzie took her first music lesson of Miss Gharky this morning at 8.30 o'clock and will see what she can do this summer in the way of music.

Wednesday, June 24th, 1896

Weather pleasant.

Have been helping with the girls' dresses while they have been doing the other work. Went to prayer-meeting in the evening.

Went with Mother to make a call at Mrs. Peebles', I think today.

Thursday, June 25th, 1896

Weather pleasant for the season.

Nothing of special interest today.

I wrote to Mrs. Bond this week telling her how glad we should be to have her come to visit us, no I am trying to finish up some sewing before I put the house in order.

Friday, June 26th, 1896

Rained a little. Lizzie took her music class over at Miss Gharky's.

I sewed a part of the day but had considerable sweeping and dusting to do. Worked in the boys room and late in the afternoon was out a little while.

Saturday, June 27th, 1896

A warm busy day. Sister began by getting breakfast and then going to market. All kinds of vegetables and berries are plenty and cheap and the early cling peaches are also abundant and cheap.²⁴ Was out with Mother this afternoon, awhile.

Sunday, June 28th, 1896

Pleasant. All went to S.S. and church as usual. Except that Sister came home to get dinner. It is again the anniversary of our sailing day.

Was over home awhile late in the afternoon. The annual meeting of the Bible Society was held at our church today.

Monday, June 29th, 1896

Beautiful weather. Was busy sewing most of the time until 3 o'clock when I took Mother out driving and as she wanted to take Mrs. Currie we called for her and went over much the same ground again. Did not get home until about supper time. Had a letter from Mrs. Bond written yesterday.

²⁴ Cling (or clingstone) peaches, so named because the flesh clings to the pit, are usually the first peaches ready for harvest and are popular for canning.

Tuesday, June 30th, 1896

Foggy and cool in the morning hot in the sun. Locusts are heard and the old saying is that we shall have frost in six weeks after they come. Sister has been in bed ever since she got breakfast ready. I have not sewed much, but did what I could. The Foreign Mis. Soc. met here this afternoon. Mrs. Peebles, Tappan, Dennis, Van Time, Johnson, Mary Peebles, Venetia Ramsey and I being present. After supper I drove for Mother, Mrs. Taylor and her mother, Mrs. Campbell. The two younger girls went later with Carl. Had the front yard sodded.

Wednesday, July 1st, 1896

Weather pleasant. Have been sewing most of the day while the girls looked after the other work. Went to prayer-meeting in the evening as usual. Nothing unusual occurred to mark the day.

Thursday, July 2nd, 1896

Warm. Have been sewing all day. Want to finish several things before Mrs. Bond comes. Have two calico dresses on hand for Sister.²⁵ She needs them for every day.

Friday, July 3rd, 1896

Weather indicates rain. Have been busy sewing on Sister's light blue calico dress which will be ready for her to wear in the morning. Sister was busy cooking and getting things ready for tomorrow and Sunday so we will not have much to do on those days. A great time is anticipated for tomorrow. Elizabeth and Margaret Peebles returned from Zanesville this afternoon and will stay all night at Mr. Peebles.

²⁵ Calico is a plain-woven textile made from unbleached and often not fully processed cotton. It may contain unseparated husk parts, for example. The fabric is far less fine than muslin, but less coarse and thick than canvas or denim, but it is still very cheap owing to its unfinished and undyed appearance.

Saturday, July 4th, 1896

Rained this afternoon. A hard shower caught us with many others out as we were coming home from the Fair Grounds. Went to see the parade in the morning. Came home and had dinner then all went to the Fair Grounds. J.W. took Lizzie, May, Elizabeth, Margaret Peebles with Andy. I drove Fannie Prescott and had Mother, Mary and Enos who came just as we were ready to start. IN the evening we all went to the river to see the fire works which were very good but not equal to those we had a few years ago.

Sunday, July 5th, 1896

Weather pleasant for the season. All went to S.S. and church as usual. Spent the day as I generally do. Was over home a little while in the afternoon. Enos is still here.

Monday, July 6th, 1896

Warm. Have been busy all day, finished off some sewing I have had on hands, dresses for the girls. Just before supper I went to see the Stamm girls about helping us clean house, then went and got some silver soap and lastly to Dr. Titus to get a prescription for eczema which I want to try. Was late to supper but did all I sent out to do. Sent Mrs. Bond a postal so she knew we were still expecting her.

Tuesday, July 7th, 1896

Weather pleasant for the season. I have been busy in the back rooms most of the day and was very very tired when evening came. Was intending to go to Mrs. Barr's to the Home Missionary Social this evening but was too tired. Did not even feel able to take a ride after supper. Lizzie and May went as Ella Robb had urged them to do so. Lizzie took her music lesson.

Wednesday, July 8th, 1896

Delightfully cool pleasant day. The Stamm girls came early and began sweeping and dusting. Ruth was busy with the curtains and we all were busy putting the house in order. The two girls Kate and Minnie left about 2 o'clock and we finished all we had planned before tea. Went to prayer-meeting in the evening. Rained some. It will be pleasant for Mrs. Bond's trip.

Thursday, July 9th, 1896

Delightfully cool and peasant. Some one must have had a hail storm near here. Was busy all day until time to dress and go to the train to meet my good friend. Mrs. Bond of Toledo. It has been eight years since I visited her and I am delighted to have her visit our home when we are all at home. Carrie, Irene and Norma Hadley were here when we returned from the station. About 8.30 P.M. called to see Mrs. Campbell and Miss Cook.

Friday, July 10th, 1896

Delightful day. This morning I took Mother to do an errand and then called form Mrs. Campbell and Miss Cook and with Mrs. Bond took quite a drive about town. Went out to the Cemetery. I called to see Mrs. Foster, Mrs. Kline, Mrs. Snodgrass and Mrs. Dudit on Y.M.C.A. business. Barton Greene Jr. came this afternoon having driven from Zanesville. He has come to begin his business career at the Brick Works.

Saturday, July 11th, 1896

Weather warm. We were out driving this morning and missed a call from Mrs. Evans who spent one night at Mrs. Bond's home in Toledo, with me eight years ago. In the afternoon Mrs. B rested and wrote, the rest of us went to preparatory lecture at 3 o'clock after which I came home and had calls from Mrs. Dennis and Mrs. Lewis. Oella was here today but not making calls. Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Campbell, Miss Cook called after supper but Mrs. B. and I had gone to the river and missed seeing them.

Sunday, July 12th, 1896

Warm. All went to S.S. as usual. I came home to go to church with Mrs. Bond. It was communion day and we were all present at the service, our entire family and Mrs. Bond. Barton Greene Jr. united with the church by letter, as did also a Mrs. Moore. Ralph Knowles united upon profession. Went with Mrs. Bond to the Catholic service in the afternoon to see the church and in the evening we went to All Saints.

Monday, July 13th, 1896

Very warm. Dr. Cotton says the hottest day of the season thus far. Anniversary of the day the Army came to Yazoo City, Miss in 1863 when we decided to come north to Ohio. Were out driving this A.M. and after doing our errands, Mrs. Bond and I were shown through the Star Shoe Factory by Arthur Titus. After supper J.W., Mrs. Bond and I went across the river on the ferry boat. Mrs. Lloyd, Mrs. Iams, Mrs. Gharky, Uncle Enos and his wife and Barton green called also Mrs. Tappan. Oella, Lucy, Helen, Margaret Tappan were here. Barton and little Dwight came this afternoon to the other house.

Tuesday, July 14th, 1896

Very, very warm. Rain late in the day. Heavy rain after supper. Changed our plans form boat ride, to drive, then had to change again and just managed to make calls at Mrs. Taylor's upon her guests Mrs. Campbell and Miss Cook, and at Mother's before tea. Were out this morning and went to Dr. Marshall where Mother went to have her glasses fixed, and Mrs. Bond had her eyes examined and ordered glasses. We then returned the calls of Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Dennis. This is the French 4th of July.

Wednesday, July 15th, 1896

Cloudy in the morning and heavy rain in the afternoon and evening. Lizzie left on the B&O train this morning for a visit to Olive and Winifred. McGugin at Olive Furnace. Went down street to do some errands with Mrs. Bond and drove most of the morning. I went to prayer-meeting in the evening, in fact we all did excepting Mrs. B. who went to bed.

July 15th, 1896²⁶

Elizabeth went to visit Olive and Winifred McGugin at Olive Furnace. Came home July 18th. Told of tombstone, with Youth's Companion inscription.

²⁶ Written on an envelope and enclosed in the diary.

Thursday, July 16th, 1896

A fine day for the trip to Henley. Mother and Mary decided not to go after all so Mrs. Bond, Jas. and I, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Campbell, Miss Cook, Dr. and Mrs. Dennis, Margaret and May made up the part that went on the afternoon train and had a delightful visit. May Ricker remained for a few days' visit. It rained after we came home.

Friday, July 17th, 1896

Beautiful day, the showers only made it pleasant. Mrs. Bond and I returned several calls this morning, Mrs. Tappan and Mrs. Lloyd, Mary Peebles, Mrs. Iams and Mrs. Gharky, Macy Damarin, Mrs. Scudder and May E. Moore being on the list. Mary Peebles and Dell Ramsey called in the afternoon. Mrs. Taylor entertained Mrs. Bond and I, Mother, Mary, Mrs. Dennis, Miss Cook and Mrs. Campbell at dinner this evening.

Saturday, July 18th, 1896

Pleasant. Mrs. Bond was up early and ready to go with Mary Peebles and Dell Ramsey to visit the jail. At 10 o'clock she was ready to go to the station and soon after Macy, Margaret and I went with her to the depot. Miss Cook was leaving also for her home in Columbus and Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Campbell had gone out with her. We brought them home. Upon our return we found Elizabeth Puntunney had arrived to visit Mother. She is near our Lizzie's age and they will visit together. L. returned from Olive Furnace tonight. Barton Greene and William Peebles came here to board.

