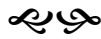


The Diary of Emma Lucretia Miller Beck 1895-1908



1895

Sunday, July 28, 1895, 9:15 p.m.: A beautiful day, a lovely bright cool night, when wee baby first came, only 7 ½ pounds, but lively as a little cricket, for she had not been in this world three hours when she put her little fist in her mouth and tried to suck it, for she was so hungry. The moon which was bright and clear was in its first quarter, Mercury Morning Star and Venus as Evening Star were keeping watch over baby: Days length fourteen hours twenty-six minutes.

Wednesday, Aug. 28th: baby one month old.

Sunday, September 1st, 1895: Sunday at 3pm we had the baby christened, in St. Patrick's Church by Father McGhee. It was a cool day, cloudy, nearly all day, but the sun came out while baby was being christened and set a beautiful ray right across the font. Baby was very good. We took her to the church in a carriage, and as it was her first ride, she showed her appreciation by going to sleep. She remained asleep during the entire baptismal service. After the baptismal, we took a long drive out in the country near Woodley Lane and through Pierce's Mill Road and home, a long drive, but baby slept on and did not even wake up to get her supper. We named her Lillie for the beautiful flowers of that name, and May for the lovely month of flowers, and the month dedicated to the Mother of God.

September 1st: baby weighs just 10 pounds.

September 23rd: Etta Ross came to take care of baby.

September 28th: baby is two months old, she is well and weighs twelve pounds.

Diary: Emma Lucretia Miller Beck

Tuesday, October 1st, 1895: mamma left baby for the first time to go back to the office. How hard it seems, I sit here at my desk and think all day of baby and how she is getting along without me, but she is too young yet, to know me or to miss me. It is only mamma that feels the loss of the sweet little face and the touch of her little warm hand.

Monday October 7th: baby weighs 14 pounds and is well.

Sunday, October 27th, 1895: a beautiful warm bright day. Took baby out for a car ride, her first and she enjoyed it very much.

Monday October 28th, 1895: Baby is three months old today, it is as warm as Summer, baby weighs 14 ½ pounds.

Sunday, November 3rd, 1895: a beautiful warm day, took baby out for a car ride. The car was very crowded and a young man offered me his seat. Baby seemed to appreciate the kindness of the young man very much as she laid her little head back on mamma's arm and looked up into the young man's face and never changed her position or moved her eyes from his face from the time we started until we reached the boundary. Everyone in the car was very much amused at baby and watched her and said she was a very cute baby, but she had eyes for no one but the young man. We went to see Miss Varden, she thought baby had improved very much and was just as sweet and cute as could be. It was dark when we got home, baby had gone fast asleep looking at a little boy in the car and when we got out at Flint Street, the great big full moon was shining brightly, but baby was sleeping sweetly and perhaps the little angels were talking to her and telling her funny stories for she was laughing while she slept. Papa was waiting for us, and he scolded us for staying out so late, but we did not care, did we baby? We had a good time anyway. Papa took baby's little bonnet off and we laid her down on the bed in all of her fine clothes and her pretty little coat until she had her nap out.

Thanksgiving day, Thursday, November 28th, 1895: baby is four months old today, a very pretty day. Mr. and Mrs. Albertie were out to spend the day and after dinner we took baby out for a walk. We had not gone two squares when baby went to sleep, as usual, she was perfectly happy to be out and laughed and cooed until she went to sleep, then I tucked her under my cape and she slept until I got in the woods in the rear of the house, then baby stretched herself, looked around, up at the trees and the sky and laughed as much as to say, *well I declare, here I have been asleep and dreaming under mamma's cape, when I ought to have been sitting up looking around and enjoying the beautiful sunset and the lovely woods.* Saturday, baby burned her little finger, it was mamma's fault, as she was sitting close to the stove. Baby threw out her little hand, her little finger struck the stove and burned it, what a fuss we all made over that little finger. Grandma put vaseline on it and tied it up, papa kissed it and mama felt very badly over it, but baby did not seem to mind it. She would stick it in her mouth with all the rest of her little fingers and bite on it, so we were compelled to keep it tied up, then rag and all went in her mouth.

December 1st: it is a very nice day. I have given baby her bath, which she enjoys very much, but she does not like to be dressed, so while I am dressing her she is crying. Just as I have finished dressing her the doctor came in, baby looked up with her eyes full of tears and laughed and began cooing and fussing with all her little might. But doctor says baby cannot go out today as she has a cold and it would not be good for her. Baby laughs, coos and yells at the top of her voice, she thinks it is fine fun to hollow. She will put her little hands up with little fists clenched tightly and hollow, then she will look at you as much as to say *isn't that funny*, of course we all laugh, then baby will commence again.

December 11th, 1895: baby had her first caller, little Gracie Middleton. She loves baby and thinks she is very cute, she always stops at the gate when I have baby out in the garden, and says, *please let me see baby's feetses*. She thinks baby's feet are so sweet and always wants to take baby home with her, but Gracie's mamma has promised to buy little Gracie a little sister, when babies were cheap. They are very cheap out in Brightwood Park this Summer, so I suppose Gracie will have a little baby all to herself.

December 12th: baby is four months and fourteen days old and has just seen her first snow storm. How wise and thoughtful her little face looked when I took her to the window and she saw everything so white and beautiful, & the little flakes coming down from the sky and falling to the ground seemed to take baby's fancy. She thought they were bobbing up and down for her amusement and her little hands were moving continually as though she was trying to catch them to put them in her mouth, for baby puts everything in her mouth and why not the snow flakes.

Sunday December 15th, 1895: a beautiful bright day. I sent Etta away, baby would like to know why I sent her nurse away, the girl that amused her by making such funny faces. Baby could tell if she only could, a day never to be forgotten.

December 23th: a lovely warm day, the sunset was simply grand.

December 24th: warm as a Spring day and baby's first Christmas eve. Papa and uncle Louis went to the woods Sunday evening and brought greens to decorate the house and a pretty little tree for baby. Miss Varden gave baby fourteen beautiful balls to hang on the tree, Miss Fulloch gave her a rattle, papa gave a rubber doll, cousin Lizzie a silver cup, and mamma bought the candy and ornaments and a little man that danced. We brought baby down Christmas morning and put her in the large rocking chair in front of the tree, she looked at the bright things and was very much taken with a little chinese baby that was hung up by its neck, the little thing would go around and baby would laugh. I think that baby must have expected old Santa Claus and wanted to give him a chance, for she slept soundly all night and never awoke until 7 o'clock Christmas morning.

Wednesday Dec 25th, 1895: baby's first Christmas morning, a beautiful bright warm day. Baby is well and happy, she thinks her tree is beautiful. She looks at all the bright things on the tree and then she looks from one to the other as much as to say, *what is all this anyway*

and what are all those bright things hanging on that tree, for a little chinese baby seemed to have a great attraction for baby, she seemed to think it was cruel to have a little baby hanging up by its neck on a tree, then there was a big butterfly way up on the top of the tree, and baby thought if I could only get that beautiful bright thing wouldn't I just put it in my mouth and have a fine time with it, then there are all those lovely balls, I don't see why I can not get those, that popcorn looks nice, I am sure I would like that, then there were five little canes, seven cornucopia's filled with candy, some little candy animals and a lovely large rubber doll. In the afternoon I took baby out calling in the park. We went first to see Mabel Sands, she had a pretty tree, but baby was not thinking of trees just about then, for she laid her little head against Mabel's arm and went sound asleep, so I took baby out and she awoke. Then we went in to see the little Clifford children's tree, it was lovely and baby looked at it two or three times, then we walked through the woods. Baby fell asleep, as usual, so I took her in the house.

Saturday Dec 28th: baby weighs 16 pounds.



1896

Saturday, Jan 4th, 1896: baby was restless today and did not sleep all night. She puts her little fingers in her mouth and is feeling for her little teeth, I am sure she will find one very soon.

Sunday, Jan 5th: baby is not cross but she cannot sleep, so mamma was up with her all night.

Monday 6th: baby was quite sick.

Tuesday 7th: baby is no better and last night she had fever all night and did not sleep.

Wednesday 8th: Grandma discovered baby's first little tooth just coming through. Baby has been looking for it for some time, and at last she has found it.

Thursday Jan 9th: baby is better, she slept well all night.

Friday 10th: baby is very bright, much better and her little tooth is growing, soon to be out, then baby will be laughing and crying all the time to show her little tooth.

Jan 11th: baby's tooth is out, and looks awful cute.

Jan 12th: baby is very bright and has been laughing and romping all day, but it is Sunday and that accounts for it, for Sunday is Baby's day. Mamma is home with her all day and she just has a good time. Sunday night, Jan 12: baby did not sleep much, another little tooth is almost ready to come out. Baby is always feeling for her little tooth and she found it yesterday, for she bit down on her little finger and it surprised her so much that for a

second she did not cry, then all of a sudden she cried out. Never mind baby, you will soon learn to keep your little fingers out of your mouth by the time you get two or three teeth.

Jan 13th: baby was very good this morning, she sat in bed watching mamma dress and biting on her rubber doll.

Jan 16th: baby's second little tooth almost through.

Jan 17th: baby well but at night she did not sleep.

Jan 18th: baby was bright all day and slept well at night.

Sunday, Jan 19th: baby's second little tooth came through. Baby is just five months and twenty-two days old and has two teeth.

Tuesday, Jan 28th, 1896: baby is six months old today, a beautiful bright cool day. The Sun arose like a ball of fire, I took baby to the window to look at it, she blew at it then looked at me as much as to say, *my isn't that beautiful, I would like to have it, what is it anyway*. Baby is in splendid health and sleeps well at night.

February 22nd, 1896: baby is well, laughs and romps all the time, sleeps all night, she is the best little thing in the world. Nothing eventful has happened between the 28th of January and February 22nd until that day. After a very cold spell, Washington's birthday dawned beautiful and bright, very pleasant, a great deal warmer than it had been during the week. Well I gave baby her bath, dressed her and put her on grandma's bed, and without thinking I went in the next room. I left baby's powder box on the bed, and this has a particular charm for baby, so as soon as she saw the box she reached out her little hands for the box, when over she went on the floor. Grandma picked baby up and said I had better send for the doctor immediately, we were all very badly frightened for fear baby had hurt her back. She fell forward and struck her forehead so I do not think she sustained any serious injury, for that night she was as bright and happy as ever, so this was baby's first fall.

Thursday, Feb 27th: baby cut her third tooth.

Friday February 28th: baby is seven months old and is well, a lovely day. She cut her third tooth so easily that we did not know it was through.

Sunday March 15th, 1896: baby cut her fourth tooth. She has a very bad cold, her first, but she is very good and happy, does nothing but laugh and romp all the time. She takes notice of everything, not a sound escapes her little ears. If you do not notice her, she will cough to attract your attention and when you look at her she will play peek-a-boo with you by putting her head way down on one side and laughing, she thinks this is very funny, and does it very often.

Diary: Emma Lucretia Miller Beck

Saturday, March 28th: baby is eight months old, is well and as good as usual.

Sunday April 12th: baby took her second car ride today, it is a beautiful warm day and baby has not been out since Christmas day. She was perfectly wild and in the cars everyone noticed her, because she has such a cute way of putting out her little hand to every one. She plays peek-a-boo and patty cake now and is just as cute as she can be. *Sunday April 12th, 1896*, the weather started in very hot, and has continued up to the present day.

Tuesday, April 21st: it is a little cooler today, it has been intensely hot every day. Baby has been out in the garden and woods every day and seems to stand the heat very well. She is perfectly wild to be out, she looks at the flowers and trees and when she hears the birds sing she raises her eyes to the trees and wonders what it is.

Sunday April 26th: took baby out to see Miss Nellie Dunne. She enjoyed herself very much, and made friends in the cars as she always does, everyone notices the baby and thinks she is very cute.

Wednesday, May 6th: a beautiful bright day, not too warm, just cool enough to be pleasant. I had baby's pictures taken, she is just nine months and eight days old. Such a time as we had, she was just as good as could be, she is always good, especially when she is out. The artist tried to keep her perfectly still, but that was impossible for baby. She would put her little finger in her mouth, and draw her little face up so funny, as she always does when she sees strangers, and we could not get her to smile. She would not smile no matter what we did, so we had to take her with her serious little face. After she had her picture taken, we took her down to the office. The folks took her around everywhere and thought she was just as cute and as sweet as could be. She was very good and never cried once.



Sunday, May 10th: baby cut her fifth tooth and put on her first short dress, and everyone said she look very sweet. Katie Slagel was over from Baltimore and she was perfectly wild over baby, she said she thought she was the sweetest and cutest baby she ever saw.