Sunday, July 19th, 1896

Beautiful day but very war.

Went to Sabbath School and the usual church services. Had a good class, Lizzie, Lucy Moore, Carrie Hadley, Alice and Jennie Myers, Mabel Poffenberger and Ella Robb being present.

Elizabeth Puntunney went to C.E. meeting with Lizzie.

An attempt was made last night to blow up the 2nd Pres. church. Powder exploded but dynamite failed. Broke 12 or 13 stained glass windows.²⁷

Monday, July 20th, 1896

Rained nearly all day but did not begin until after Macy and Margaret with Lizzie and Elizabeth Puntteney got started to Henley. They drove out, leaving here about six o'clock and the two younger girls will remain at Henley a day or two. May is there also. Went to Relief Corps meeting this afternoon few in attendance as it was so very rainy.

Tuesday, July 21st, 1896

Rained. River high and rising. A great deal of water ell last night and today. It was well Margaret came home last evening as the roads must be very bad. Carrie Hadley came in the afternoon and upon invitation remained to supper. She helped me prepare the peaches. Miss Bell was here on an errand. Lizzie missed her music lesson.

Wednesday, July 22nd, 1896

Rained again today. The three girls, Lizzie and May, and Elizabeth Puntteney came back from Henley this afternoon.

I took Mrs. Waller out for a drive this afternoon no one else cared to go. Went to prayer-meeting in the evening and heard Julia Tappan, Kate Cornius and Winnifred Smith report about the Christian Endeavor Com. at Washington, D.C. The reports were very interesting. Was down to Mrs. Titus' at noon. May missed her music lesson.

²⁷ The Portsmouth Daily Times reported on the incident on July 20, 1896 which was the fourth attempt in three weeks to blow up a building within the city. "The explosion a few minutes before midnight was heard all over the city.... It did not take long to find out the cause of the explosion. A shattered powder can and several unexploded sticks of dynamite were picked up in front of the entrance to the Sunday school room.... Had the powder been properly placed and confined in this niche, the force would have been sufficient to blow a hole in the foundation and wreck the walls. The loose powder exploding above ground produced a powerful concussion breaking the glass in fourteen windows opening in the enclosed court-way and cracking the heavy cathedral glass in two windows on the east side of the building. The cornice of the door was moved out of place an inch or two, and a small area of plastering knocked off inside the vestibule. The damage to the building will not exceed \$250." The police believed the keg of powder used in the explosion had been stolen from the powder house of Richard, Nendorfer & Silcox on the Chillicothe Pike. On July 28, 1896, the Portsmouth Daily Times reported the arrest of Tom McKee as the perpetrator of the act.

Thursday, July 23rd, 1896

Rained again. Was busy as usual. Was out awhile with Mother no she did not go so I ~~took Mrs. Waller~~ awhile in the afternoon, between showers.

Answered Mrs. Bond's letter. I was mixed on the above. I did take Mother and Elizabeth Puntenney out this afternoon, then the girl went to call upon Lucy and Edith.

Friday, July 24th, 1896

Rained again. Atmosphere close and heavy.²⁸ Swept the sitting room and then put May's pink lawn waist and skirt together again.

Rained hard late in the afternoon. Elizabeth Puntenney stayed all night with the girls but went back over home after breakfast. She left for Rome on the Bonanza this evening. Jas. and the two younger girls, William and, later John Peebles went to see her off. Rick was here today noon. Lizzie took her lessons.

Saturday, July 25th, 1896

No rain, the first day this week that it hasn't rained. The river is very high and muddy and there are floods all over the country. Was at home all day and busy.

Barton Jr. came down this evening, from the Brick Works to remain over Sabbath. I swept and dusted upstairs this forenoon.

Mary took her violin lesson.

Sunday, July 26th, 1896

Bright and very warm. Were up in time to reach S. School early. Attended the usual services. River high and still rising about an inch an hour.

Will finally decided this evening that he would go to Cleveland in the morning. It was extremely hot all day, and the prospect for a night's sleep was not very good.

Monday, July 27th, 1896

Water 39 ft and some inches.

²⁸ Close weather: warm and humid or stuffy.

Fair and hot. No breeze stirring in our locality. We were up early and gave Will his breakfast in time for the 5.50 A.M. N&W train. We are sorry to see him go but think it may be for the best. Had a telegraph about 4 o'clock saying he expects to go to work in the morning for The Brown Hoist, Co. of Cleveland.²⁹ He feels obliged to do the best he can to pay off his school debts.

Had a letter from Bessie H.

Dr. W.G. Thompson of Miami University called to see us this evening.

Tuesday, July 28th, 1896

Hot, a hard shower about noon and heavy clouds with lightning this evening. sewed a little today but not much as the Foreign Mis. Soc. met here in the afternoon. Few present but good meeting. Mrs. Peebles and Mary, Dell Ramsey, Mrs. Young, Miss Sarah Comins, and Mrs. Hadley who had charge of the topic were the only ones present. Margaret came in and told us about the Student Volunteer meeting at the 2nd. Ch. River 39 ft 9 in and standing.

Wednesday, July 29th, 1896

Very hot and before night a storm seemed imminent. I sewed nearly all day on May's summer night dresses. Got the second one ready for the fastenings.

Went to take little ride before church, Carl driving. The girls started after church but a very hard wind storm drove them home and a hard rain soon fell.

Lizzie had a new silk waist, a silver watch chain and a set of silver buttons for waists.

Thursday, July 30th, 1896

Still very hot. River falling corn fields coming into view again as the water goes down. sewed on Margaret's black skirt all forenoon then began a night dress for Lizzie. Went to the temperance meeting and afterwards called at Mary Ellen's a few minutes.

Wrote to Will. Had two postals from him this morning.

Another hard wind storm about 5 o'clock.

²⁹ According to the July 16, 1896 edition of the Portsmouth Daily Times, The Brown Hoist works began recruiting non-union forces in Canada and Cincinnati, leading to a clash between union and non-union men. On July 15, two companies of the Ohio National Guard to keep the peace and stand by should a riot break out.

Friday, July 31st, 1896

Very warm. The papers continue to give accounts of serious times at the Brown Hoist Works where Will went. Four or five companies of militia and scores of extra police are needed to preserve order. The trouble being that the union do not want non-union men employed.

Saturday, Aug 1st, 1896

Very hot weather and the high water will probably cause considerable sickness this fall. Too busy to write much.

Sunday, Aug 2nd, 1896

Very warm. All went to Sabbath School and the usual church services.

Monday, Aug 3rd, 1896

Warm. Jas. And Enos went to Zanesville on the 10.28 train, the latter to do a little work at Z. and the former going to see Mr. Smith at Adams' Mills. Have had a busy day sewing. Margaret has sent Clara word that she will go to Kirkwood Thursday of this week and there are several things to be done before that time.

Tuesday, Aug 4th, 1896

Weather very warm and river high. Oella Lauman came to make Sister a little visit before she goes as Oella may not be here when Margaret returns. Mr. Lauman left today for Springfield. Has closed his engagement with the Y.M.C.A. here. After tea Oella and I went to the Home Missionary social at Mrs. Knowles' and Sister called for us about 9 o'clock. Oella came home with us and stayed all night. We greatly regret that she is going away. Had letter from Will.

Wednesday, Aug 5th, 1896

Very warm. We were all busy all forenoon and some after dinner Sister took the two girls and Oella Lauman to a little picnic gotten up to celebrate Lucy Moore's birthday. Lucy, Edith, and Willi and Ruth Thompson went. They drove up nearly to Dixon's Mills. I was busy all the afternoon. Went to prayer meeting in the evening. Sister was going but heard that Mary Cotton had been thrown from her buggy and was hurt so she stopped there. Jas returned on the evening train.

Thursday, Aug 6th, 1896

Hot. We were up a little after 3 o'clock in order to be ready when the hack called for Sister who went via O.C.R.R. to Cin, then to Kirkwood. It is her birthday and she has spent a good many of them there but had not expected to do so this year. Carl went over the river with her and then took a nap after he came back. Went to W.C.T.U. meeting in the afternoon. Rode in the evening. Went to see Maggie Silcox this evening.

Friday, Aug 7th, 1896

Pleasant though very warm. Was busy as usual all day. The girls were just ready to make their party call as Mrs. Whitney's when Glenny with Pearl Blanche Jones came to invite them to picnic tomorrow. I stopped on my way to S.S. Teachers meeting to consult Mrs. W. about the lunch, and saw Mrs. Beckwith, Felicia Charlesworth of old time. There were not enough teachers and officers to have a meeting so those of us who were there discussed the American question awhile then dispersed.

Saturday, Aug 8th, 1896

Very hot. It was cloudy when we got up and before breakfast began to rain and kept at it all forenoon. The fire alarm aroused us a little after 3 A.M. the old saw-mill up on the river burned to the ground.³⁰ Lizzie and John Peebles stayed here all night. Williams was already here and Bartie came in so we had a full house. Lizzie and Mary expected to go to a picnic with Glenny Whitney and his guests, Pearl and Daisy Jones but the rain spoiled their plans.

³⁰ On August 8, 1896, the Portsmouth Daily Times reported that Jackson Cropper's Saw Mill burned, resulting in \$7000 in damages. The mill had been built by Carter, French & Co. and Chris Mussetter in 1880.

Sunday, Aug 9th, 1896

Very hot. The time for church and S.S. was changed to standard today. The experiment has been tried before and then abandoned.

Miss Jessie Myers took Sister's S.S. class today. Lizzie is substituting for Grace Cross. I only had four girls in my class. Dr. Elliott of Kingston, Dr. T's brother-in-law preached both morning and evening for us. Attended all the usual services. No one remained at home to get dinner.