May 11th: the sixth tooth.

Sunday, May 17th: baby had her shoes and socks on for the first time. Shoes were 2½ and socks number 4 but they were both too large, number 2 shoe would have been quite large for baby, but she has a fat little foot and it would not go over her instep, but mamma does

not intend that baby shall have corns by putting her little feet in tight shoes. They cost 75 cents, and the socks 25 cents a pair, the best of that kind.

Thursday May 28th: baby is ten months old today and has been saying da, da, da, pa, pa, pa, ma, ma, ma, standing alone, and doing lots of bright cute tricks. If you tell her to wink her eyes she will shut them tight and laugh at you. She knows every word you say to her. She watches for mamma every evening, and when she sees me, she will yell out and clap her little hands. I can hear her a square off.

Sunday June 28th: baby is eleven months old today, baby is getting along nicely, is as lively as a little cricket, stands alone, gets up and down by holding on the chairs, but does not attempt to walk alone yet.

Monday July 6th 1896: Lillie Dietz came on to see the little baby that had been named for her, she loves the baby and thinks she is the sweetest thing in the world.

Monday July 20th: baby cut another tooth today, making her seventh. She is well, but does not sleep well, she is restless at night, but she is good and now weighs 18½ pounds.

Tuesday July 28th, 1896: Baby is one year old today. She is not very well, she cut a tooth last week and has had fever ever since, does not sleep well at night. The weather is intensely hot and poor little darling feels the heat very much. She is so cute, at night she will sit up in bed, sound asleep and nodding her little head from side to side, like an old woman sleeping in her chair. I do everything to keep baby as cool as possible, I give her ice to eat, and as soon as I get home of an evening I put her in the bath tub & let her paddle around in the water which she loves very much. This morning early it was raining a very little, after breakfast the Sun came out hot, the thermometer registered 96 in my room at the office, then in the afternoon it is cloudy, now again at 3.30 the Sun is shining brightly. Last night I thought there would be a terrible storm but it passed off, and then there was the finest display of electricity I ever saw, which lasted all night, baby was wakeful and I was up and down with her all night. I gave baby a silver spoon for her birthday gift which cost \$1.25. Baby was much better when I got home in the evening and very bright, I went out in the garden after dinner with baby, and gave her some beautiful sweet peas, pink and pure white. I then took her around to the front porch where her grand-mamma and cousin Lil were sitting, baby put the flowers to cousin Lil's nose for her to smell, but held tightly to them, cousin Lil tried to coax baby to give her the sweet peas but she would not. She would pucker up her little nose and mouth and sniff and hold the flowers out for Lil to smell, and said as plain as words *you can smell them but you can not have them*. Lil then said to her, *won't you give them to Grand-ma?* She immediately opened her little hand and with the other she took one pink flower and held it toward her grand-ma. Lil then said *won't you give them all to Grand-ma?* Then she held all out to her, as much as to say, *you can have them*, but she would not give them to Lil, don't you think that was cute? We all thought so.

Diary: Emma Lucretia Miller Beck

Monday August 3rd: baby has been well and quite herself again, Mr. Claughton sent his carriage over this evening for grandma and baby to go out riding so cousin Lil, Joe, grandma, mamma and baby went out riding, baby enjoyed it very much.

Tuesday, Aug 4th: baby cut her eighth tooth with no trouble at all, did not even have fever.

Aug 11th: baby has been very well all Summer, not-with-standing the intense heat, but on this day Monday Aug 10th Lillie gave the baby some grapes to eat and it made her sick. I am sorry that baby should be made sick just through carelessness, she has turned against her bottle and will not take it at all, so mamma will have to take her leave now and stay home with baby. What a good time my little darling will have, a whole month home, and what a delightful time mamma will have with her baby.

Friday August 14th, 1896: today baby walked for the first time alone, when I came home she walked to me, then hid her little head in my lap and laughed, she thought it was fine fun. Now I think baby will have a gay time, and oh my won't she be getting into mischief, papa says he will have to tie her to the windmill to keep her from getting away.

Tuesday August 18th, 96: baby came down to the office today to get her dinner, poor little darling she is getting ready to cut some more teeth. She had not been feeling well and will not take her milk and as the weather has become very cool, I thought it would do baby good to take a car ride, so she and Lizzie came and baby enjoyed her car ride and her dinner above all things.

Tuesday Sept 8th: mamma was not well, so thinking a little trip would do mamma and baby good, we went to Mount Vernon on the cars. It was a very rough ride and I felt worse after I came home than when I started. Grandma and Lizzie went also, it was a beautiful day. Mount Vernon was beautiful, the river looked calm and lovely and baby seemed to enjoy herself very much. She put her little face up close to the bars at Washington's Tomb and peeped in at the large beautiful wreath that Li Hung Chang had put there on the Sunday before. The wreath itself was of Camelia leaves, and at the base of the wreath was an immense yellow satin bow, on the bow was several large pink and white orchids, a very odd wreath. Baby looked at everything in the house, she would put her little face close up to the wire grating before each door and look into the rooms as though she knew all about it.

Friday, Sept 18th, 1896: took baby down to cousin Lil's to spend the day, stopped at the store and put baby on the scales and had her weighed, just 19 pounds, good weight for baby they say.

Thursday, September 24th: Baby cut two jaw teeth.

Monday, September 28th: baby is fourteen months old, is well and the happiest little thing in the world, every one loves her.

Tuesday September 29th, 1896: we had one of the most terrible storms that has ever visited this part of the country, baby was well and slept during the entire storm.

October 1st, 1896: bought baby a beautiful coat, it is cream white bedford cord, trimmed with white silk braid and pale otter fur, a little cap of ottoman silk trimmed with the same fur, to match the coat, it is very pretty and baby looks like a doll in it. The cost of the coat was \$7.00 and the bonnet \$2.00. The weather has been beautiful, some days in October have been just like Summer and baby has had a fine time getting out, and mamma has been home one month with baby and I know she has enjoyed it very much.

October 15th: bought baby her second pair of shoes, very pretty little ones with patent leather tips, number 3 & they are large for her, three pairs of cashmere stockings, two white and one tan for everyday wear, they were twenty five cents a pair.

Wednesday, October 28th: baby is 15 months old and weighs 20 pounds, and during this month she cut two more jaw teeth, her stomach and eye teeth, with no trouble at all, she was not sick and did not even have fever.

November 13th: a nice day, Sun shining all day and our first snow.

November 15th: bought baby some pretty bright red cloth for a coat and cap for baby for second best, cousin Lil made it and trimmed it with black astracam fur, it is very pretty and baby wore it for the first time.

Sunday, November 22nd: I put baby in her little chair and took her to Mr. Saul's the florist, I went down to order some Apple, peach, English walnut and butter nut trees. It was a pretty day and baby and mamma and Miss Alison enjoyed it very much, we went all through the hot house. Baby walked through and looked at all the plants, and wanted all the flower pots to play with as she loves little flower pots.

Thursday November 26th, 1896: Thanksgiving day, a beautiful bright warm day in the morning. It was so foggy that you could not see an object a square ahead but as the morning advanced, the Sun came out in all its Glory and stayed out all day so that baby could be out and enjoy his Glory which she did to the fullest extent. Just to think of a Thanksgiving day so warm that baby was out with a white dress and only a little white jacket, no bonnet. She ran out in the road, across the street to McClaughton's sidewalk, which is concrete, so baby can walk on it with out any trouble, she ran up and down there, and just had a fine time. Finally we went in to dinner and baby ate her first Thanksgiving dinner, she had a great big turkey bone, some cranberry sauce, sweet potatoe, white potatoe with turkey gravy, bread and butter, a piece of celery, apple sauce and a taste of mince pie, during the day she had eaten two apples, now don't you think that was doing well for baby? Cousin Lil came out and spent the day with us, and in the evening we sat on the porch without any wraps until dark, even grandma sat out without a wrap on, then baby went to sleep, and I brought her in and put her to bed and so ended the day.

Saturday, November 28th: warm as Summer. Baby 16 months old and weighs 22 pounds and ½. The sun rise was beautiful, the sky at 6.30 am was pink and gray, then the most beautiful baby blue streaks mingled with red and gray. A lot of fuss the Sun makes before he gets up in the morning, all these beautiful curtains he has around his bed, then we come to the last beautiful curtain of gold that shields his majestic form, when Lo! it parts, then just over the tree tops, he bursts forth in all his dazzling brightness to warm the earth, to make hearts happy and bright, little children glad, and everything in nature welcomes him, He must be a happy jolly fellow, when He thinks of all this, and why shouldn't he. And on this day my little darling is sixteen months old, a sweet lovable romping little darling, laughs as soon as her eyes are open in the morning and the last thing at night. Well after such a beautiful Sun rise and such a lovely morning, it has clouded over and now at 12 o'clock it is raining continued to rain all day, at night, and all day *Sunday* with hail, *Sunday* night it rained, hailed, and the snow fell, so that by *Monday* morning every thing was covered with snow quite a change from last week, when the weather was like Summer. *Tuesday* clear but cold. *Wednesday* cloudy all day and very cold, had Miss Allison bring the baby down to see Father Keane as he is going to Rome, and may not return to this country again. Miss Allison and the baby were in the parlor waiting for me, as I was to meet them there at 12 o'clock, but before I got there and while the baby was in the parlor looking out of the window, Father Keane left the house to go to the train, so baby and I did not see him. I was so disappointed, as for baby, well I guess she wasn't bothered about Bishop Keane or any one else, so that she had her mamma. Well we came around to the office, and after Miss Varden had played with baby for a while she got so sleepy, mamma nursed her darling and she went sound asleep, and here she is tucked away on two chairs behind two screens, with mamma's cape under her, and Mr. Oram's coat over her, and every one that comes in peeps over the screen to see baby sleeping, with her little rosy cheeks and her little curls she looks very sweet. She slept until 3 o'clock and Miss Varden and mamma had to play with the young lady until 4 o'clock, then I took baby home, it was bitter cold, but baby seemed amused at the cold, and every time the wind would blow in her face she would laugh and look at me in her funny little way as much as to say, *well this is something new*.

Thursday, Dec 3rd: is well but she is beginning to bite again and does not sleep well at night, so I think she will soon cut some more jaw teeth. Poor little darling, I wish she was through with them.

Sunday Dec 13th: a beautiful warm day, papa and I took baby for a ramble in Brown's woods to get some twigs, moss &c to make baby a log cabin for her Christmas. Baby enjoyed her trip very much, and when papa carried her across a little stream of water and stood her on a plank in the middle she laughed at the beautiful clear water, with all the little white pebbles at the bottom, and wanted to walk right in and play with them, for baby cannot see water without wanting to get right in it. We got home at 12 o'clock, had dinner, then a friend came out to take baby's picture, and Oh! such a time as we had trying to keep baby quiet for just a second, she would not keep still, so I guess we did not get a good one of

her. We wanted to have the cats picture taken, but Tom was nowhere to be found, but just as Mr. Heilman was getting ready, here comes Tom up the road. We hustled him up on the porch by the side of the baby, then baby began hugging Tom, well that would not do, so we gave baby a graham cracker to eat to keep her quiet. When Tom saw the cracker he wanted it so we gave him a piece, then baby would stoop down and get the cats cracker and so between the baby and the cat we had a perfect show. The cat would sit still a minute, then the baby would move, when the baby was still the cat would move, we laughed and laughed, and it was about an hour before we had the picture taken. Baby was restless, she had not had her nap, and after Mr. Heilman had left baby had a hard crying spell, so she could not have felt very well. Finally she got to sleep, and when she awoke she felt better, and was as bright and happy as usual. The weather has been beautiful. Just think of baby standing on the porch, with a white mull dress on, with short sleeves in the middle of December, and when I took her in the woods I took her coat off it was so warm.



Tuesday 15th: cloudy and cold, at night it snowed quite hard, so that baby has not been able to go out since, it has been very cold and *Tuesday Dec 22nd* it snowed again so that we will have a white Christmas after all. Well *Christmas morning* dawned clear and cold, we had a very pretty tree for baby, Grandma gave her a silver knife and fork, papa a rocking chair, mamma her doll, and all her candy and ornaments for the tree, a little china plate to eat out of, a pair of shoes, little shirts &c. She enjoyed her tree very much, her rocking chair she thought lovely, and her baby she kept kissing and putting her little finger in her eyes, to see why they went shut. We lighted the tree in the morning, kept all the blinds closed and the room dark. Baby seemed a little afraid at first when we first opened the doors after breakfast and she saw all the lights on the tree but she soon got used to it, and then she would go over to the tree and put her little hand on everything with in reach, she did not attempt to pull anything off just touch things to see what they were.