Monday, Aug 10th, 1896

A very hot day, thermometer nearly 100° all day. I was up at 5 o'clock and kept going all day. Made thirty five glasses of jelly, grape and apple. Had two letters from sister and wrote to her sending one from Bessie Hall which came today.

Wrote to Will who told me to send his letters to Russel Tewksbury's 59 Hilborn St. Cleveland. Lizzie took her music lesson.

Tuesday, Aug 11th, 1896

Extremely hot. Many deaths from the heat in some places. Father's and Mother's forty-ninth anniversary passed quietly. Enos is at home and Lizzie Peebles came in the afternoon and stayed all night with us. She is not well. after tea Jas and I went to do some errands with her, and calling for Wm at his Grandfathers took him a little drive. While I was out, Gussie Haldeman, her daughter-in-law and baby called to see me, also Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Irvine. No word from Will but another letter from Sister.

Wednesday, Aug 12th, 1896

Still very warm. Such a long and extremely hot term is unusual. Many deaths from sunstroke are reported. Had a letter from Sister but none from Will. Arose early this morning, got breakfast, made up the bread, made their beds, swept sitting room and had cooked one and one half gals red plums and prepared juice for jelly. Put up 14 quarts blue plus which Lizzie had cooked over. Dressed and went to W.C.T.U. meeting then went to call upon Fannie Shaw who was not at home and Gussie Haldeman and her daughter.

Thursday, Aug 13th, 1896

Got my days and dates mixed up and the day's doing recorded above should have been written here instead. The first few lines apply just as well to Wednesday. We went to church as usual.

Friday, Aug 14th, 1896

Warm and bright. Was busy all day as usual. In the evening Oella, Julia and Lucy Tappan, Minnie and Georgia Elliot came down in the carriage for a short call. The cousins just came today. They asked Lizzie to go to the Golden Rule Mission Club at Sallie Coates' and she went.

Saturday, Aug 15th, 1896

Very hot. The big G.A.R. meeting at Harrisonville took a great many people out for the day.³¹ Jas. and May talked of going but he gave it up. I was busy all day and went after supper to see Mrs. Silcox who is sick. The girls and their father drove awhile and then called for me. Will and Clara Pursell were there when I went and Mrs. Tauzin Pursell and her daughter when I left. We drove awhile after leaving there. Lizzy and May went up to call upon the Elliott girls at Dr. Tappan's.

Sunday, Aug 16th, 1896

All went to Sabbath school as usual. I had a visitor in my class, Oella's cousin Miss Minnie Elliott.

Jesse Hanvey, a relative of the Whitney family, known as the boy soprano singer sang at our church today also, Miss Charles who is visiting Prof Frost. She is a sweet singer. Church was full at night, many being in the gallery.

³¹ Grand Army of the Republic was a fraternal organization composed of veterans who served in the American Civil War for the United States forces. G.A.R. became among the first organized advocacy groups in America, helping to make Memorial Day a national holiday, lobbying the United States Congress to establish regular veterans' pensions, and supporting Republican political candidates.

Monday, Aug 17th, 1896

Warm. Was busy at home all forenoon and went to Relief Corps meeting in the evening or rather afternoon. in the evening I wrote up the minutes and finished the afternoon's work. Wrote to Will and Margaret. Lizzie and May were invited to spend the evening at Dr. Tappan's with the Elliott girls and they had a pleasant time. The young folks will be here tomorrow. Lizzie P. goes to Ashland tomorrow. Mother goes to Henley to keep house for her. Went up to Mrs. Duduit's to see Miss La Croix who is visiting there.

Tuesday, Aug 18th, 1896

We had a busy day and a pleasant evening. Mary baked us two cakes and I made peach ice cream. the guests for the evening were Oella Lauman, Julia, Paul, David Tappan, Minnie and Georgia Elliot, their cousins. Winifred Smith, Lucy, Edith and Ralph Moore, Carrie Florence and Irene Hadley and their cousin Carrol Clark. Jesse Hanvey and Glenny Whitney did not get here. Our own three and Barton, Greene, John and Wm Peebles completed the number. John brought a Gramophone or talking machine which was greatly enjoyed.

Wednesday, Aug 19th, 1896

Beautiful morning. I was not through with the dishes this morning when Jesse Hanvey called to explain why he was not here last evening. a misunderstanding as to the place, or name rather caused him to miss a pleasant event. I invited him to come tomorrow evening to tea and we would try to make it up to him. He invited the two girls and Miss La Croix to take a drive with him so they went. In the evening we all went to church. Spent most of the afternoon over home showing Miss La Croix the library. Uncle Sam called after tea.

Thursday, Aug 20th, 1896

Pleasant day. I had invited Jesse Hanvey the boy soprano singer of Chicago to take tea here this evening and the tea party grew until we had six guests at supper instead of one. Carrie, and Irene, and Carroll Clara, Lucy and Edith were here and after tea spent the evening. They had a lively time.

Miss La Croix left this morning after a pleasant little visit. Miss Cadot called for her. Alex and Mary Ricker came to bring some tomatoes.

Friday, Aug 21st, 1896

Rained again. Was busy with two bushels of tomatoes when Mrs. Helfenstein came to invite Jas. and myself, Father and Mother to take tea at her Mother's this evening with Mr. and Mrs. Pursell, Wm. and Mrs. John E. Miller. I hurried all day to get through at finally got there a little while before tea. Father went, to our surprise and stayed until 9 o'clock. Mother has not returned from Henley yet. Carl took the girls driving after they had supper.

Saturday, Aug 22nd, 1896

Very warm. Hard rain this morning and I was out in it doing an errand for Macy. Had an unusually busy day. Prepared juice for jelly, made bread, had callers to see or rather hear the Gramophone which is still here. Thyrsa Spry was here most of the afternoon. Lizzie and the little boys came from Ironton, on their way home. Mother came in from Henley. father and Uncle Enos were here. Took a drive in the evening and took Mrs. Copeland with us. Wrote to Will.

Sunday, Aug 23rd, 1896

Quite warm again. About midnight there was a very threatening storm which however passed around and did not do much damage here. We all went to Sabbath School and the regular services, until night. May was not feeling well and I remained at home with her. We both retired early, but had to get up again as she was too uncomfortable to sleep. After awhile she fell asleep. This is Gussie Haldeman's birthday. Clara Compston spends her last Sabbath in Ports. Leaves next Thursday for Chicago to prepare for missionary work.

Monday, Aug 24th, 1896

Somewhat cooler after the rain last night. May is better today. Did the usual work, wrote to sister and Will, made seven quarts of jelly and then sewed some for Mary. Mrs. Whitney and Mrs. Felicia Charlesworth Beckwith called just before supper. Had a letter from sister but none from Will today.

Tuesday, Aug 25th, 1896

Delightful day.

Was busy all forenoon with regular work. Put away about seven quarts of jelly which I made yesterday. Had a good long letter from Will who is still safe and well. In the afternoon the Foreign Mis. Society met here, Mrs. Tappan, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Young, Miss Comins, Miss Ramsey and Mary Peebles, and Mrs. Johnson being here besides myself. The two girls went over in the hills with Florence Hadley and Carroll Clark. Carl was out on a wheel for the first time.

Wednesday, Aug 26th, 1896

Weather pleasant.

Had such a busy day that I was almost too tired to go to prayer-meeting. I went however and when we came home Mr. Taylor came after some milk for their cat and he stayed to hear the gramophone which interests him very much. His family have not yet come home from their summer trip.

Thursday, Aug 27th, 1896

Pleasant. Have had an unusually busy day. Interruptions and extra work. Carl asked if he might bring Mr. Taylor home to tea and I was glad to have him do so. Carrie came just as I was beginning supper but visited me in the kitchen. Mr. Hopkins, Y.M.C.A. sec'y then called and remained until Mr. Taylor came. In the evening Jas went to a speech but Mr. Taylor remained to spend the evening and hear some music, Carl having brought Carrie up to sing for us. Julia Prichard, Mrs. Kate P. and Nellie Shaw came after the concert.

Friday, Aug 28th, 1896

Bright and warm. Was busy as usual until noon when I drove out to the train to meet Lizzie Peebles who had sent word she was coming in. Found Mr. and Mrs. Martin there also so brought them down. Lizzie took May home with her for a few days' visit before school begins. Lizzie and I now have the house to ourselves. I called upon Mrs. Hopkins, the new Y.M.C.A. Sec'y's wife and took her to drive. Miss Kate and Julia Prichard and Nellie Shaw were here to play croquet this afternoon. Wm Taylor and boys returned today.

Saturday, Aug 29th, 1896

Delightful weather. Cool mornings and evenings. Was busy all day and very tired at night. We miss the absent ones very much. Margaret in Kirkwood, May at Henley and Will in Cleveland. After supper J.W., Carly, Mary and I were out driving. Lizzie was at Uncle Enos' to tea. Father and Uncle Enos went to Newport to attend Aunt Sallie Young's funeral. She died Tuesday I thin. Uncle Sam went down on the boat last evening.

Sunday, Aug 30th, 1896

Beautiful day. All went to S.S. and church as usual. Mrs. Behreus took our roast and potatoes home to cook with hers so when we came home from church there was very little to be done. I was hardly able to go to church in the evening but did so. Jas. was not feeling well and was not at church either morning or evening.

Monday, Aug 31st, 1896

Delightful weather but it looks a little like rain. Was busy all day as usual. Late in the afternoon I took Mary up street to do an errand. Lizzie did the driving. We took Mary home and not finding Mother L and I went up to Mrs. Duduit's a second time, then after tea we were out again and I went a third time to see Mrs. Duduit. Am trying to arrange for the Sept Auxiliary meeting of the Y.M.C.A. Called upon Mrs. Selby in the evening in her beautiful new home.