Sunday, Dec 27th: a very nice day. Kate Slagel and Lil came out stayed to dinner, then we took baby down to the Navy Yard on the corner of 8th and I St. to see Mr. Shamm, he was so fond of baby. He has a Graphophone in the store, he put a nickel in the slot and baby heard a stump speech, her first, she seemed very much surprised, looked all around to see where the man was and the stump too I guess. She had not had her nap, and I was afraid she would get cross, but she was perfectly lovely and as good as gold, it was a long ride, one hour going and one coming home, but baby did not mind it.

Monday, Dec 28th: clear and cold, baby is 17 months old, well and happy and just as fat as a little pig. She comes out and up the road every evening when it is pleasant to meet me, she can walk two or three squares now with out getting tired. She has just outgrown her first shoes, but did not wear them out so I will put them away for her.

Tuesday, December 29th: Mrs. Dunn came out with Elizabeth, so that baby had company all day. Baby is getting very independent, she can go up the stairs alone now and will not allow anyone to carry her up. On the 18th of December Miss Allison left us and Miss Christine Hilfinger came to live with us. She is very nice, and baby likes her, but she remembers all her old friends. Cousin Lizzie came out the Sunday before Christmas and the baby remembered her, she would go to her kiss her and look at her as much to say, *I know you and I have not forgotten you*. Baby is very cute and knowing, she knows every word you say to her, she loves the water, has always loved it, and always enjoys a bath. When baby's hands and face are dirty, she does not like it, and just as soon as she gets through eating she goes to the bathroom to be washed. I put a chair in the bathroom for baby to stand on when I just wash her hands and face. I put her on the chair once, put the stopper in the basin once, she saw me do it. The second time I took her in, she would pull the chair over to the stand, I would put her on it, she reached out her little hand for the stopper, put it in herself, but she did not quite understand how to turn the water on. But I turned the water on for her, she watched me then she did it herself, and has been doing it ever since.



1897

Friday, Jan 1st, 1897: a nice day, the Sun did not shine, but it was not cold. Lizzie Wille came out and the baby nearly went wild over her. We lit the tree at night and the baby thought the lights were the loveliest things she ever saw. We had the candles sitting all around the tree at the bottom in the garden of moss, and the baby lay right down on the floor sprawled, and watched the lights and blew at them, and laughed, and clapped her little hands, and then she would stand up and look at the tree and say *Oh!* I took her up to the store and had her weighed, just twenty-three pounds, a solid lump.

Sunday, Jan 10th, 1897: papa and I took baby out to the zoo. It was a beautiful day, the Park was very crowded, everyone noticed baby, and said what a cute, lovely baby. She would laugh at everyone go up to all the children she would see, and want to kiss them, or shake hands with them. She thoroughly enjoyed looking at the animals and wanted to put her hand on the dogs, and would say *Oh!* then laugh at everything she saw, she was just as happy as could be. When she got to the pond where the swans are, she wanted to go right into the water, we had to hold her. She would look up into our faces, with a pleading little look on her face as much as to say, *please let me go in that beautiful water, I don't see why I can't go in*. We got home about dark, but baby did not even get tired, when we got out of the car at Flint St, papa said to baby, *if you are tired and sleepy, Lillie, lay your head on papa's shoulder and go to sleep*. She laid her little head down

and sang to herself all the way down to the house. Then when we got in the house, she played a little with cousin Lil and Joe, I nursed her and she went right to sleep.

Wednesday morning, Jan 13th: a magnificent Sunrise, the whole Eastern and Southern skies was a mass of fiery red clouds, they say red in the morning, a sailors warning. It has been very cloudy all day, and trying hard to snow. Began snowing that evening, continued all night. *Thursday* morning everything was white. I took baby up in the morning, at the window, she said Oh!, I opened the window got baby some snow, she would feel it, pat it and laugh over it, then put it in her mouth. Every day while the snow lasted, Miss Hilfinger would take baby out in the snow, she was perfectly wild over it.

Tuesday evening, Jan 19th, 1897: Harry came back to us. Baby likes him and can call his name real nicely, she calls him *Hry*.

Wednesday, Jan 27th: it snowed very hard all night, it was the deepest snow we have had for a long time, and the wind blew so hard Thursday and Friday that the snow drifted and was all blown away, and Wednesday night the pipe leading to the tank froze and bursted.

Thursday the 28th was a bitter cold day, the wind blew a perfect gale, and baby was 18 months old, but she did not mind the weather, she is well and happy. Bought baby two more pair of tan stockings 23 cents a pair, the others are getting too short. She has little white leggins, that come way up around her waist like drawers which cost \$1.00. She looks very sweet when she is all dressed up, with her little white ottoman silk bonnet trimmed with pale otta fur, and white bedford cord coat trimmed with white silk braid and otta fur white dress and white leggins. She had not been out of the house for a week, but yesterday, *Sunday Jan 31*, was a lovely warm day, so I took her out for a car ride to Takoma Park to see Miss Ourand. After baby got there she went to sleep and slept for an hour so did not get home until 7.30.

Tuesday, Feb 2nd: ground hog day, and such a day, rain, hail, snow and wind, all day and all night, so that the little fellow did not see his shadow that day, and if he stepped out that day he got pretty cold and wet. Clear until *Saturday*, when it rained again, *Sunday* clear and very windy, *Monday 8th* rain, and snow. *Thursday* night snow again followed by rain, very sleety. *Friday* morning everything was covered with icicles, and the scenery was grand, when the Sun came out, it was simply beautiful. *Saturday* beautiful and bright and warm. Baby is well and at night when I go home I do nothing but romp with baby, and she enjoys it. I tell you, Uncle Henry was out last night, he played the mouth organ and I took baby under the arms and danced with her in the dining room out into the kitchen and hall, until mama was nearly exhausted, but baby thought it was fine fun, and cried as though her little heart would break because I did not keep it up. Then we went upstairs and played hide and seek until 9 O'clock, Oh! but we have lots of fun baby and I. She is just beginning to say little things mama, papa, Harry, ice, pap, &c, but she understands every word that is spoken to her, and is a sharp, cute, sweet little rascal that laughs and romps all day long. What would I do with out her, what if I should have to leave her, it would be terrible.

Sunday, Feb 28th, 1897: baby is 19 months old today, a beautiful bright warm day. Papa, baby and I walked down to Mr. Sauls the florist to get some things, baby enjoyed herself very much. There was some snow left on the hillside from Friday's snow storm and when baby sees snow she is perfectly wild, so we had to stop every now and then to make a snow ball for her to eat, she loves snow.

Tuesday, March 2nd: a beautiful warm day, so warm that people on the streets carried their wraps on their arms.

Wednesday: cloudy, rain, then clearing, the sky is right bright at present, 2 O'clock don't know how long it will stay so, as it is still threatening. This is the first Presidential inauguration since baby came, Wm. McKinley, President and Garret A. Hobart Vice President.

Thursday, March 4th, 1897: a perfect day, a little cool in the morning, warmer in the afternoon, the Sun began clouding over about 5 O'clock, and set cloudy. Some time during the night it rained and hailed, and Friday morning it was cold, rainy, and very disagreeable. The Maryland troops were camped in the P.O. building so that when we came to work in the morning, the troops were just getting out of the building. They got off about 9.45, then by the order of Geo. A. Howard, we went to work. We were very much disappointed as we all thought we would get excused for that day, the P.O. clerks were excused until 12 O'clock, in order to get the building cleaned.

March 14th: baby has taken a heavy cold, the first cough she has ever had.

Monday, March 15th: baby's cold is no better, the days are warm and beautiful and baby cannot go out.

Sunday, March 21st: warm as Summer, and just to think baby could not even go out today. Mildred came over in the afternoon, and baby was perfectly wild over her, but Mildred would not make friends with her.

Monday, March 22nd, 1897: baby still has her cold, but it is better.

Sunday, March 28th, 1897: baby is 20 months old today, she can say mama, papa, Harry, please mama, please papa, tittie &c, hot, apple and Tom, she knows everything that is said to her, and if you tell her any thing or she sees you do anything once, she never forgets it. Baby is well and happy as the days are long. The beautiful Spring days have come and with them the beautiful wild flowers. Baby goes in the woods everyday and brings in violets and the lovely little periwinkle. She has a little garden all her own, in which she plants them, she gets the large watering pot and insists on watering them every evening and she does it very nicely. She tugs the large can along and won't let any one help her.

Sunday, April 25th: papa and mama took baby for her first long walk in the woods over in Browns woods. Then we got to the beautiful little stream of water that runs at the edge of

the woods, papa lifted baby over, and put her down right in the middle of the stream on some sand and pebbles that were raised above the water. Papa taught her how to throw the little stones in the water to make it splash, and she had a fine time, then we went up and sat on the hill until nearly twilight. Baby had her supper, then we gathered some violets, papa carried baby home, we planted the violets, and today they are holding up their little heads, as bright and happy as can be, although I think they would rather have stayed down in the violet dell, where the ground was just covered with them. I guess they had a real jolly time down there and at night, I expect the little fairies would come out to dance and have a good time with them, so it does seem a shame to bring the little things from their sweet home to adorn baby's garden, but then baby is so sweet and loves them so, and waters them and cares for them, that I am sure when they look up into her sweet baby face, they forget all about their fairy dell and think she is one of the little fairies that has come up from the dell to minister to their wants.

Wednesday, April 28th, 1897: baby is twenty-one months old today, a lovely warm day, the apple trees are in full bloom, the peach trees have just finished blooming, the vegetables are all coming up, and baby had her first little red radish out of the garden this evening. Papa pulled it up and brought it to her, she thought it was the cutest thing she ever saw, she played with it, showed it to grandma, Christine and Harry, and finally she ate it. She enjoys everything she sees, the flowers, the green grass, the leaves on the trees just budding, everything, she goes up to the trees looks up at them, talks about them in her way, and is perfectly wild when I go to the rose bushes to look for buds, she pulls down the branches and looks too. She is a sharp little girl.

Thursday, May 6th: took baby up to the store this evening and had her weighed, just 24 pounds, then we went out to the road to meet papa. While standing there, an old man came along in a buggy and crossed the track right in front of a down coming car, took the fender completely off the car, and did no damage to the old man or his buggy, I thought surely he would have been killed. Baby laughed and said *dase*, as if the whole thing has been done for her amusement.

Saturday, May 8th, 1897: today is a beautiful bright May day, Grandma is 64 years old. Bought a pair of tan shoes number 4 1/2 & for which I paid one dollar (\$1.00) a pair of stockings twenty five cents, a pretty white embroidered hat \$1.50 white pique' and embroidery for a coat, one piece of long cloth for night gowns and drawers and embroidery for trimming the same, the long cloth had twelve yards in the piece and was \$1.50, the embroidery amounted to \$2.66, the goods for the coat was two yds. at twenty cents a yard (40 cents).

Friday, May 28th: a beautiful day, baby is twenty-two months old, is well, a perfect little romp, stands on the front porch or in the garden and makes the sweetest little courtesy to everyone that passes by, even the negro men that pass, they seem to have more attraction for her than anyone else, she bows to them until they are out of sight, and it pleases them very much for they always remember her and look for her when they pass the house. She helps mamma and papa to plant the seed. She sticks her little finger down in the ground, makes a little hole, then puts in the seed, covers it up, then says *dase*.

May 29th: mamma was sent over to the Busch building, but was only over there four hours, when I was sent for to come back.

Wednesday, June 16th, 10 am: baby has just come down to the office to see me. She does not feel extra good, I think that she is cutting her last four large jaw teeth. She has not slept well for two or three weeks past. I took her all over the office to see all my friends, they thought she was a lovely baby, but she would not shake hands with anyone as she usually does, but would just lay her little head on mamas shoulder and smile, that is all she would do, she would say goodbye to everyone, as though she was glad to get rid of them. She stayed down until 12 o'clock, then I walked down to the avenue with her and put her on the car with Miss Hilfinger and they went for a ride around 14th St home. It is a very hot day, and mamma had to leave her baby and go back to the office to work. How lonely it is without my little darling.

Monday, June 21st: the longest day, a beautiful day. After dinner, baby, cousin Lil, and mamma took a walk over to 14th St, baby went up to all the children and tried to be friendly with them but they were not very sociable. She went up to one little boy, put one little wild flower in his hand, but that did not even make him friendly, so baby gave him another, then she walked away. She loves children and wants to stop and talk to all that she sees. She says a great many words, and tries to say everything that she hears anyone else say, she is a smart little one. Just as soon as I get ready to wash my dishes, she will get a chair, put it up to the sink or table, take all the dishes as I wash them, and put them on the tray just as good as I can. Today I was preparing the steak for broiling, baby salted and peppered it just as she saw me doing it. Her father then prepared the lettuce, baby took a knife and fork and tried to cut it up as she saw him doing. Nothing escapes her, not an act or a word.