Tuesday, Sept 1st, 1896

Delightful day. Ruth was here ironing and Lizzie were doing the other work. Got two bushels of peaches to put up, pared the ripest of them and left the others for tomorrow. After dinner I went to the Home Mis. Soc. at Mrs. Miller's. a large number were present to hear Ruby Pixly tell about the Mountain Wishes in the Asheville schools where she is teaching. Took Mother out for a drive before supper and after supper, J.W., Lizzie and I took Mrs. Copeland for awhile.

Wednesday, Sept 2nd, 1896

Weather warm.

Had to work fast at my peaches in the morning and then leave them again in the afternoon and go to call upon Mrs. Solomon at Uncle Enos'. Went with Mother and we also called at Miss Damarin's and Mrs. Kline's but no one was in at either place. Mary had Mrs. Duduit and Miss La Croix with her for the afternoon so I went over there until time to come home and get supper. Went to prayer meeting in the evening.

Thursday, Sept 3rd, 1896

Ruth was here all the afternoon sweeping and putting the house in order for the home coming of the absent ones. I was obliged to go to the W.C.T.U. meeting because it was the time for election of officers and then nothing was done after all. Margaret returned from Kirkwood on the midnight train, Carl going over to get her.

Friday, Sept 4th, 1896

Weather warm and dry. William expected to have gone out home this afternoon but did not go after all.

Lizzie and I have been very busy all day. sister was too tired to get up early this morning and after she did get up she had her trunk to unpack and things to put in order. She had a delightful visit and looks well. Attended an Auxiliary meeting at Mrs. Kline's large number present.

Saturday, Sept 5th, 1896

Weather warm. Rained very hard this evening just as Bessie Hall was coming from the train. May returned from Henley on the C.P. & V. and got in before the rain.

Carl left on the C.&O. to spend a day or two in Cin. and I miss him until I am "blue." Have been busy all day getting the house in order for Sabbath.

Sunday, Sept 6th, 1896

Warm. All went to S.S. and church as usual but when we came home we did not find things as usual. Someone had been in the house and opened the drawers, made away with a part of the silver and given the house the appearance of having been ransacked. It proved to be Will who had come home to spend Labor Day. I never was more glad to see him. Was sorry Carl was away.

Monday, Sept 7th, 1896

33 years today since I came to Portsmouth, from Miss.

Schools opened today.

Hot in the middle of the day, cool morning and evening. Was just finishing breakfast when Father came to get the buggy and I asked to go with him as we do not want him to drive alone. was sorry to leave when Will was at home but felt I must go with Father. We drove to the Lockhart orchard at Pond Run and returned while the folks were at dinner. Will packed his trunk to take heavy clothes to Cleveland and we took him to the 4.42 train. wish he could stay at home.

Tuesday, Sept 8th, 1896

Weather quite warm and I have been occupied in the kitchen most of the day. It was my birthday and I had two letters, one of them being from sister Lizzie who wrote her good wishes. We miss will very much. He left in time to be back at his work at Cleveland this evening.

Wednesday, Sept 9th, 1896

Was busy with peaches today. They are fine and plenty this season, the first time in several years. Mrs. McCall was here this afternoon to see about the W.C.T.U. meeting. Went to prayer-meeting in the evening as usual.

Thursday, Sept 10th, 1896

Emma Miller Voorhees died this afternoon t her home in Avondale Cin. A beautiful house and a fond living family are in darkness over a loss which can not be measured. I attended the election of officers of W.C.T.U. this afternoon when Mrs. Hadley was chosen Pres. Mrs. McCall V.P., Mrs. White Sec'y and Mrs. Micklethwait Treas. The Annual meeting was held in the evening at Bigelow M.E. church. Maggie and Mattie Peebles returned from N.Y.

Friday, Sept 11th, 1896

Weather warm.

Went early to Mrs. Miller's but found Miss Emma Bell there and nothing to be done but await the coming of the family with the remains of the wife and mother who has been sick so long. There being nothing for me to do I came home and continued my work on peaches which I have been putting up. Began making some spiced peaches.

Saturday, Sept 12th, 1896

Very hot. I went quite early to Mrs. Miller's but saw none of the family. She, Mr. Voorhees and his family John and his wife, Lin and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Goss of the Pres. Ch. came up on the train last night with the remains of our dear friend Emma Voorhees who was buried this afternoon from the house. The pall-bearers being Messrs. Overturf and Ricker, Scudder and Hutchins, Damarin and Banner. After supper we went down to the house and sat awhile with Mr. Voorhees and John Miller, the others having retired. Got new shoes today.

Sunday, Sept 13th, 1896

Very warm again. All went to Sabbath school and church as usual. After service in the evening Jas and I went to MR. Miller to see Mr. Voorhees and the girls. the latter we did not see but M. Voorhees and John Miller came in when they returned from a short walk. I took them a very good old photo of Emma which was better than any they had and they were glad to get it.

Monday, Sept 14th, 1896

Quite warm again, heavy fog this morning. I went to say good-bye to the Voorhees family as they were to leave at 1.45 for their home at Avondale. Met Mrs. John Miller for the first time. Late in the afternoon I went to see Maggie Mason, then to see Maggie Peebles who has been away all summer and is not much improved, her limbs giving her great trouble.

Tuesday, Sept 15th, 1896

Cloudy, with showers during the day. Went over home to see Mother as it is her birthday, Macy was here several times and I gave her a little birthday book. Have not been so busy today with extra work and in the afternoon went to see Mrs. Emma Miller, then Mrs. John E. Miller but she was not at home. This is the 21st anniversary of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Geo Mason.

Wednesday, Sept 16th, 1896

Pleasant. Was busy all day and went to prayer meeting tho' very tired and when I came home, went straight to bed.

Mame Crossley was at church. She leaves soon for a year's stay in California what the Merediths.

Thursday, Sept 17th, 1896

Pleasant. Had a bushel of tomatoes to put up today and it kept me busy all the time the regular work was not occupying me. Wrote to Will as usual. Lizzie was in and out again. I went to see Maggie Peebles but she was not at home. J.W. and the girls went to see the end of a ball game after school.

Friday, Sept 18th, 1896

Warm in the forenoon cooler in the evening and a good hard rain storm.

Mame Crossley was here this afternoon and remained to tea. I was obliged to leave two or three times while she was here. Mrs. Haldeman and baby were over home and I had to go to see them then to see Mrs. Barr who is going to move to Maysville and wanted to pay her bill. Then Margaret and I went to see Prof. Lewis and Sara Coates on business.

Saturday, Sept 19th, 1896

Cool, the rainstorm of last night was accompanied with hail ~~last~~ in the neighborhood. Margaret was not well and spent the day in bed. This is the Anniversary of the battle of Winchester and the death of Garfield. Attended a meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary at Mrs. Kline's this afternoon.

Sunday, Sept 20th, 1896

Cool but pleasant. All went to S.S. and church as usual but Margaret was not able to remain and was in bed the rest of the day.

May's birthday was not celebrated with a great display. I gave her some writing materials, visiting cards, stamps, postals, ect. and her Aunt Mary gave her 5.00 which was quite a fortune to her. Lizzie got the same, which has been saved up since her birthday. Ralph was here to say good-bye, leaves for Ithaca tomorrow.

Monday, Sept 21st, 1896

Cool enough for light frost and a little fire. Cloudy. Had a letter from Will and answered it this forenoon. Went to Relief Corps meeting in the afternoon after which I did some errands. Hadn't time to go to see the Corner stone of the Home for Aged Women laid in the foundation of the new building at the corner of Front and Chillicothe streets. Will's letter said he had been promised a raise in his wages and his work was pronounced first class.

Tuesday, Sept 22nd, 1896

Weather pleasant but cool enough for fire in the morning and evening. Lizzie took her music lesson and finished her first term with Miss Gharkey. I asked Miss G. to get her a membership ticket to the Ladies' Musicales for the coming year. It will be a help to Lizzie in her music and will give her an opportunity to entertain any visitors we may have as only strangers can be invited by members, so Clara will be the first one.

Wednesday, Sept 23rd, 1896

Pleasant. Lizzie Peebles was in today noon and said she would return this evening and bring me some pears and grape juice if we would meet her at the train after prayer meeting which was done and she brought me a bushel of nice pears which I shall put up tomorrow. Margaret has had a letter from Clara saying she will be here Oct 1st and we are glad to hear it.

Thursday, Sept 24th, 1896

This has been a warm, pleasant day and one we will long remember because of the accident which so nearly cost us the life of our Carl. He was bringing up a lively horse for Sister to ride, and he was going to ride Andy. It was dark and the horse shed at a lantern and stumbled into a pile of bricks on the other side of the street and fell throwing Carl on his head. He was carried in unconscious and Drs Kline and Mary Cotton examined him and found no external hurts. The back of his head seemed to be the place where he was hurt. It was a merciful providence that saved his life.³²

³² Carl's accident was reported in the Portsmouth Daily Times on September 25, 1896. "He was riding a horse over from Windel's livery stable to his home, sitting on a side-saddle. Right in front of his residence the horse stumbled and Mr. Ricker was thrown to the ground, alighting on the back of his head. He attempted to rise, exclaiming as he did so, 'Catch the horse!' He was assisted home and a physician summoned."

Friday, Sept 25th, 1896

We were all glad and thankful when Carl awoke this morning from a good sleep and seemed very much better. We have kept him as quiet as we could and hope he will soon be all right again. All the Bank men have been in to see him, and many others have called to ask after him. We got Mrs. Schwartz to come and make the apple butter which was commenced. I received Harry Griffon's photo this morning with a note. The cards are out for Lena Kline and Ed Reed's wedding. We are all invited.