June 22nd: this morning I happened to say to Miss Hilfinger that it would be wet out in the grass for baby, she would get her skirts wet. She went up to the car with me, and out in the road she picked up all her little skirts, and looked up into my face, shook her little head, and said as plain as words, *you said the grass and roads were wet, and that I would get my skirts wet, but I'll not get my skirts wet, I will hold them up*, and away she trudged up the road, little skirts way up to her waist, the little drawers looking so cute, little fat legs, tan shoes and tan socks. She is a sweet darling baby. Tan shoes 75 cents.

Sunday, July 4th, 1897: we all took a ride to rock creek, it was terribly hot but we had a real good time. Papa took baby's shoes and socks off and took her in the water and then she wanted mama to come in, so in I had to go, well we just had a fine time. Baby did not want to come out at all, she had not the least fear of the water.

Tuesday, July 6th: baby cut a large jaw tooth and she was quite sick so I got my leave from the office and stayed at home, how she has enjoyed the time, she will not let any one touch her, it is real funny to watch her, if any one wants to do any thing for her she will say mammie, this is her way of saying that mamma will do it for her.

Wednesday, July 21st, 1897: Harry left home to go to Philadelphia to enlist in the Navy. Harry is quite a tease, the night before he left he was playing with baby, she had a paper bag filled with peanuts, Harry put a hole in the bag and kept taking them out. Baby would say *top Harry, way Harry*, but Harry kept on teasing her. So after he had gone, I told baby that Harry had gone away, would never come back, wasn't she sorry? She said *no*, then I would say to her, *poor Harry, he was a good boy, wasn't he?* Then she would make the most woe begone little face as though it would hurt her to say it, and say *nope*, and no matter how often I would ask, she would never change her opinion.

Wednesday July 28th, 1897: baby is two years old.

August 1st: baby is not well, her teeth have been troubling her the entire Summer.

August 16th: baby cut another jaw tooth, the upper second jaw tooth on the left side, the last one cut was the lower corresponding one. Baby is beginning to say everything now.

Saturday August 28th: a lovely bright day, but quite hot, a nice breeze blowing through, which makes it quite pleasant, baby is twenty-five months old. The first cut baby has had,

she received the first part of this month. Lil gave her a glass of water in the kitchen, she started to go in the hall where her grandma was sitting, when she stumbled and fell, breaking the glass all to pieces, and cutting her third little finger on the left hand to the bone. It was a miracle she did not cut it off. It has not healed as it should and I am very much afraid it will be crooked. The Dr. and Lil made so light of it, said it was only a little cut, didn't amount to anything, so they did not fix it up very carefully. The result was that the plaster slipped down, and as there was no splint under her little finger she would bend it, in that way it healed. We are keeping it bandaged up, to try to straighten it. I gave baby for her second birthday a solid silver knife, fork, and spoon for which I paid \$5.50. It is very pretty, and she is very careful of it, and also very proud of it. I thought I would surprise her, she is such a sensible little thing,

so I put her chair up to the table, put a napkin on her little table, her plate, cup and saucer, and then I put her silver on her plate, it looked bright and beautiful. I got everyone to sit down at the table, I took baby up in my arms and placed her in her chair. She was laughing and romping, but when she saw her beautiful present, she stopped suddenly, looked at them, then smiled the sweetest little smile, laid her little head over on my arm, I was standing by her chair, looked up into my face, and said *mine*, I said *yes darling they are yours, mamma gave them to you*. She was too full to say anything for a moment. Papa



said he thought if we had said one more word to her, she would have burst out crying. Then she raised her little head and said, *mine, baby, mamma cut, fork, spoon*, and we have to give them to her everyday. When her little finger was cut and bandaged up, she could not use her little hand, so I one evening only gave her the fork, she burst out crying. I had to give her the spoon and knife, then she laughed and was happy. She shows them to everyone and tells everyone that they are baby's and that mamma gave them to her. I also gave her a handsome puritan spoon for which I paid \$1.50.

Tuesday, Sept 28th: baby is 26 months old, a beautiful day. Mamma went to Baltimore yesterday, *Monday 27th*, baby says *too bad*, that ma should go away and leave her. Well, ma came back today, *Thursday 30th*, and baby was wild, she ran up the road to meet her and Aunt Nell, and kept saying all the way up, *ma come home again, ma come home again*.

Thursday, October 28th, 1897: a rainy day, has been raining for eight days, and I have been home sick for eight days. Baby was perfectly happy and wild with delight, she never left me for a minute, she would sit on the bed and have her breakfast and lunch with me. Sometimes she would sit in her little rocking chair, but she would always put it close to the bed, then she would say, *right here, where mamma can see baby*. Her last two jaw teeth on the right side are through. They have been coming for two months, but she has never been cross or fretful with them, she is as happy as a bird, laughing and romping all day long. Ma taught her to say Rock abye baby, I wish anyone could hear her. After she had said it two or three times, she insisted that baby could do it, in this way, I would tell her a line, she would say it after me, then when I was about to say the second line, she would say *baby dood it*. She can also say Little Bo peep and her prayers very nicely.

Sunday, Nov 28th, 1897: baby is twenty-eight months old, still the same happy little darling. When I leave her in the morning she will kiss me and say, *mammie go away and lead the baby all day*, in the most woe begone little voice. She can help me do everything, her little hands are in every thing. She can make bread, she can cook, clear off the table, set the table, wash the dishes and wipe them, in fact baby can dood it all. She is a perfect picture with her little apron on, her sleeves rolled up, and standing on a chair by the sink turning on first one spigot then the other, to get hot water or cold just as she wants it, washing her hands, washing out the dish cloth, washing off the table and other things too numerous to mention.

Wednesday, Dec 1st: bought today a very beautiful doll for baby, for which I paid \$1.85, a set of dishes \$1.50, some balls for tree 40 cents. Baby is well and as happy as the days are long, a regular chatterbox, says her prayers as cute as can be, says almost everything now, repeats every word after you. She is delighted with the prospect of Christmas and what Santa Claus will bring her. She insists upon having a wash tub and board, and talks more about that than a doll or any thing else.

Monday, Dec 6th, 1897: a beautiful day, clear and bright, just cool, children are out in droves looking at the pretty Christmas things. I bought baby her first little silver thimble,

she is so anxious to do all the sewing that I was compelled to get her a fiddie, that is what she calls thimble. It only cost 25 cts., some ornaments for the tree 25 cents.

Monday, Dec 13th, 1897: bought today a table for baby fifty cents, a box of sheep fifty cents, ornaments for tree twenty-five cents, book twenty cents. Had baby weighed yesterday *Sunday Dec. 12*. Weighed twenty-seven pounds, is well, and teeth are all through at last, twenty-eight months old, says everything, and is just as cute as can be.

Wednesday, Dec 15th: cloudy this morning but has cleared off beautifully. Baby has been promised that she will be taken downtown when it is a nice clear day, so she has had her little heart set on going, but it has been raining nearly all week, so that she can not go. She is very much interested in Santa Claus this year, and I think she will enjoy Christmas very much. She loves everything that is beautiful, if I show her anything that is pretty, she will say *aint it pitty, Oh! aint it pitty*, then she changes the tone of her voice every time she says it so that it sounds very sweet and cute the way she says it. Miss Varden gave me some flannel for baby that she had partly embroidered. I gave it to baby, she was wild over the embroidery, she would put her little hands on the flowers and feel them and say, *ain't the flowers pitty mammie*. Then she hung it over the back of a chair, and went all around the room to look at it. Katie went over, lifted it up to look at it, baby said, *don't touch it Katie*, but Katie kept on looking at it, baby said, *Katie I tole you not touch it*. And another expression she has learned this past week is, *I don't know*, and *I believe*, she says a german prayer very nicely. We went out in the woods *Sunday, Dec 12* and she wanted to bring in all the beautiful green moss that she saw, I think she sees every bit that grows in the woods.



1898

Friday, Jan 28th: baby is just two years and a half old, well and happy and the same little laughing romp, and a perfect chatterbox. She can say her prayers and St. Nicholas very nicely. Sometimes when she is going up the stairs she will commence to say her little pieces anywhere, whenever she takes a notion. She will take her doll Bessie, sit her up in the chair or on the bed, then begin to say The Night Before Christmas, and at the end of every line she will hold her little head to one side, and point her little finger at Bessie, and say, *see Bessie or see?* She knows everything and remembers everything you tell her. I bought her two pair of black stockings, her first, I hate black stockings, and would never get them before, they were twenty-five cents a pair, a pair of shoes, her first spring heels, number 5, one size too large, cost \$1.25. She is very happy over everything she gets, and loves everything beautiful. She can thread a needle and has her little thimble, and helps me sew.

Monday, Jan 31st: we had our first heavy snow storm, Tuesday and Wednesday the wind blew a gale and was bitter cold.

Thursday, Feb 3rd: it was warmer and baby got out with her leggins on and her rubber boots. She was happy for she loves the snow.

Sunday, Feb 6th: a beautiful day, but very muddy, we were walking around the park all afternoon, baby and I.

Monday, Feb 7th: a beautiful day. I guess baby is out walking with aunt Lizzie, I wish I could be with her everyday. She said to me this morning as I was leaving her, *Don't lead the baby, mammie, stay with me*. And so it is every day.

Monday, Feb 28th, 1898: a beautiful bright day, cold enough to be pleasant. Baby is just as well as can be, she is two years seven months old today, bright as a dollar, a gold dollar, nothing escapes her. She was dressing herself Sunday, I was in a hurry to get her out as it was a lovely day, she was fastening her garter, playing with it, I said *hurry darling, let mamma fasten it. —No baby will do it*. I took the garter from her playfully and put it on for her, *why done you let baby do it, mammie, why done you go away, go to the office with Josie, Lida, and Ella and stay there, baby done want you*, all of this in an outburst of temper, because I would not let her fasten her garter in her own way. *Very well*, said I, *when I go to the office tomorrow, I will stay there and will not come home anymore to baby*. She thought over it for a minute then said, *done go away and lead the baby mammie, take the baby wid you to see Josie, Lida and Ella, pease mammie, don't go*, so this is like her always. You cannot scold her, her lips will quiver and she will look at you in perfect astonishment, she does not know what it means.

Wednesday March 2nd: had a heavy snow storm. Baby is wild over snow, when I came home, baby was at the window, I had to amuse her by throwing snow balls up to her. When her father came home, he had to do the same, *some more papa*, and she would dance with delight as one would come against the window and run down.

Monday, March 28th: baby is thirty-two months old today, a little cloudy but looks as though it will clear. Yesterday, papa mammie and baby went over to Brown's woods to get some Arbutus. We took a basket, bottle of water, a banana & some cake for baby in case she would get hungry. We found a nice bed of the sweet little flowers as baby called them, then we rambled around the woods until we found an old tree that had been blown down by the storm, three trees grown closely together, one had been cut off, the other two formed a perfect bench, one to sit on the other to lean against, the one that had been cut off formed a nice little triangle corner, and in this the baby fitted perfectly. Here we sat and rested, baby ate her cake and banana, drank water out of the bottle, and thought that was very funny. She was having such a good time that she did not want to come home. It was a cloudy day, and a little shower every now and then, but we did not mind that. After staying over there for two hours, we started home, I carrying the basket full of plants of Arbutus to plant in the garden for baby, and baby on papa's back. When we got to the little streams, papa put baby down in the water to wade across. She had her muddy boots on as she calls them, and she would have stayed in the water all night if we had let her, go right in the deepest part no fear at all. Then we went up a hill, on top were two geese. Baby wanted them, so she started for the geese as she called them, but they got through

a hole in the fence. Baby went right up to the hole to talk to them, *come home wid me won't you gooses*. Just then, old Mr. Goose stuck his long neck out and made for baby, she left the hole in a hurry and came running to me, so then we got home without further adventure. Baby is very sweet now, everyone loves her. She is generous and not in the least jealous, she has her little hands in everything. She wants to wash the dishes, she can set the table and clear it off, she helps Mrs Baker make the cake, then she wants to sew, and tells me when she gets to be a big girl she will do all my work and make all my clothes.

Sunday, April 10th: we had baby's picture taken in her little blue sailor suit. She looked very sweet and pretty but she could not keep still. She tried very hard, but she would move in spite of everything. So the pictures were not good, no one liked them.

Saturday, April 23rd, 1898: the President made his first call for troops today. Is it not horrible? War, for a peaceful nation like this to go to war.

Thursday, April 28th: baby is thirty-three months old today. A real winter day, raining, snowing and blowing, cold as any day we have had this winter, and everything planted, and I expect everything will be ruined. Baby is just having a fine time this week, papa is home taking his leave to fix up the garden, that's why it has been so disagreeable, raining all week. Papa wraps baby up good and warm, puts her rubber boots on and takes her in the woods to get wild honeysuckle and moss. She brings this in the house, papa puts some canvas down on the floor, then baby lays her moss down on this, and plants all her flowers in the moss. This she leaves for me to see in the evening.

Saturday, May 28th, 1898: baby is thirty-four months old today, a bright pretty day, and she is so happy because I have told her that I would be home with her two days, Sunday and Monday decoration day. I bought baby a pair of patent leather shoes, she thinks they are lovely. I bought her a beautiful little red china silk parasol. Well when I brought it home, she came downstairs to meet me, she only had on her little shirt. I turned to put down my bundles when I heard a cry, I looked around and there was baby coming down steps on her head, the first time she ever fell down stairs. I caught her before she got to the bottom and found her more frightened than hurt, so to pacify her, I showed her the parasol. Well it was too sweet for anything to hear her exclaim, *Oh! ain't it pitty, did you bring this home for me? Oh! sank you mammie* and there she trotted around the hall with nothing on but her little shirt, and the red parasol over her head, so excited she did not know what to do with herself.

Monday, May 30th: baby walked up the street with me, and carried her parasol. All the children came out to look at her, and if any one touched the parasol, she would say, *don't tut it*, and she would not let anyone put their hands on it. She is very cute, she knows everything, and she talks so cute. She will say, *I wouldie I couldie, Oh! I couldie*, if I ask her *what's the matter darling*, she will say *nuttie*, and such a sweet little voice that it makes those words sound so cute. When Mabel Sands comes along, the baby will run out and say, *Madie come in and see me*, Mabel will say *I can't now —Oh! pease do, I want to tell you suddie*, then Mabel stops, baby goes out to the gate, stands there and looks at

Mabel. Well, I said, *darling I thought you wanted to tell Mabel something.* —yes, she said, *I wanted to tell her about my little baby, that I have down in my new house —where is your new house?* says Mabel. *Down the city on Sedie Street.* She has everything under the sun in that new house.

Tuesday, June 28th, 1898: baby is thirty-five months old. Extremely hot day, thunder storm in the afternoon and first rain at Brightwood for five weeks, everything burned up. Baby says her poor little flowers are so firsty that they all died. She has her first slippers, which cost 85 cents, very soft and pretty, number 5, and three pairs of clocked stockings or socks, 75 cents.

Monday morning, July 18th, 1898: grandma, baby, and I started for Canandaigua, baby's first trip on the steam cars. We had a carriage come for us at 6.30 a.m. Baby was wild with delight, she loves to ride in a carriage. We left at 7.50 a.m., changed cars at Baltimore, got to Harrisburg at 11.30. Baby was getting tired by that time. We took the parlour car from Harrisburg to Canandaigua. On the parlour car we met a little boy and his mother, Guerdon Norris Messer. He was in love with baby, played with her, and waited on her all the way out. She was lovely and cute, and everyone in the car was in love with her. She would not let Guerdon out of her sight. When the car stopped at a station, Guerdon would go out on the platform, she would call out to him, *Guerdon come right in here, the Sun will burn you black,* and *Guerdon, you little rascal, come right in here to me,* then everyone would laugh. The porter had a little stool on the car, baby took possession of it, every time the porter wanted the stool, baby would say, *that is my tool, I am going to take it home with me.* We reached our Journey's end at 7.35 p.m. pretty well tired out, was met by James and Andrew with a carriage, everyone was in love with baby, called her a dainty doll.

Friday, July 22nd: went up Canandaigua Lake to the head. Baby had a good time with her little cousins Helen and Jerry. The lake was beautiful, scenery grand. Started back home *Saturday July 23rd, 1898,* 8.30 p.m., sat up all night, got home Sunday Morning at 8 a.m., tired to death. Took a carriage, reached home at 9 a.m., delighted to be there once again.

Thursday, July 28th, 1898: my little darling is three years old today. Just as hot as can be, a thunder storm at 1 o'clock and just poured. Gave baby a beautiful white embroidered hat, with pink ribbon bows for her birthday, which cost \$3.00 was \$5.00 and a silver spoon of the Maine \$2.25.

Wednesday evening at 7. p.m., Sept 7th, 1898: Harry came home to see us. I don't think that baby remembered him. Went back Friday morning at 10 AM, the 9th.

Wednesday, Sept 28th: baby is 38 months old today. She is well and just as cute, and a perfect chatterbox. She knows the name of all the trees and flowers on the place. It is a beautiful day, bright and cool. How I would like to be home with my baby and ramble in the woods and gather the wild flowers, and she wants to know the name of all of them.

Friday, Oct 28th: a beautiful day. Just come in from my daily walk down to the market house, streets crowded with people, and today my baby is 39 months old, a laughing, romping chatterbox. She is getting to be a very useful little girl, when I have no girl she helps me a great deal. She can dry all my dishes, set the table, *feep the floor*, as she calls it, and I tell you she makes things lively when she does sweep, she even sweeps Tom the cat out. Then the next minute she is loving him, and telling him he is the goodest old Tom, my. Tom has been sent away because he stole our neighbor's meat and he would catch the birds, but I guess we will miss him very much, as he was a beautiful cat, and would follow the baby around like a dog.

Monday, Nov. 28th, 1898: a lovely bright cold morning, but clouded over in the afternoon. Had our first snow Thanksgiving day, Nov 24. Weds 23, half day holiday from the office so I will have until Monday to be home with my baby. Well the days have flown by all too quickly, and here I am on this 28th of Nov. back at my desk, and baby is 40 months old, so full of mischief and romp that she does not know what to do with herself, or how to let it out. I was sitting by her bed one night this past week, waiting for her to go to sleep, when she showed me a tiny little doll with one arm, and informed me that Martha, that is the name she gave the baby, was half old in July, and the next day she told me that she was half old on the 48th of July. I bought her a pair of shoes on the 23. Nov. I tried them on and they were too small and would not go on her little instep. So I said, *now that is too bad, I will have to take these shoes back and get a larger pair.* —*Oh! no mamma, never mind, that makes no difference, I will just take them up stairs and put them in my little drawer until they grow*, her little face just as serious as could be, so she took them up and put them away, and this morning I was compelled to take them away very quietly, for fear she would remonstrate. Friday I was washing out some clothes, I told baby I would hurry and get through. The time seemed long to baby so she said, *mamma, I thought you were going to take me out walking*, I said *just as soon as I get through my work I will take you*, she said, *why mamma, can't you take your work along with you?* She always has an answer for you.

Sunday, Dec 18th: a lovely day overhead, but very wet and muddy. Papa, baby & I went to the woods to look for a tree. The moss was beautiful and baby wanted to bring it all home. Well we are having a great time getting ready for Christmas. Baby will have a baby carriage for Bessie and Albertie, which cost \$2.00, a pretty book 50 cents, a rag baby cost \$1.00 and then I had the face painted for 25 cts, a drawing slate 10 cent, a box of ducks with the magnet 25 cents, Noah's Ark 19 cents, little Ironing board 10 cents, flat Iron 25 cts, cooking utensils 25 cts, dust pan and brush 10 cts, ornaments for tree 50 cts., two pretty blue check aprons edged with white embroidery 80 cts., pattern for dolls outfit 15 cts, material for making dresses 20 cts, candy 40 cts, candy 25.

Saturday, Dec 24th: half day holiday at the office.

Sunday, Dec 25th: a lovely Christmas, how baby enjoyed her things, she was as happy as a bird all day. She would sit under the tree with her dolls, and talk to them and show them everything, and ask them if they did not think that Santa Claus was very good to bring her all those pretty things. Thursday night she took some matches out of the drawer, gave

them to her father, and said, *please light the gas in the parlour, papa, so that you can see the Christmas tree*, well we did laugh. I was home from Saturday until Thursday morning, when I had to go back to the office, and baby and I certainly enjoyed it. Baby had a lovely Christmas, she says that she will be a good girl, so that Santa Claus will not take the tree away from her.

Wednesday Dec 28th: a clear cool day, baby is three years and five months old, the same happy baby, always full of romp and fun, has her tree lighted every night just so that she can have the fun of blowing the lights out.



1899

Saturday, Jan 28th, 1899: baby is well, and such a sweet little romp, still as happy as a bird, and three years, six months old. How very fast my baby is slipping away from me. Sunday when I am home with her, she says, looking out of the window, *Sunday, you must stay longer, the other Sunday wasn't long*.

Sunday, Jan 29th: I took baby out for a walk. She insisted upon a car ride, she wanted to go to the city, to her new green house, to see her children that were sick. Well we took a short ride and came back, when we got out of the car she burst out crying and said, *mamma you did not take me to my new house*, well I could not pacify her, and when I got down to Aunt Grace's house I went in with her. She staid to supper, then I went for her and brought her home. While she was lying on the bed romping she said she had a pain in her bread basket, I said, trying to lift up her little shirt, *let me see it darling, —why mamma, has it come out?* She meant the pain, because I asked to see it, she thought it was on the outside.

Tuesday, February 28th: baby is well, it is a lovely day, and she is 3 years, seven months old.

Tuesday, March 28th, 1899: baby is 3 years 8 months old, growing, and is very sweet. Everyone says she is lovely and a perfect doll.

Monday, April 3rd: Easter Monday, not a very nice day. It was cool and windy, but I left the office for half day to take baby to the white house grounds to roll eggs. She was delighted, but the crowd was terrible so we did not stay long. Came away at 3.30 PM. and went to the Dentist to have baby's first tooth filled, the last upper tooth on the left side, it took one hour to fill the three small cavities, which cost one dollar, Amalgum filling. Miss Edith Jewell the dentist thought she was the best and loveliest baby she ever worked for. When she wanted to use the little machine on her tooth to clean it, that is worked with the foot, she thought baby would get frightened, so she was explaining it to her, when baby said *I don't mind it*, so she sat there one hour with her little mouth open and never murmured.

Friday, April 28th, 1899: baby is well, and is three years 9 months old. She is enjoying herself very much now, the beautiful Spring with all its flowers and green trees has great attraction for her. She will play in the garden all day by herself, she has all the flower pots and tin buckets in the place filled with dirt and stone, and gives them the name of flowers that no one ever heard of.

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, May 23rd, 24th, 25th: Celebrated the Peace Jubilee. The weather clear, cool & beautiful, the nights were moonlight, and perfectly beautiful, but baby and I stayed at home and enjoyed ourselves very much, as I got home one day at two o'clock and the other two days at 12 o'clock.

Sunday, May 28th, 1899: baby is 3 years 10 months old. We have quite a nice bed of strawberries, they are getting ripe, and baby has fine times looking for the ripe ones and eating them. It was very strange about baby's little tooth, just that one decayed, and no other. The dentist thought it was not perfect when it came, so that was what caused it to decay so soon, but it is all right now, and has never ached her.

May 31st, 1899: shoes for baby \$1.00, Slippers 65 cents, socks .25, three pairs of stockings .75. Shoes number 5 1/2, little patent leather slippers fit her beautifully. She says *mamma, I love them so, I am thinking about them all the time.* I had three pair of little umbrella drawers made for her. She called on her neighbors, Mr. & Mrs. Elliot, as soon as she sat down on the porch, she said to Mr. Elliott *did you see my umbrella drawers?* He said *why no,* so she pulled up her little skirts and showed the drawers. I was hulling some peas on Decoration day, baby was helping me, finally she got tired. I said *well darling, I thought you were going to help me,* —*Oh* she said, running away and laughing, *you help yourself mamma.* I bought her a hammock today, price \$1.00.

June 3rd: Saturday I was swinging her that night in it, when she said, *ain't I growing mamma?* stretching herself out. I said *yes you are darling.* She said *ain't you sorry? — indeed I am,* said I. *Well never mind mamma, when I grow up I will get you another baby, —well I may not love that one as I do you. —Oh: never mind mamma, yes you will. I will get you six of them. ha!ha!ha!* Poor little darling, and so she thinks it is all right, and so she chatters away. She says she don't want her new mamma, she loves me, and I am so good to her. I said, *where is your new mamma?* —*Oh!* she says, *down in my new house.* Baby gathered some flowers in the garden, I said *don't take them, they are not pretty,* —*Oh! yes, they are too pretty to loss them,* and so she gathered them, they were little pink and white flowers from radishes.