Saturday, Sept 26th, 1896

Beautiful warm day. Carl is better today and insisted upon going to see the train start for Jackson, so I went with him in the carriage. Mrs. Crossley and Carrie were with us. There were over thirty crowded coaches. Jas. went among the first and had a good seat. The occasion was a great Republican gathering to hear Senator Foraker and others. Carl had several callers today, Ed was here twice. he says he is the happiest man in town over his prospect.

Sunday, Sept 27th, 1896

Cool. All went to S.S. and church as usual excepting that I came home from S.S. and got dinner. stopped at All Saints' Church on my way and saw little Augusta Connolley Haldeman christened, she was held by her great uncle Will Connolley, her grand mother Gussie Haldeman standing beside him, and Mrs. Fo/ Haldeman stood with them. It was the first Episcopal service of the kind I had seen. Carl was out as usual today.

Monday, Sept 28th, 1896

Rained a little and was very damp and cool. Wrote to will this morning. Carl was up early and went to his work though Dr. Kline thought it was too soon for him to do so. John Peebles went home on the early train and was back at noon, but went out again. Have been taking cold today. Oella has been away for several weeks but was to be home this evening. Margaret and Lizzie went up to Dr. T's to a C.E. business meeting. Father is not at all well. I took Mother, Uncle Sam and Lizzie for a drive.

Tuesday, Sept 29th, 1896

Rained nearly all day. I swept and dusted in the forenoon and gave up the afternoon to the Foreign Mis. Soc. small attendance, Mrs. Miller whose day it was, could not come because she was not well. Mrs. Peebles and Mary, Venetia Ramsey, Mr. Chris Young and I being the only persons present to read about and pray for Japan. The rain kept some away, others had other reason.

Wednesday, Sept 30th, 1896

Rained all day and was cold and disagreeable. Had a woman here to wash windows most of the day. sewed on undershirts and almost finished two, only the fastenings remain to be done. Had a letter from Will written last Sunday. says he is well and doing well but would like to be at home. Did not go to prayer-meeting because my cold was so bad and the evening so wet.

Thursday, Oct 1st, 1896

No rain but very damp cold and cloudy. My cold is very little better. Ruth came after breakfast to remain for an indefinite time., and we shall all enjoy a rest from Kitchen work for awhile.

Had a letter from Jennie. Carl seems to be better each day and we hope no serious consequence will result from his injury. Have sewed a little today. Got the set of Chautauqua books which Wm Peebles, Lizzie and I hope to read this winter.

Friday, Oct 2nd, 1896

Weather good. We got all ready for Clara and waited dinner, Carl going over to the C.&O. train but he did not find her. We ate and they all went their ways and after they were gone she came alone from the C.P.V. depot, we had not expected her to come that way at all. We were all delighted to see her any way. There was a large procession in the evening. I afterward went to the first meeting of the C.L.S.C. for a little while.

Saturday, Oct 3rd, 1896

Weather pleasant. The girls have driven and walked, trying to get all the good of the day. In the afternoon we were all at home to callers and received several. Mrs. Taylor and her Mother, Miss Gharky, Mabel Russell, Birdie Spry, Oella and Julia called.

Sunday, Oct 4th, 1896

Pleasant day.

All went to Sabbath School and church. John Peebles came last night again and this morning there were eleven of us. John, Wm., and Barton, Bessie and Clara besides our family of six.

Monday, Oct 5th, 1896

Weather pleasant and seasonable.

Have sewed a little but most of my time is taken up with house work.

Wrote to Will as usual.

We are enjoying Clara's visit very much.

Tuesday, Oct 6th, 1896

Damp and rainy in the evening. Cloudy all day, just before supper Ora came out after Bartie's wheel and said the Star Brick Works were burning and he and Carl were going up to the fire.³³ It began to rain just as they started. Coming back Carl had a collision with a horse and road-cart and was bruised and skinned in several places has not yet fully recovered from his other accident. Had letter from Will.

Dr. Ruggles called.

Wednesday, Oct 7th, 1896

A raw, windy day though the sun shines.

Jas. Mother, and Lizzie went up to Star Brick Wks to see the results of the fire. After school the girls all went. Went to prayer-meeting as usual.

Wrote to will today as he may go to Ithaca Friday.

Thursday, Oct 8th, 1896

Fine weather. father's birthday. I went over to see him at noon but had to leave before he came down stairs. Went to W.C.T.U. meeting and then came home and worked a little on my sewing. Almost finished putting a new binding on my black serge skirt. The girls all went driving after school.

³³ The Portsmouth Times reported on October 10, 1896 that the paving brick plant of the Star Brick Company of Sciotoville was burned to the ground totaling a loss around \$2000-\$2500. There was no insurance on the plant and it was not expected to be rebuilt.

Friday, Oct 9th, 1896

Weather pleasant, sun bright and warm after the fog raised.

Have tried to sew a little on my new waist but did not do much. Have been trying to find a suitable present for Lena but have not yet succeeded. Went to S.S. Teachers' Meeting at the church. There was a fire just as we finished supper. Mrs. Carter's stable burned. Mrs. Bannon and Charlotte called Lizzie and Clara went to see the Musicale. Mary Peebles called.

Saturday, Oct 10th, 1896

Beautiful day. The four girls started early and drove to Lucasville, and back, reaching home soon after 1 P.M. I was up to see Mrs. Kline on an errand, then down street to do some errands then to see Nellie and Katie Voorhees who came today to spend a couple of days with Mrs. Miller. Mrs. Hutchins was buried today. Dr. Tappan conducted her funeral, then had a short preparatory service after which he went to the funeral of a Mr. Joe Clark. Fannie Shaw called on me and Grace Cotton called on Clara.

Sunday, Oct 11th, 1896

Beautiful day. All went to S.S. and church as usual. Had Communion service in the morning and received five or six members by letter, among them was Will letter from the church in Ithaca. I am glad to have him in the home church again. Had special music in the evening, two fine solos, one by Miss Katie Zottmann the other by Mrs. Lester.

Monday, Oct 12th, 1896

Weather threatening but no rain today. Have been busy as usual. Got the table while Carl and Ora chose for Ed and Lena the handkerchief Clara made and the sugar spoon I bought all marked and sent to the house today. Rained this evening. Wrote to Will this morning.

Tuesday, Oct 13th, 1896

Rainy and cold. A dreadful day for the great Sherman-Borough meeting, or the wedding which took place this evening. The marriage of Ed Reed and Lena Kline has been looked forward to for months with interest and was celebrated most beautifully this evening. Our entire family were invited and all attended but Will who is out of town. Clara and our girls were busy all day with a C.E. lunch stand which was well patronized, the society will make about 40.00. Barton and Jennie, Willard and Paul came this afternoon.

Wednesday, Oct 14th, 1896

Beautiful day after the rain of yesterday.

Called at Dr. Kline's late this afternoon and saw him and his sister, Miss Mary. Mrs. Kline was lying down when I went there but came in before I left. She is about worn out. We went to prayer-meeting in the evening. Dr. Tappan and Oella went to Wooster to attend Synod.

Wrote to Will, no I have not written since Monday. Mary Y. Moore and Mame Reed called but the girls had gone out.

Thursday, Oct 15th, 1896

Letter from Will.

Weather pleasant as it is possible for it to be. Hurried all forenoon to get ready for the W. R. C. inspection this afternoon. Went up to Mrs. Frank Johnson's and called upon Mrs. Poston the Inspector, then spent the entire afternoon at the hall. Only seven were present. In the evening Sister, Clara, Bessie and May went to hear Camille Urso the violinist in the first entertainment of the lecture course. Wrote a long letter to Will.

Friday, Oct 16th, 1896

Beautiful day. Barton, Jennie, Willard and Paul were here to dinner. Clara went with Mary Ellen to the Literary this afternoon.

Jennie spent a part of the afternoon with me then went with Macy went to the Doctor's for medicine and then drove up 4th and down 3rd. Came home and I went with Lizzie and May to call at Mrs. Kline's while the other girls drove. Miss Mary Kline showed us Lena's wedding presents and the display was like an art store. Never saw so many in one home. Fred Tynes called this evening.

Saturday, Oct 17th, 1896

Weather cool and cloudy. Was at home all the forenoon. Edna Davis called to see Clara before dinner. After dinner Margaret, Clara, Miss May Cook and Lizzie took a long drive. Jennie Greene and I went calling and found Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Tappan and Julia at home, Mrs. Rardin, Mrs. Buskirk out. We also called upon a stranger Mrs. Brown and Kate Reilly in the store. She then went to Uncle Enos' to tea. Barton and Paul got a new cloak for May, also goods for a dress and a hat for Lizzie. Cora Selby called.

Sunday, Oct 18th, 1896

All went to Sabbath School and church as usual. Jennie sat with us in the evening. Carl was at home all the afternoon and Bartie was over home with his mother.

Monday, Oct 19th, 1896

Beautiful day. Clara went to Ironton on the 10.40 train to spend a few days. I went to the W.R.C. meeting in the afternoon and did not get home until late. Went to see about my teeth that have been giving me trouble and shall go tomorrow to have them fixed.

Tuesday, Oct 20th, 1896

Rained steadily all day. Clara will not have a very pleasant evening in Ironton. Had a letter from Will who is well and has changed his boarding place. Lizzie took her music lesson and just after dinner when I was preparing to go to Dr. Dennis; to have work done on my teeth, Lizzie Peebles and little Margaret came in and took Lizzie Ricker out home with them.

Wednesday, Oct 21st, 1896

Bright and pleasant. Very like the weather of last week. Julia was here to dinner today to save her the time for going up to the other house. They were moving. Miss Evans called to see Clara Ricker, to invite her to play at the Musicale next Friday. Went to prayer-meeting as usual this evening. Jennie and Barton were with us. Mr. Robert Baker was buried today. Mother, Jennie and I went to see Mrs. Drew.