Wednesday, June 7th: Uncle Jack was married, hottest day in June. We took baby, it was the first wedding she had ever been to. We sat there a little while, and when the bridal party did not come, she said, *come, let's go home now mamma.* Everything was quiet in the church, so of course this coming from her little voice made every one smile. She looked very sweet in her little short puffed sleeve, white mull dress, white hat with pink strings, and little patent leather slippers, everyone thought she was beautiful.

Saturday, June 24th, 1899: bought some cherries in the market for making pies, baby was helping me seed them. She seemed to be thinking about something when all of a sudden she said, *mamma why didn't God mend these cherries on our trees? —why I said, we had lots of cherries and have used them all. —But mamma, why didn't He mend these on?* and her little face wore such a puzzled expression. She could not understand why I had to buy cherries when we had so many trees.

Wednesday, June 28th: baby is 35 months old, a clear pleasant day.

Friday, July 28th, 1899: a beautiful clear hot day at the sea shore, baby is four years old today. We came to Asbury Park *Monday July 24*, a rainy cold day. Left Washington 11 a.m. cloudy, arrived in Philadelphia 2.20 cloudy there. Left Philadelphia 2.42, arrived in Asbury Park 5.20 pouring rain, wind blowing a gale from the ocean. Rained for two days, then on Thursday night had another terrible storm. Left Asbury Park *Monday July 31* at 12.38. Arrived in Philadelphia 3.15, had to wait there until 4.41 p.m. Arrived in Washington 8.15, did not get home until 9.30 to the great surprise and delight of papa.

Wednesday, August 2nd, 1899: at 3 or 4 o'clock had a terrible wind, rain, and hail storm. Ruined every flower and vegetable in the garden and broke the wind mill wheel all to pieces. Papa took it down on *Thursday August 3rd*, and now begins a lot of hard work for him.

Monday, August 28th: a clear, cool day. Baby is better, and is four years one month old, just as lovely and sweet as ever, but baby got right thin this Summer, and only weighed 29 pounds. She had a boil on her little stomach before we went away, and while we were at Asbury Park, we were compelled to go to see a doctor. He lanced the boil and baby cried, and said *Oh! mamma he hurts me so much, take me back to my hotel, take me back to my hotel.* Well she got better after that, and when we came home, we went to see Dr. Darling and he gave baby a tonic. She said *what is this for mamma?* I told her it was to build her up, well she laughed so heartily at that, and tells everyone that she takes a tonic three times every day to build her up, then she will laugh, and thinks it a great joke.

Thursday, September 28th, 1899: a beautiful bright day and much warmer than it has been. We have the heat on in the office and are now in the beautiful new building and yesterday, the 27th, was reinstated at my old salary \$900. And baby is four years two months old, is growing and getting fat again, but she never eats very much. I told her last night that she must eat a little of everything on the table, that God made everything to eat, and she must eat. *Well*, she said, *mamma, can God see when the shutters are all shut?* and another day she asked me why God did not make every day Sunday. Then I made an attempt to explain that God had taken one day for different things until he had finished the world, then he rested on the seventh. *But mamma* she said *he has made everything*, and then she could not quite explain what she meant. But I understood what she was trying to get at, so I said, *well you think that God has made the world and everything else, and there is no more need for work*, she said, *yes, that's it.*

Saturday morning at 9 o'clock, a beautiful bright morning, when ex-postmaster James P. Willet entered the new Post Office building, took the elevator on the 11th street side, and when the elevator reached the 5th floor and stopped to let some ladies off, he stepped outside to make room for them to come out, he stepped backward into an open elevator shaft, and was almost instantly killed. It was a terrible shock to everyone, he came here this beautiful morning, in good spirits and perfect health, and just about entering into a new position as superintendent of this building.

Monday morning Oct 16th, I let a bench fall on my toe, went to the office, and it pained me so badly I was obliged to go home. Baby said she was so glad I hurt my toe, well, we all laughed at her, and she said she did not mind that. I staid at home on Tuesday because I could not put my shoe on, and as it was a nice warm day, baby, Aunt Belle, and I had a fine time in the garden planting bulbs, and baby making mud cakes on the front porch. We were in the kitchen, baby was watching some flies crawling on the floor, *mamma* she said *don't you think that those little flies would be afraid of getting splinters in their feet, walking on this floor?* I said *yes, I should think they would, the floor is quite rough, and the floor splinters off.* We are always warning her not to get splinters in her feet so that she thinks she must look out for the flies. Bought baby three pair of stockings 35 cents a pair, three for one dollar.

Friday, Oct 27th, 1899: took baby's white coat to have it cleaned, she has worn it three winters, and this is the first time it has been cleaned. The charge was \$2.00 with the fur on and \$1.50 if I took the fur off and then I would be compelled to put the fur on, so I let them do it, and it was certainly worth fifty cents.

Saturday, Oct 28th: baby is well and looking splendid, she is getting fat again. The weather is beautiful. The leaves are falling slowly from the trees, and a great many are still green, it has been like Summer for three weeks. bBaby is four years three months old, her teeth are still perfect and white except the little one she had filled nearly a year ago. I was talking last night at the dinner table about something I did when I was a school girl, *why mamma*, said baby, *was you ever a school girl?* —*why, yes darling* said I laughing. *Do you think I have always been a woman?* —*Yes* she said, then Miss Christine Hilfinger who was at the table said, *why even I was a little school girl once, went to school when I was only five years old*, but baby has not quite taken that in her little mind yet. The horseless carriages are the great thing now, they have just been here a few months.

Monday, October 30th, 1899: a hop will be given for the purpose of raising money for the Catholic church to be built at Brightwood. Baby don't know what a hop is, as she has never been to anything of the kind, but she hears everyone talking about it so she says she is going, so of course that settles it. When papa and I go Monday night, we will take her up for a little while, it will be given at the hall over the hotel.

Monday, October 30th, 1899: well we went to the hop, and I will tell you we did hop, baby and I. She kept me dancing all over the hall, it did not make any difference to her whether any one else danced or not, she could dance. She had me skipping in and out and

dodging in among the dancers like fun, and she was so tired and sleepy she did not know what to do with her self. So we had some ice cream, and went home. Papa carried her part of the way, and I carried her the rest of the way, and she almost fell asleep in my arms. Mrs. Fehrs trotted along with some ice cream for grandma and Christie, and at 9.30 baby was in bed and asleep. So ended baby's first hop. I must not forget to say that baby insisted upon taking a bunch of bouquets up to the church. I said, *who are you going to give them to?* —*the church man* she said, so grandma had to put lots of paper around the stems of a large bunch of chrysanthemums, put two or three rubber bands around that, and when she got up there she let me put them in a glass of water and set them on the table.

Tuesday, Oct 31st, 1899: a very disagreeable, rainy day, wind blowing a gale. Got home in the evening, did not see or hear anything of baby when I came in. Before I had time to go upstairs, however, she and Christie came down. She had dressed baby up in one of my dresses, a long train flowed behind, grandma's cape on her shoulders, her little chin and cheeks rested snugly in the lace quilling around the neck, and Mrs. Fehrs bonnet of black and white on her little head, with black strings tied under her little chin. Her hair was arranged in a little knot at the back, with the little curls falling here and there, her eyes were as bright as stars. Well she was a picture, she looked so sweet, and when she walked around the room she would kick her little foot out behind, to throw the train out of the way, just as you have seen ladies do. She insisted upon eating dinner with her things on, saying she was company, and finally when she started up the stairs, and was tired of it, she said, *mamma it is too much bothersome to be a lady, ain't it.* Poor little darling, she is not yet fully aware of the fact, how really bothersome it is, sometimes to be a lady.

Saturday, Nov 4th: Harry surprised us very much by coming to see us.

Monday, Nov 6th: baby awoke last night with a raging fever, which worried me very much, sent for the doctor right away. I went to the office but was so worried about my baby, I was excused half a day went home. Baby was so happy when I came home, she had me lying down by her side, kissing and petting her, all the evening.

Tuesday, Nov 7th: baby is better. Harry left today. I was sewing a button on papa's overcoat, baby said she wished she could sew. I said, *well darling you can learn, you have a little thimble and can practice everyday.* —*Oh!* she said, *mamma that is too bothersome,* —*well* I said, *pet, it is bothersome to do everything,* —*well mamma but can't you take the bothersome out of the world?* —*well I guess I would if I could.* Grandma bought two rugs, one \$10.00 ingrain, and the other price \$15.00. Today, baby said when I came home that she asked the man if he had any more carpet like that, to put all over her house.

Friday, Nov 17th: a beautiful day. Bought a box of writing paper with little forget-me-nots on it, to write letters to baby, I wrote her the first today. Every time she goes to the Post Office she wants to know if there is a mail for her, and seems so disappointed when she does not receive one, so I wrote one to her, put a stamp on it and gave it to Mr. Van

Horn to give to her. I never dreamed that it would give so much pleasure. I wish that in years to come she could see herself as she stood there among the crowd at the country store, her little face as expectant as the rest, although she knew nothing of the letter. When Mr. Van Horn called out *a letter for Miss Lillie May Beck*, her face beamed with delight, she looked at me and smiled, then she went forward and took the letter from his hand and clasped it tightly. Then she turned to Christie, and said, *Christie I have got a letter*, and she danced out of the store, and down the street with us, and said again, *just think, Christie, I have a little letter for my own little self*. And this she said to everyone, and she was perfectly wild over it, she would not let anyone touch it or read it. Mamie, the girl, said, *let me see just the address on the envelope*, —*no, you can't see the address*, and so she told me to put it away. Mrs. Fehrs came down stairs, she got the letter down to show her, *well who sent it to you?* said that lady, *I don't know, I guess my sister in Maine*, —*well will you read it to me?* —*no* very emphatically, so after a great deal of coaxing, she sat down by the side of Mrs. Fehrs and read it her way. Christie suggested that perhaps Harry had written to her, *no* she said, *Harry never writes me letters*. Well, when we were almost through dinner, I said, *now darling, don't you want me to read your letter for you?* —*yes*, she said, her eyes just dancing, so I got the letter and read it. Well, what fun we all had watching her. When I got to the part where Santa Claus came up to me and whispered in my ear, and asked me if my little Lillie ever cried, she said *don't you tell him*, of course every one roared laughing. After dinner she carried it up to show grandma, *now grandma* she said, *mamma will read my letter to you*, so I read it, and she cautioned me again not to tell Santa Claus. When I got through, she said, *now put it away, so it won't get soiled*. She told Christie today all about her family in Maine. She said she had so many children, and they were so bad and self-willed. *Why*, said Christie, *who do they take after, their father or their mother?* With a sigh, *I guess they take after me*. Christie asked her where she got so many children, *Oh! I borned them all, and had them christened*. —*Well, how did you do that?* said Christie. *Oh! I took them around to Father McGhee's and he poured water on their heads*.

Tuesday, Nov 28th, 1899: a very pretty, hazy, frosty day. Baby is well, and is four years four months old. Papa is home with her painting the roof, fixing the chimney, and finishing up the painting of the house that he started in September. The weather is beautiful, the mornings are hazy, then the Sun comes out beautiful and warm, and baby has a fine time playing in the garden, especially while papa is home. She is wild for a baby sister, and she says she is going to buy one at the Palais Royal, she has money enough. She will tell the man that is all she has, and he will give it to her cheap. Bought baby a beautiful pair of patent leather shoes at one of the finest shoe stores on F St., Hoover & Snyder's, price \$1.50, another pair of stockings 35 cents. Now baby is all fixed up, little white coat looks beautiful, little cap with lovely new pink moire ribbon quite wide, so when she gets it on she will look very sweet I am sure.

Thanksgiving Day, Nov 30th, 1899: a beautiful bright warm day. Baby went to the theater for the first time, the play was Superboy Spectacular. Very pretty scenery, baby enjoyed it very much but the place was so hot that she got tired and restless before it was over. *Oh! mamma* she said, holding her little head to one side, and clasping her little hands,

ain't it beautiful, I could stay here all day and look at it, but she changed her mind before it was over. Seats were 50 cts, and we each had a reserved seat in the dress circle.

Bought violets 60 Lady Campbell Swanley white 15, price \$3.00, planted them *Thursday Dec 7th*. Baby helped papa plant them, and brought a large bunch in the house from the plants. They were very sweet and I hope they will grow nicely for baby's sake.

Tuesday, Dec 12th: last night it rained all night, until 8 o'clock this Tuesday morning, then it cleared off beautifully, and now at 12 o'clock it is as hot as Summer, warm enough to go out without a coat. The streets and stores are thronged with people getting ready for Christmas, and I am traveling around from store to store to see what I can get for my baby. Mrs. Hamilton gave me for baby this morning a lovely pair of pink worsted slippers, I know they will please her very much. I bought today a toilet set for her dolls \$1.00, a box of blocks of animals to put together 50 cts, book 15 cts, bronze slippers for Bessie 10 cts, carpet sweeper 10 cts, little couch \$2.75, ornaments for tree \$2.10, ornaments for tree 15 cts, three small wooden chairs—50 cts for Lillie's, 10 cts a piece for Bessie and Albertie's, Dotted swiss for Bessie and Albertie a dress 50 cts; ornaments and paper for trimming and two pretty candles 32 cts., magnifying glass \$1.25. Pair of shoes for baby, very pretty patent leather tips and around the heels.

Wednesday, 27th: when it began snowing, we put on our things, went out in the woods, walked all around, went to the end of Shepperd road, stopped to buy ice cream from all the ladies that lived along the road, which by the way were the fence rails, had ice cream out of plates, which were the leaves, and out of cups, which were the little tops of the acorns. We certainly did have jolly times, and my baby is four years and five months old a happy and Jolly little thing. She had a lovely Christmas, she helped trim the tree, because she said Santa Claus would be very tired when he came around to our house, and she would help him.

Thursday, Dec 28th: a very cold day, snow on the ground. Baby is well and is having a fine time because I am home with her for nine days.

Friday, Dec 29th: a very windy, bitter cold day. Brought baby to town to have her teeth fixed, went to the office first to get my money, baby would not talk to any one. She looked very sweet and pretty, all dressed up in her white coat and bonnet with pink strings and little patent leather shoes and white leggings. Then we went to the dentist. I thought I would have one little tooth filled, but found there were four. The bill was two dollars (\$2.00). She was just as good as ever, although she was in the chair over an hour and a half. The dentist was pleased to see her and told her that she was always glad to work for her because she was so good.



1900

Friday, Jan 19th: took the tree down, baby helped put all the things away. She loves Santa Claus and will not let anyone say a word against him. Christie has been with her nearly all the winter and she is having a good time. They take long walks together, go up to the school house and watch the children playing, this she enjoys very much. She goes in the woods and looks at the little streams of water, and one evening when I came home she was telling me what a nice time she and Christie had that day. They took a long walk, came to a little stream, saw some little fish in the water, picked up some little stones &c. I said, *did you have a nice time Darling?* She said, *yes mamma, but if you had only been with me.*

Another month has rolled around again, and today, *Saturday Jan 27th*, is a bright clear cold day, and my baby is well, and still a very happy, jolly little girl. Her home is now in Maine. She has the most wonderful things there, including 300 children.

And tomorrow, *Sunday 28th*, my baby will be four years six months old. And tomorrow has come and gone. It was a beautiful bright cool morning, Sun shone brightly until about 12 o'clock, then it began to cloud over. We had turkey, cranberry sauce, steamed slaw, white and sweet potatoes, baby had cocoa in her little tea pot, mince pie, and a little one for baby, and frozen custard to celebrate her birthday. She has had this very often, sometimes Christie uses snow to freeze it, sometimes she takes the ice from the rain barrel. This cold weather it has frozen solid. Well, after we had dinner, it began to snow very hard. We concluded to take a ramble in the woods, so papa, baby and I in our rubber boots, and Christie in her over shoes and umbrella, and baby with my umbrella over her little self, we started. Baby thought it was fine fun, she laughed and danced and shouted, and just bubbled over with happiness and fun. She is such a happy baby. The little streams, she wanted to wade in, but papa told her it was too cold, and then there might be crack in her boot, and the water would get in. *Well, she said, why don't you get me a new pair?* She has a paper with the picture of Mrs. McKinley in it, she thinks it is beautiful. She has her grandma tell her all about Mrs. McKinley, and she feels so sorry that she is an invalid. One evening when we were eating dinner, she was very quiet, presently she looked up and said, *mamma, I am going up to see Mrs. McKinley,* I said *are you darling?* She said *yes, and I am going to take her some nuts, do you think, mamma that she likes nuts?* —*I guess so, I said, what kind will you take?* —*English walnuts I guess, do you think she likes English walnuts?* —*Well, I think so.* So she is always talking of Mrs. McKinley, *she is beautiful, ain't she sweet mamma?* and so on. I wish she could see.

Ash Wednesday, Feb 28th, 1900: a nice day but cloudy in the afternoon. Baby is well and just as happy as the days are long, romping all the time, she is four years and seven months old.

Friday, March 16th, 1900: we had a very heavy snow, cars did not run, so I staid at home. Lydia came down to play with baby, and we took her home in the sled. I put them out in the garden and took their pictures, but the Sun was shining so brightly, they would close their eyes, and it was almost impossible to get a good picture of either, but baby was very happy because I was home with her, and we had a good time.

Tuesday, March 27th: bought gingham for a dress for baby, pink striped and white, four yards \$1.00. Bought baby a beautiful short coat, the first she has had. It is royal blue, trimmed in white silk braid, price \$5.00. She looks very sweet in it, but I cannot get used to having her in dark shades. She is very well and weighs 34 pounds.

Wednesday, March 28th, 1900: A lovely bright day, a little windy but not cold. Baby is four years eight months old. Monday morning when we got up, we found everything covered with snow, quite deep, every tree and vine was just covered, and it was a beautiful sight.

April 10th, 1900: bought baby a lovely little wheel barrow, price \$1.00. It is a very nice one, and the envy of all the children on the street. Every evening when I come home, I am obliged to take her out riding in it. She has never had so much pleasure out of anything as this barrow. She thinks it is lovely to put dirt in it, take the sides out, and dump the dirt, just like papa. *Mamma*, she said, *it is a good thing you bought me this wheel barrow, because I can help you so much*, and she is a very useful little girl. She can go out in the garden, pull up the lettuce, trim it up nicely, and put it in water.

Wednesday, April 25th, 1900: a beautiful day, cool. Baby and I went to the circus on N. Capitol St. It cost us 90 cents to get inside the tent, and 50 cents extra a piece for reserved seats. The circus was very good, but there was too much for baby so we left before it was over, and went out to see Aunt Nellie. When baby got home she was tired out.

Tuesday, May 8th, 1900: Miss Lucy Oyster brought baby to town in her carriage, to have baby's little tooth filled, the same tooth that had been filled in December. Filling came out in March, it ached her very little. Miss Jewell said it could not be filled again, as the little nerve was exposed and the tooth would soon come out. So this is the first little tooth that has gone, lower jaw tooth on the left side, the first tooth. After we left the dentist, we went to see Miss Jones of London, the lady that floats in the air. Baby enjoyed it very much. Then we went to the Boston House, baby enjoyed looking at everything, then we went home and I tell you we were glad to get there. Baby is well, and just as happy as a bird. She plays in the garden all day long. Papa brought in lots of dirt for her, and she makes cakes and pies all day long, and bakes them in the Sun.

Tuesday, May 15th, 1900: bought baby pair of tan lace shoes, she wanted them lace, \$1.00, tan stockings, twenty-five cents, drop stitch. She had them put right on, dressed, and her hair braided in two little pigtails, tied with pretty pink ribbon, and she thought they looked fine, and went up to see Lydia McElwee, to show her shoes. She looked quite like a little girl, and my baby has gone. How terrible it seems, to lose the sweet baby so soon, but she still has the sweet little baby face. A pretty piece of pink french gingham with a tiny white stripe three yards, for baby a dress, 75 cents, and another red and white three yds, 75 cents.

Tuesday evening, May 22nd, 1900: Baby and I came to town to see the parade and fireworks in honor of the Shriners. Met papa at 15th and N.Y. Ave, parade was passing there, went up 15th St to K where they were forming, crossed over, went down 15th to the Ave up the Ave

to 16th St through to the White lot, where they had everything arranged for the fire works. We sat on the slope of the hill right at the base of the monument, had a long wait before the fire works began, finally at 9.40 they began. They were beautiful, but baby got frightened at the noisy bombs, and would hide her little head on my shoulder, for I was holding her. Papa had her all evening, but she seemed to feel more secure in my arms. The set pieces were beautiful, and she would say, *Oh! ain't they pretty*, and when the fire would fall from the pieces, it would make a rustling noise, and baby said, *listen mamma don't that sound just like the leaves of the trees when the wind is blowing through them?* When she got very tired, we started for home. It was a beautiful evening. Papa carried her from the monument to 14th & F St, where we were successful in getting a car, and seats. Baby went right to sleep. We got home at 11.30, undressed her, and put her to bed, and she slept on, tired out. She says she will not come to the city again to see fireworks.

Monday, June 11th, 1900: bought baby a very pretty pair of patent leather slippers number 6 ½, \$1.25. Baby had to put them right on, and go up to visit her little friend Lydia McElwee. Baby is well and has a lovely time in the garden all by herself. She has her boxes, bottles, spoons, a large pile of dirt, a hammock and chairs. She plays there by the hour, makes mud cakes and pies, puts them in the Sun to bake, tries them by tasting them, gets tired, and rests in her hammock. The cherries are ripe on the trees, we made cherry pies Sunday. Baby made one for herself. She has had so many strawberries that she did not know what to do with her little self. She wanted me to carry her upstairs last night, I told her I was so tired that I could not. She says, *mamma, I am tireder*. We were talking about bees getting honey from flowers and poison being in the flowers, so I said to her, *you must not eat the honeysuckle flowers, —why, mamma*, she said, *we eat the honey*. She says many bright things. We had a new kitchen range, price \$44.00, and a gas range, price \$35.00, price of zinc to go under range \$2.50. When I came home in the evening she told me all about the two stoves, how to use the draughts, what this and that thing was for, and when Mrs. Elliot came in to see the stoves she told her all about them, and the zinc was not *sink* but *zinc*.

Thursday, June 28th: a very hot day, but a good breeze from the South. Baby is well and 4 years eleven months old. I was carrying her up to bed last night, when she said, *how much do you love me mamma?*

Wednesday, July 18th, 1900: intensely hot, baby is well and as happy as a bird. I bought her to day a lovely pair of tan shoes number 6 ½ price \$1.50, two pair of lile thread black stockings 48 cts a pair, clocked or dropped stitched very fancy all over, to wear with her little patent leather slippers, I will get her a pair of tan this evening for her tan shoes, They were 48 cents a pair, bought two pair of little white socks 25 cents a pair, had babys little white hat cleaned 75 cents, pink hat done up 65 cents.

Saturday, July 28th: a very hot day. Baby is five years old today. She received a beautiful silver spoon, \$2.00, bought at Harris, Shaffer & Co one of the largest and best stores in the city, Pa. Ave between 11 & 12 St. A little gold stick pin \$1.50, cup and saucer from Mrs. Fehrs, and a plate from me, French china, 30 cents, little rose buds and violets around the edge.

Her godmother gave her a cup and saucer. She has lost two lower front teeth, her first to come and first to go. She is growing tall, but is still the same little baby, happy and a great romp and tease. We have had the water put in the house, on July 26th, 1900, cost of putting in \$50.00. She is wild over it. She will go into the garden, turn on the water, pick the hose up and turn it full on her father. This she thinks grand fun, then she drops it and runs, then her father will turn it on her. They have jolly times together. I bought her a pretty little fan, 25 cents, and a small pack of cards. She is learning to count by these, she will say one, two, three, &c and when she is looking for ten, she will say, *I want the manyest one*. The cards have a great attraction for her.

Saturday, July 28th, 1900: baby is five years old today, a very hot, clear day. I am home on leave and baby thinks this is fine, to come downstairs every morning and find me home. But I am painting all the walls of the rooms, and she paints too, but she is always saying, *mamma, please play with me*, and so the time passes quickly, and now August is here, and I am back at the office, and baby misses me so much and feels so lonesome.

August 28th: Tuesday, one month passed since baby was five, and she tells every one she is past five, and she can drink coffee. She took a notion that she wanted coffee, so we give her about a teaspoonful in a cup of milk, and she thinks this is the greatest accomplishment of her life.

Wednesday, September 12th, 1900: papa, baby and I went to the pony show. The ponies were beautiful, and so were the trained dogs, and baby enjoyed it very much.