Thursday, Oct 22nd, 1896

Fair and rather mild. Clara came from Ironton and went to Henley at noon. Margaret Johnson called to see her this morning and after dinner Miss Mary Kline and Miss Garton called. Julia Tappan was here to breakfast, the family are moving into the house at corner of 4th and Court today and she slept there last night. Her father has slept there all this week. In the afternoon Mother, Jennie and I went to Mrs. J. E. Miller's to spend an hour with some friends Brother John came on the 4 o'clock train from Zainesville.

Friday, Oct 23rd, 1896

Rained all day. J. W. was busy at the Registration room all day. John and Mother went to Henley this afternoon in the rain. I did some errands this morning and spent most of the afternoon visiting with Jennie over home. I wrote Will today instead of yesterday as I was too busy to write yesterday.

Saturday, Oct 24th, 1896

Registration day again and Jas was busy at the Rooms. John and Jennie went home on the early morning train. We had a nice visit from them. Clara and Lizzie came in from Henley at noon. Alex and Mary Ricker came down from the farm to get the new calf (Pet's) and were here to dinner.

Sunday, October 25th, 1896

Nothing unusual marked this day. We attended the usual services and spent the day in the usual way.

Monday, October 26th, 1896

Wrote to Will as usual this morning. We expect him home the last of the week. Miss Emma Bell was here this afternoon. The ladies are getting up a little surprise for Mrs. Tappan in the way of a donation of fruit, jelly, etc.

Tuesday, October 27th, 1896

Rained some today, but was pleasant in the afternoon. The Missionary Soc. met here this afternoon. Pres. V. Pres and Treas. present but Sec'y out of town. Nine members present. Mother went to Henley for a little visit.

Wednesday, October 28th, 1896

Weather not unpleasant. The days are spent in much of the same way varied by the coming and going of the numerous members of the family. We went to prayer-meeting this evening as usual. It rained a little this forenoon. I went down to make my first call at Mrs. Tappan's and saw Mr. Lowman just leaving for Springfield. He and Oella expect to go to Lexington Ky. some. There was a big parade this evening. After church we went up to Chil. And were just in time to see the whole procession.

Thursday, Oct 29th, 1896

Weather still mild and pleasant. The girls ride every day after school I took Lizzie to the train. I took Lizzie to the train, she having come in at noon, Mary went also and I afterwards drove over to Second Street. And down to the Office but as she was not needed I brought her home and then went to the W.C.T.U. meeting.

Friday, Oct 30th, 1896

Pleasant.

Have been busy but can not tell what I have done. The girls went to Charlotte Bannon's to a party this evening, that is Margaret and Clara went there. Miss Bessie and May went to a C.E. Social at Uncle Enos' and Lizzie and I went to be dearly.

Saturday, Oct 31st, 1896

Bright and beautiful. Lizzie Peebles came in at noon and William went home with her. Mother returned from her visit to Henley. This was the day for the great Democratic Rally and there were a great many country people in on horseback but not nearly so many people as on the Sherman Borroughs day. Will came home on the 10.55 train and his father and I walked out to meet him, Sister meeting us all with the buggy.

Sunday, Nov 1st, 1896

Beautiful day. Fires little needed, though it is cooler in the house than out of doors. All went to S. S. excepting Will who joined us at church time.

All went again in the evening.

Mrs. J. B. Carter died last night, very suddenly.

Monday, Nov 2nd, 1896

Beautiful weather, bright and warm. Roses still fine. Was busy at home all the forenoon, did a little mending for Will. The town is gay with flags and pictures. This afternoon there was a parade of old soldiers. I went to a meeting of the Woman's Aux of the Y.M.C.A. held at the Rooms. J. W. has been busy at the Registration Room this afternoon, the election tomorrow will be full of interest and much anxiety is felt as to the result.

Tuesday, Nov 3rd, 1896

Election day has been beautiful, real Republican weather. Candidates for President number six but Mr. McKinley of Canton, O. and W. J. Bryan of Omaha, Neb are the leaders of the two great parties. Will cast his first vote for Wm. McKinley as he had said three years ago he would do. Has missed all previous elections except one, at which he did not vote. The c. E. Society of our church served lunch this evening. All our family, (except J. W. who was one of the judges of the election and Will who returned to Cleveland this evening) stayed down town until after two o'clock. J.W., Marg't, Carl and I were last to leave the hall.

Wednesday, Nov 4th, 1896

Rain set in about 6.30 A.M. and continued all day. I and Clara were out in the buggy returning things from the lunch room. After she came home I went after Father, then down street after Jas. And came home very wet. The news is not so encouraging this evening as it was last evening and some are a little fearful that the result will change as it did when Cleveland was elected. We went to prayer-meeting as usual, those of us who were able.

Thursday, Nov 5th, 1896

Rain over again and today has bene more pleasant, also the news is better again. Went to see Maggie Silcox, this morning and then Clara, Lizzie and I got the carriage and went to the funeral of Mr. Silcox's father whose remains were brought here today from Mass. Went to W.C.T.U. meeting after dinner. Jas and I, Clara, Sister and Carl went to the Reception given Ed and Lena Reed and Mrs. Sally Seamans this afternoon. It was a delightful affair. The republicans held a big jubilee this P.M. over the result of the election. We met the procession on Second Street. It was so noisy we couldn't hear anything else.

Friday, Nov 6th, 1896

Bright and cool. Lizzie and Clara went to the musicale this afternoon. I have done little in the way of work today. Went down street twice with Sister Macy, to see about her hat and do some other errands. Wrote to Will. Went to see Miss Mary Kline and had a very pleasant sail with her and Mrs. Kline. Father is not at all well and did not go out this afternoon.

Saturday, Nov 7th, 1896

A little cloudy but no rain. Had a letter from Will who went again to Canton the day after the election and saw and spoke with the new President elect. The works were shut down in order that the men might go so he went with them. Says times have already begun to improve. All kinds of industries are starting up after months of idleness, waiting to see what the result of the election would be. Miss Lucy Hall spent the afternoon here and we had a pleasant time.

Sunday, Nov 8th, 1896

Pleasant, though rather cold. Went to S. S. and church as usual but instead of staying to Teacher's prayer meeting, I went to see Mrs. Spry who is sick. She seems glad to see me and said she would soon be home. I went again in the evening but did not disturb her by going into her room. Was told afterwards that she asked if I had not been there. We had special music and a full house in the evening.

Monday, Nov. 9th, 1896

Bright. I was hurrying to do up my work and go to see Mrs. Spry when Mother came in and told me she had just died, after an illness of only a few days. I went down at once and was there most of the day, doing what I could for them in their time of distress. They were devotedly attached to their mother and find it hard to give her up.

Tuesday, Nov 10th, 1896

Beautiful, mild day. Was at Mrs. Spry's nearly all day, doing what I could to comfort, and assist them in their bereavement. We have been friends ever since our family moved to Portsmouth thirty-three years ago, and in that time Mr. and Mrs. Spry, Robert ad Emma, Mr. Helfenstein and Grace have died.

Mrs. Spry has not been strong for years but was able to be out twice to tea with me in the past week. Drove for Mother this A.M. and for Mary after dinner.

Wednesday, Nov 11th, 1896

Rained all forenoon but cleared off later. I was with Therza most of the day. Mrs. Spry's funeral was held at All Saints' Church at 2.30 this afternoon and was largely attended. She was a dear old lady and lived to be over eighty-five with all her powers as keen as in younger days. Her birthday was July 20th. Went to prayer-meeting as usual. Clara and Carl decided to go on the early train instead of the afternoon so packed their trunks in great haste this evening. We were late getting to bed.

Thursday, Nov 12th, 1896

Rained hard when we arose at 3 o'clock to prepare a little breakfast for Carl and Clara who left on the C. & O. train at 4.55 for Kirkwood. They left the house soon after 4 A.M. I was unable to sit up to see them off. We have had a good visit from Clara and I hope Carl will stay long enough to do him some good. Wrote to Will. Sewed up May's blue skirt, filled the lamps and mended some music for L. Went to see Thyrsa and Mrs. Helfenstein and then to see Father who is still at home. Barrel of apples and back of hickory nuts came from Mr. Smith. Clara gave me a pretty pitcher.

Friday, Nov 13th, 1896

It has been very pleasant today. We miss Clara and Carl, the house seems lovely and when we sit down to the table we miss them very much. I wrote to Carl today. Have been sewing at May's dress, but she could not try it on at noon, so I left it and went with Mother after dinner.

Saturday, Nov 14th, 1896

Pleasant. Was busy all day with Macy's blue serge dress. Had to go down street twice and then sewed until nearly nine o'clock to get it finished but finally got the last stitch in it and then went to bed. Lizzie is practicing a great deal, put in about five hours today. May has joined the High School Orchestra and that will be good practice for her.

Sunday, Nov 15th, 1896

Pleasant. All went to Sabbath School as usual except that Carl is not here. I remained to Teachers' Prayer-meeting and church in the forenoon and then went to church again in the evening. We miss Carl today.

Monday, Nov 16th, 1896

Weather windy and fair. Was busy at home all the forenoon. Wrote to Will, as usual. Attended the Relief Corps meeting in the afternoon after which I went to see Mrs. Kaps, then to call upon Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Campbell. After tea I went and spent the evening with Thyrza Spry and Mrs. Helfenstein. Wrote to Will and Carl, Mrs. McGuyin the Youth's Companion and a note to Mrs. Pursell.

Tuesday, Nov 17th, 1896

Beautiful day, mild and pleasant. Was very busy all day washing windows, little curtains, and cleaning up generally. Miss Emma Bell, Mary Collins Hawthorne and her daughter Ruth took tea and spent the evening with us. Dr. and Mrs. Tappan called after tea.

I wrote to Carl.

Rained in the night in fact it rained this afternoon, late in the day and after supper.

Wednesday, Nov 18th, 1896

A most beautiful, delightful day. Was busy at home all the forenoon, ripped and washed a black skirt to make over. After dinner I drove, taking Mother, Mrs. Campbell and Mrs. Taylor to make calls at Lena Reed's, Mrs. Taylor's, Mrs. Haldeman's, Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Sam Reed's, Mrs. Joe Reed's, and Mrs. Dennis'. When we came home we found Enos had come from Ky. Letter from Will. None from Carl. Lizzie was out to tea. Barton and Willard came on the 11.10 train this evening.

Thursday, Nov 19th, 1896

Rainy. Was home all day, busy with my work. Mrs. Miller and I were to have made some calls together today but the rain prevented.

Wrote to Will as usual.

Friday, Nov 20th, 1896

Fair weather in the forenoon cloudy in the afternoon. I sewed on L's dress a part of the day. Lizzie attended the Musicale in the afternoon and missed Clara who has gone with her each time before.

Wrote to Carl Today.

Attended the annual meeting of the Portsmouth Magazine Club at Dr. Cotton's this evening. The club is now twenty nine years old.

Saturday, Nov 21st, 1896

Mild with warm wind and rain late in the day. Sewed on Lizzie's black skirt which I did not finish. Barton and Willard went home this forenoon.

Sister had a letter from Clara, but none came from Carl.

I wrote to Jennie and J. W. wrote to Mr. Smith.

Sunday, Nov 22nd, 1896

Beautiful weather. All went to Sabbath School as usual and afterwards to the usual church services. Nothing worthy of special note.

Monday, Nov 23rd, 1896

A pleasant, and a busy day. Was at home all the morning and out on S. S. work all afternoon. Miss V. Ramsey and I went to Miss Bell's and held a Com. meeting which resulted in our starting out to stir up all the Pastors and Supts in turn to see if we could not revive our old Union work and canvass the entire cit. Found all we met in favor of it.

In the evening all four of the girls went to a Concert at All Saints where Lizzie was to make her first attempt at playing in public, in an eight hand piece.

Tuesday, Nov 24th, 1896

Weather bright and pleasant. Was busy putting the house in order before dinner. After dinner the Foreign Mis. Society met here. May Peebles had charge of the program which was unusually good. She gave 5.00 to S. America, or rather the work in Chilli. There were present Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Young, Venetia Ramsey, Mrs. Tappan, Maggie and Mary Peebles and myself. Mrs. Moore Treas. was out here and I took her the money with address, after the meeting, giving it to Uncle Enos as she was not in.

Wednesday, Nov 25th, 1896

Quite pleasant and warm for the season. There are still plenty of rose buds in the yards. Was busy as usual all day. Went to prayer-meeting in the evening after which J. W. and I went to a S. S. meeting at the Y.M.C.A. Rooms which was assembled in response to the call Miss Bell, Miss V. Ramsey and I made for a Union meeting. It was large and enthusiastic. The old Union work is to be revived at once. Found Florence Crossley here when we came home. She had come in response to an invitation sent yesterday.

Thursday, Nov 26th, 1896

A most beautiful and delightful day. We decided to take dinner over home as we did last year so after going out to the 2nd Prs. Church where Dr. Tappan preached a fine sermon on government we all went over home and enjoyed a fine dinner. Miss Bessie had accepted an invitation to dine with Dr. and Mrs. Titus. Florence Crossley had come in to spend the day with us and Bartie was here but we missed our own two boys. Will being in Cleveland and Carl in Kirkwood. Helen came just as dinner was ready.

Friday, Nov 27th, 1896

A very rainy disagreeable day. Was busy at home all the morning. John, Enos and Helen were here to dinner and we had a pleasant time. Helen stayed all the afternoon. Lizzie and I went to the C.L.S.C. meeting at Bigelow, the first one we attended as members. I am hoping we will derive much benefit from the course. Jas and I got up at midnight and waited about an hour for Carl, he did not come.

Saturday, Nov 28th, 1896

City S. S. Canvass made today.

Rainy and cold, very unpleasant.

Was at home all day doing a little of several kinds of work. Did not finish the skirt because I could not find the braid. Helen was here most of the day. In the evening Margaret and Miss Bessie went to a small tea party given by the Misses Ramsey to Oella and a few of her friends. Mattie Peebles, Oella, Julia Tappan, Margaret, Miss Bessie, Grace and Mary Cotton, Miss Annett, Maggie Miller, Mary Holland being the guests. Oella stayed here last night and until almost noon today. She is such a dear good girl we regret her going away. She expects to leave soon for Lexington, Ky.

We set the alarm clock and got up to see Carl when we expected and he came about 12.20, midnight. Has had a pleasant visit which we hope will do him good. Brother John left on the early train for Cin.

Sunday, Nov 29th, 1896

Clear and cold. All went to Sabbath School as usual except Carl who came at midnight last night and did not feel like getting up.

In the afternoon Helen, J. W. and I attended a S. S. meeting at Sixth St. at which the organization of the Portsmouth S. S. Association was completed. Mr. Reed being elected Pres., myself Sec'y and W. B. Anderson Treas. All the pastors Vice Pres and Supt to form a Board of Managers.

Monday, Nov 30th, 1896

Cold and clear. Ther. 20°

Was busy at home all the forenoon with the housework. Wrote to Will and a postal to Lizzie Peebles. Carl returned to his work at the Bank, having had a vacation of a little more than two weeks. After dinner I went to Dr. Dennis to have a filling taken out of a tooth which has begun hurting. It had begun to form an abscess and there was no hope of improvement. Afterwards went to attend to some business for the Aux. to Y.M.C.A. and then to report to Mrs. Kline. Made a long call there. Enos and Helen were here after tea.

Tuesday, Dec 1st, 1896

Cold and clear. Ther 16°

Have been sewing a little today but did not quite finish the skirt. Have had to put several drawers in order while looking for things I wanted. Had a long letter from Will, and one from Mrs. McGugin.

We are enjoying Helen's visit very much.

Wednesday, Dec 2nd, 1896

Cold and clear. Ther. 20°

The Scioto Co. S. S. Convention opened at the Christian church this A.N. Col. Cowden gave a fine lesson on Bible Study in the forenoon and others talked through the various sessions. Marion Lawrence came in time to take his place in the evening program, and as usual was full of good suggestions and made interesting talks. The prayer meetings were omitted in order that all might attend the Com. Our old pet cat, Tiger died sometime today. She came to me last night to be petted and I am glad I did not turn her away.

Thursday, Dec 3rd, 1896

Weather still clear and cold. Ther 22°. Mr. Jackson buried poor old Tiger this morning in the yard under the rosebushes. Mrs. Boynton and I and Helen spent the day at the S. S. Com. and enjoyed every moment of it. Mrs. B. and Miss Bessie took dinner at Mrs. Hard's and Mrs. B. did not return here.

We have had a fine Convention and I trust much good will result from it.

Friday, Dec 4th, 1896

Not so cold, Ther 22° but a great deal of wind and clouds of dirt. Went to Dr. Dennis to have a tooth treated, then did an errand before coming home. In the afternoon I visited the Union St. school, or three rooms to hear the recitations in Physiology. The children show that they have been taught quite a good deal upon the subject of Alcohol and Tobacco. Helen went with Lizzie to the Musicale. I called upon Mrs. Folsom, Mrs. Reeder, and Mrs. Copeland then upon Mrs. Silcox who was not at home. Wrote to Will.

Saturday, Dec 5th, 1896

Rather cold and very windy. Was busy at home and did not care to go out in the afternoon but Lizzie came in at noon and wanted to be taken to do some errands and back to the train so I took her, Mother and Helen and when all the trips were made I came home to finish my own work.

Sunday, Dec. 6th, 1896

A beautiful day and not so cold as it has been. Went to S.S. and church as usual. Oella led the Teachers' prayer-meeting. We had special music and a fine sermon in the evening. I had a fine class in the morning seven present and all had lessons.

Monday, Dec 7th, 1896

Mild and pleasant but rain is not far off. Was busy at home all forenoon and taking cold all the time. After dinner I went to the Auxiliary meeting, after which Mrs. Kline and I called at Mrs. Dennis' as she is sick and has been for some time. Went with Jas. To do an errand and was going to say good bye to Oella but she was out riding with our folks in the carriage and told them she didn't know how soon she was to leave.

Tues, Dec 8th, 1896

Rained all day and is quite warm and foggy. Have a miserable cold and bad attack of the hives. Was in the house all day began working on Macy's black skirt but had to leave it for Ruth to clean, so took up some mending for Sister and finished it Wrote to Clara Ricker. Carl had a letter from her today. Jas. Had a letter from Will who says the Brown Hoist Works are full of work and orders.

Helen was here most of the day. Oella left this morning for Lexington, Ky.

Wednesday, Dec 9th, 1896

Cold and raw.

Have been taking cold all day and was not well enough to go out to prayer-meeting this evening. Went early to bed. Have sewed some and read some. Am trying to catch up on my C.L.S.C. reading.

Thursday, Dec 10th, 1896

Weather pleasant though rather windy. Have a very bad cold and a bad case of the hives. Have been at home all day and kept busy because I as more comfortable when occupied than when idle. Have been making new yokes in Sister's night dresses. Had letter and some Calendars from the Youth's Companion, in acknowledgement for a slight service rendered them.

Friday, Dec 11th, 1896

Bright and pleasant.

My cold is much better since I began taking #77 Humphries Specific for cold last evening. Did not venture to go out in the carriage but walked down to the dentists' and had the cotton changed in my tooth. Mother went out to see Beatrice after dinner. At 3 o'clock, she and Helen went to see the wonderful Vitascope at the Opera House.³⁴ All of our family excepting J.W. and I have seen it. I wrote to Will this morning. Mrs. Snodgrass was here to see me about the paper. L and I went to the C.L.S.C. meeting.

Saturday, Dec 12th, 1896

Mild and pleasant. Indications of rain. Was busy in the usual way all day. Late in the afternoon went out to do some errands. Helen was here to tea and spent the evening with us. she is making the tarlatan stockings for candy bags for Margaret's school.³⁵ Christmas is in the air, though the atmosphere does not feel at all like it. Mrs. Ella Stewart Smith died this afternoon after a long illness. Has been at her mother's all summer. Beatrice Moore Hales has been taken to Cin. to the Hospital for treatment. She is seriously ill. Finished "French Traits."

Sunday, Dec 13th, 1896

A remarkably beautiful, pleasant day. We attended the usual services today. In the afternoon went out to Maggie Silcox's but she had gone to her Mother's so I did not see her. Called to see Father as usual, and then went to inquire after Mrs. Currie who is quite sick, and being 85 years old is not able to stand a very severe attack.

Monday, Dec 14th, 1896

Rainy and unpleasant though the hardest of the rain was early in the morning. Went to Dr. Dennis' again this morning but he did not finish my tooth. Went out to see Maggie Silcox about 9 o'clock, and then in the afternoon, Jas. Helen, Mary and I drove out to see Mrs. Stewart and Janice. Saw them alone in the dining room and asked to go upstairs to see Ella, if I wished, but thinking I would go to the funeral tomorrow I did not go.

Wrote to will.

Called to see Beatrice M. Hales and found her in a bad condition.

³⁴ Vitascope: an early film projector first demonstrated in 1895 by Charles Francis Jenkins and Thomas Armat.

³⁵ A thin muslin with an open weave, once used for ballgowns etc.

Tuesday, Dec 15th, 1896

Raw and unpleasant. Jas and Mary went out to Mrs. Stewart's to attend Ella Smith's funeral this afternoon. I wanted to go but did not dare venture because of my cold and the hives which trouble me greatly.

Dr. Dennis finished filling my tooth this morning, and Dr. Ruggles finished Lizzie's. I have made a good many trips while it was being prepared.

Wednesday, Dec 16th, 1896

Weather rather raw and unpleasant. Went to the Dr. and finished polishing my tooth and now I hope I am through with such work for a long while. Lizzie's wasn't finished yesterday, but is now.

Sewed on her waist this afternoon. Mrs. John E. Miller and Helen were here this afternoon. Before tea I took my sketch of the church to Mrs. Snodgrass for the paper. Stopped to see Mrs. Kline and then went to see Maggie Silcox and stayed until dark. Went to prayer-meeting in the evening. The Cuban Insurrections occupied a great deal of public attention just now.

Thursday, Dec 17th, 1896

Weather not very pleasant. Sun shone some but it was windy. Lizzie Peebles was in at noon. I did not go out again after returning from an errand, no I did not go out at all. Wrote to Will in the morning and then sewed on Lizzie's new plaid and black waist until dark and got it done so she wore it, all but the adjustable collar, in the evening. Read on my Chautauqua course after supper. Margaret and the girls and Carrie Hadley went driving after school.

Friday, Dec 18th, 1896

Cloudy and damp. Turning cold. Have been in the house all day so far, doing some little things that have been writing. Finished the collar to Lizzie's new waist, then framed a picture for X'mas, then pasted the newspaper accounts of the great Missionary Meeting into the roll-book for preservation. Was to have visited the Union St. School this afternoon but the weather is too bad for me to go up there. Lizzie finished her second quarter with Miss Gharky in music, and went to the Musicale this afternoon.

Saturday, Dec 19th, 1896

Cold and unpleasant. Was at home and busy all day. Wm Peebles was in at noon for a short call. Had a letter from Jennie Greene which I answered at once. We had some pork to make up into lard sausage and pickled meat in the afternoon.

Alex and Mary Ricker were here to dinner. Came to pay their taxes but could not get into the office because of the crowd.

Beatrice Moore Hales died.

Sunday, Dec 20th, 1896

Cold.

We heard early this morning that Beatrice had come to her Mother's Friday with her baby, was taken very sick there and died last evening at 9.30 o'clock. We did not know she was there. She has been sick most of the time since she was married Aug 16th, 1894 and leaves two small children, Miriam about fourteen months and a boy less than a year younger. Uncle Sam came home at noon, he had been away since Sept.

Monday, Dec 21st, 1896

Tried to snow but seemed too cold. Spent most of the forenoon at Uncle Sam's. At ten o'clock Mr. Hales had Beatrice taken to their home, I was there at the time and could not help thinking of the night she was married and went with him to the home they were to occupy. She was dressed in the same clothes and Mrs. White arranged her hair and dress for both the bridal and burial occasions. It seemed very sad to have her removed from her parents' home of the little time that remains before the funeral. Attended W. R. C. meeting and the old officers were re-elected with one exception.

Tuesday, Dec 22nd, 1896

Cold and raw and very disagreeable. Went over to Uncle Sam's this morning and remain a few minutes. Beatrice's funeral was held at the Congregational Ch. this afternoon, Rev. Mr. Baker making the address, Dr. Tappan was in the pulpit and opened prayer. The pall bearers were Carl, Mr. Bridwell, Hal and Ed Molster, Rob Wring and one whom I did not know. It is a sad case for Mr. Hales and his two babies.

Wednesday, Dec 23rd, 1896

Weather cold and very pleasant. We are all very busy with X'mas preparations. Sister is making her public school children a treat of tarlatan stockings filled with candy and popcorn. Julia Tappan came after church and helped her fill them. Helen had made the little stockings. We went to prayer meeting as usual.

Thursday, Dec 24th, 1896

Cold and clear and rather windy. This has been a very busy day finished up the preparations for Christmas. I stopped all in the afternoon and went to the High School to the closing exercises and enjoyed it very much. The orchestra, of which May is a member played very well and they had good singing and other music. I wrote to Mrs. Bond and sent her a little remembrance. Wrote to Oella Lawman at Lexington.

Friday, Dec 25th, 1896

A beautiful day, cold and clear, no snow. We had no three today, the one I expected did not come and it was just as well for no one had time to prepare it. We just brought out packages from their hiding places and put them on the table and piano, such as would go there. Carl had as surprises a large chair upholstered in leather for his father and for sister a beautiful table of bird's eye maple to match the furniture of her room. He and me managed to get it into the house and kept it out of sight until we were all ready to see her find it. She had admired it at Mr. Fuller's and he said he would put it away until she wanted to get it. She was completely surprised to find it here. We had not spent much on presents but when all the little remembrances were gathered up there was quite a display. I was quite overcome by the present Carl had for me, it was a folding photograph album with excellent pictures of Margaret Will and Clara. May had made me a fine portfolio of large envelopes for newspaper clippings.

Miss Bessie gave Margaret a copy of Ian Maclaren's Kate Carnegie beautifully illustrated, and Dr. J. F. Davis had sent Lizzie and May the same style of books, the Bonnie Brier Bush and Auld Lang Syne so the three girls have the complete set of the same author in the same kind of binding. Carl always remembers every body about the two houses, and the Kirkwood friends as well. Our Christmas would have been very complete if Will had been home. It is only the second time he has missed being home on X'mas but he wrote that the shop would be closed so short a time that he couldn't come home but might possibly go to Zanesville. We had invited the house folks over to dinner, but only Mother and Macy were able to come.

Saturday, Dec 26th, 1896

Quite Cold. Lizzie and Mabel Russell went skating all the afternoon. We spent the forenoon putting the house in order. Several more Christmas presents came in today, Miss Bessie got a beautiful clock from Grace in Brooklyn. Mother finished a hkjcf for Margaret and I finished her knit wash cloth. Miss Bessie gave her a fine china cup and saucer. I wrote to Mrs. Robinson thanking her for a silk bag she sent me. Heard that Mr. Reilly died this evening.

Dec 27th (Sunday) 1896

Still peasant. we all attended S. S. as usual and the usual morning service. In the evening our congregation united with that of Bigelow in a union service, at which Dr. Tappan preached the sermon and our choir sang the Halleluiah Chorus at the close of service. It was a pleasant service throughout. Our church and Bigelow have always been specially friendly.

Monday, Dec 28th, 1896

Beautiful day. The weather continues remarkably mild. The help I always give Ruth occupied most of my time in the forenoon. After dinner I went to Miss Bell's to work on our W.R.C. reports and was kept until late. When I came home Mabel Poffenberger called to see me about taking a class in S. S. some new teachers are needed and she will leave my class and take a class of little boys. I trust she will succeed as well as she has in the past as a pupil.

Tuesday, Dec 29th, 1896

Weather mild and pleasant. I went up to Mrs. Reilly's this morning and took a last look at Mr. Reilly who was to be buried this afternoon. I did not attend the funeral which was held at the house and would be much crowded. The Foreign Mis society met at our house as usual, only Mrs. Peebles and Maggie, Dell Ramsey and Mrs. Miller, Sara Comins and myself being present. The topic as Syria in charge of Miss Ramsey. the topics will be entirely different next year.

Wednesday, Dec 30th, 1896

Weather still mild and dry, all indications of rain fail, so far. Was busy at home in the forenoon. after dinner Mrs. Whitney, Miss Maggie Lloyd and I went out to make arrangements for the Reception to be given by the Auxiliary at the Y.M.C.A. rooms on New Year's Day.

Thursday, Dec 31st, 1896

Pleasant. Was busy at home all forenoon. After dinner I drove for Mother and Mrs. Campbell awhile then went to the W.C.T.U. meeting, after which I came home again. The girls went to Dr. Tappan's to spend the evening with the C.E. Society in a social and then watched the old year out and the new one in, ringing the church bell at 11.30 standard time. Margaret and Miss Bessie went to the Cin. University Glee Club Concert before going to Dr. Tappan's. The record of 1896 is finished. What will the coming year bring? Wrote to Will.