Friday, September 28th, 1900: baby is well, and is five years two months old. This morning I dressed her, gave her breakfast to her, and left her with Aunt Grace. It was raining a little, so she took her father's large umbrella with her, you could see nothing but the umbrella. So I left her to cheer Aunt Grace, as her little baby Evelyn died on the 12th of this month and she feels very lonely. And on *Thursday evening September 13th*, grandma was on the front porch, she went into the house to get her chair and hassock. In picking her hassock up to throw it in the hall, where she was in the habit of sitting, she fell and struck her spine on the floor, and she has been laid up ever since, can't even get her upstairs. Baby said, *why didn't you tell me, I would have brought your chair and hassock to you, there was no need for you to do it*. Today Friday is pouring rain. It is lovely as we need it very badly. We have had very little rain this Summer, and it has been a very dry and unusually hot one.

October 1st: bought baby two pair of stockings, plain ribbed for every day wear, 32 cts a pair.

Monday, October 15th, 1900: a beautiful day, and very warm. When I got home, we moved mamma upstairs to her own room. Baby was delighted, helped carry up the little things, fixed grandma's things on the bed for her, singing all the time. When we were all fixed up again, she said, *well here we are, all back in the same old place*.

Tuesday, October 16th: another beautiful day. Papa's brother uncle Louis will be married this evening at 6 P.M. and baby is making preparations to go to the wedding, and I will go home early from the office to take her. It is a beautiful warm, bright day at this writing, 11 a.m. Hope it will continue so until after the wedding.

Tuesday evening, October 16th, 1900: 4 o'clock it clouded over, an ugly black cloud hung for a long time in the N.W. and it looked very much as though we were going to have a blizzard. The dust and wind were terrible, but baby and I got down to the church all right. Bride and groom had just entered, baby and I followed them down the aisle, everything went off very nicely. Went to the house after the wedding for a little while, then went home. The stars were shining brightly, and from a very hot day it had turned quite cold, so that baby snuggled up in papa's arms to keep warm. Baby thought the bride was dressed very pretty in her white dress and veil.

Monday, October 22nd, 1900: bought baby a new bed, \$6.00, spring for bed \$5.00, nice hair mattress, twenty pounds, \$8.00. Baby was very much pleased with it. Bought her a tiny nickle coffee pot and strainer to make Postum in for her. I think she likes the coffee pot better than the Postum.

Friday, November 2nd: cloudy but warm. Baby, papa, and I will go to an entertainment at Thomas Hall. Entertainment was very nice, baby enjoyed it very much: From Youth to Old Age, 7 Times One is Seven, and ended with the comedy, Aunt Susan Jones, Willie Clayton as the principal character.

Monday, November 5th, 1900: a beautiful day, bought baby a lovely pair of patent leather with cloth top shoes, the best that Hoover and Snyder had, \$1.50 number 7. They are long for her, but she is growing.

Tuesday, November 6th, 1900: a beautiful warm day, a lovely moonlight night. Papa, Uncle Louis and myself took baby down the city to get the election returns. I had tickets for the building so we went up to the 6th floor of the New Post Office building. The crowd was immense, we could not see very much, so we went down in the street. Papa carried baby through the crowd, and she laughed and was very much excited, she had never seen such a crowd in her short life before. At 10 o'clock we were perfectly satisfied that our President William McKinley had been reelected, Wm. Jennings Bryan had been badly defeated, so we went home.

Wednesday, Nov 7th: another beautiful day. *Thursday* quite windy and at night it blew terribly, rained & before morning it snowed, so that when we got up on *Friday* morning everything was white with snow. On *Wednesday* night it began raining, then it hailed, followed by severe thunder and lightning. They say it is a sign of cold weather, and we have it today, *Friday*, for the wind is blowing a gale. Bought baby her winter flannels shirts 50 cents a piece, drawers 50 cents a pair, \$2.00.

Diary: Emma Lucretia Miller Beck

Wednesday, Nov 14th, 1900: bought three books to day for baby, Christmas will soon be here, so I thought I would begin to buy little things, price of books 32 cents.

Friday, November 16th, 1900: bought baby a beautiful little cook stove with all the little cooking utensils. It is very pretty, and she has wanted one so long, price \$2.50. This evening I will buy her a pair of shoes \$1.25 for everyday wear. It is quite cold now and to day it looks like snow, *Saturday, November 17th, 1900.*

Monday, November 19th, 1900: a very hot day. Baby is not well today, a little billious attack. Sunday yesterday we went into the woods, gathered the leaves, played awhile in the sand, but she did not feel good, wanted me to take her all the time. Monday evening she was a little brighter when I came home, but toward evening she had a fever, and although she played with papa and I she did not feel good. Bought another book, *Mother Hubbard*, linen 25 cents. *Tuesday*, hot, but raining.

Wednesday, Nov. 28th: baby is all right again, and today she is 5 years 4 months old. Bought baby today three books, \$1.25, 80 cts, \$1.25, and a fairy story book *Hans Anderson*, \$2.00, and another *Diddie Dumps and Tot*, 50 cents, *Little Ann and Other Stories*, lovely book, green cloth-bound gilt edge, \$1.25. I guess baby has enough books, but papa wants her to have a *Chatter Box*, a beautiful book, \$1.25 so I suppose she will get that too. Bought the book *Dec 15*. Bought baby a pair of lovely all-wool blankets, with pink border, price \$4.50. Mrs. Hamilton sent baby a lovely book, *The Black Beauty*.

Dec 20th, 1900: beautiful weather up to this time. Baby is well and has three new teeth, two lower front teeth—nice straight white little teeth, she cleans them every day—and one large jaw tooth, the last on the lower left side.

Monday, December 24th, 1900: a beautiful warm day, warm as Summer. I was home with baby, and we planted bulbs and played in the garden and on the hill, without any wraps.

Tuesday, Christmas Day: a beautiful day. Baby is well and enjoyed her tree very much, her stove she thought was beautiful, and nine books.

Wednesday: another beautiful day, but a little colder. Baby did not feel well, I guess the mince pie and turkey dressing made her sick. Lydia and Margaret McElwee came down on Christmas day. Baby insisted upon going up for them, in a little while she came down the street with the two, hand in hand. They had a tea party, upset two pitchers of milk on the carpet, baby came to the kitchen to get a cloth to wipe up the milk, and she scolded the children for spilling the milk on mamma's carpet.

Thursday: Effie Van Horn and Jane Angel came down to see the tree, and told Lillie she had the prettiest tree in the park.

Friday, Dec. 28th, 1900: baby is well and is five years five months old. It has been raining all the morning, now it has stopped, and is still cloudy.



1901

Jan 1st, 1901: a very pretty bright cool day. Baby is well, and weighs 37 ½ pounds. Tonight baby is going to a party given by Effie Van Horn, her 7th birthday. Well the party is over, and baby had a good time, playing games and eating ice cream. It was a beautiful clear night.

Sunday, Jan 13th: a beautiful day. Mildred came over with her father. He went to Baltimore and intended to take Mildred with him, but when she got to our house, she was so delighted with Lillie's play things and the tree that she would not go to see Aunt Lillie, but stayed with Lillie all day. And if she did not upset things, my. She had everything that baby possessed out on the front porch—dolls, bedstead, couch, chairs, carriage, blocks, and everything—but baby had a good time. After Mildred had gone, baby walked into the parlor, where everything had been brought in from the porch, spread out her little hands and said, *well, mamma, isn't this a terrible mess, —yes, said I, and you can take all day tomorrow to clean up, —well, I suppose I must said she.*

Monday, Jan 14th: a beautiful day Tuesday almost as warm as Spring, Wednesday Jan, 16, beautiful and warm, Thursday cloudy and a little cooler.

Monday, Jan 28th, 1901: baby is well, it is a very cold windy day. Mrs. Fehrs is sick, and Aunt Belle came out to stay a few days, and we took the tree down, put all the things away for next year, to sleep, as baby says. Baby is five years, six months old, a sweet lovely little girl, that wants a little baby sister, and when we told her we would buy one for her, said she didn't want any bought ones or made ones. So what shall we do about it? She says she don't want any boys around the house, because they are a nuisance, and if one came she would send it back.

Sunday, February 10th, 1901: a beautiful clear cold day, a little windy. The new Catholic church was opened for the first time, mass at 10.45. Rev Dr. Elliott preached the sermon about the church and the Catholic church. We took baby, she thought it was fine, but she got tired of the sermon. It was too much for the first time. When the choir began to sing, she looked up to me in her sweet little pleading way that she has and said, *must I sing now, too mamma?* I said *no darling.* She looked so disappointed. She said, *you know mamma, that I know five songs, In the Hazel Dell, My Nellie's Sleeping, Oh! Ella Reene So Kind & True, The Morning Bright with Rosy Light, and Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep.* She thought it all right to sing these in church. At 3 oclock in the afternoon, we went up to Sunday school, could not keep her home. She was so excited all day that it was almost impossible to keep her home.

Thursday, Feb 28th, 1901: baby is five years seven months old, is very well and as happy as the days are long. Bought a pair of patent leather shoes for baby, 6 ½ D, price \$1.50. She said yesterday when I got home that she had something to tell me, then she whispered that on Sunday morning at half past six she was going to have a surprise party. She was going to have a little baby one year old and a little girl past five. She was going to get them out of the Asylum, there were lots there, the sisters would be glad to get rid of them, and she could take care of two.

Sunday, March 3rd, 1901: a lovely bright day, a little windy. Baby and I came to town after Sunday school to see the decorations for the inauguration of William McKinley on Monday the 4th. The streets were crowded, the cars were packed, we saw three companies come in. We sat on the stand at the south end of the Treasury for awhile, to watch the crowd, bought some candy and peanuts, then took a car and went home. Baby said she had enough of the inauguration.

Monday morning, March 4th: a beautiful morning, like Spring. The sun was shining, the birds were singing. Then about 12 o'clock it began to cloud over, the wind shifted to the N.E., and at 1.30 it began to hail and rain and blow, and it was a very bad afternoon. *Tuesday* it was colder, and very windy and snowed in the afternoon for a little while. *Tuesday* night it snowed again. *Wednesday* it is clear, very windy, but bitter cold. Bought baby material for dress, red cashmere 59 cents a yard, silk for yoke, cream white china silk, 1 yard \$1.00 pattern for making dress 20 cents, silk chiffon quilling for trimming, 4 yards 50 cents.

Thursday, March 28th, 1901: baby is five years 8 months old. Baby has had a cold, and it does not get any better. Finally it all settled in her head, and she has been quite sick, both little ears gathered at one time, and I was home with her two weeks. Then I caught the same thing and was home nearly four weeks. It all went to my head, and I suffered a great deal with pain in my head, and I have not gotten over it yet.

Sunday April 28th, 1901: a beautiful bright day, very warm. Baby is quite well again, and is 5 years 9 months old. We went over to Baltimore to see cousin Lillie, took the 3.30 limited, got back at 10.30, out at Brightwood at 11.30, where papa was waiting for us since half past nine. A beautiful moonlight night. Lillie [Dietz] was very weak, and not able to get up any more. Poor Lillie, it is sad to think of.

Saturday, May 4th, 1901: went to Baltimore to see Lillie. She is weaker and I do not think she can last much longer.

Sunday, May 5th, 1901: baby had her little dress on today that has just been made by a dressmaker, and it is the first dress she has had with a waist. Mrs. Bell made it and it was very pretty, with a cream white silk yoke, silk \$1.00 a yard, star-shaped ruffle edged with silk chiffon quilling of cream white, white hat that she has had two Summers, this is the third Summer, only been done up once. It is a lovely hat, trimmed with new fresh pink ribbons, and her little parasol, new tan kid gloves, number 5 but they are too large, 4 ¾ would have

been plenty large, cost one dollar. And so she was dressed when we went to church and Sunday school today, this beautiful May day.

May 14th, 1901: bought baby a pair of patent leather cloth top shoes 8 ½ price \$1.50 pair of patent leather slippers 8 ½ \$1.50 Lace for trimming baby's dress, edging \$1.65 for twelve yds insertion for dress \$1.65 for twelve yards.

Wednesday, May 15th, 1901: bought baby a pair of very nice shoes, very wide sole, kangaroo leather, for every day wear, price \$2.00 at Hoover & Snyder, one of the largest & best stores, also bought her slippers and patent leather at the same place.

Friday, May 24th: Mrs. Bell brought baby's dress home. It is beautiful, made very pretty, ruffle on the bottom of skirt, edged with lace, then insertion, five tucks, insertion and five more tucks in skirt, short puff sleeves, trimmed in same way, with lace beading, and baby ribbon, satin taffeta, the latest and best, ruffle around the yoke of embroidery & lace insertion, and the ribbon rosettes.

Sunday, May 26th, 1901: there will be the first May procession at the Catholic church. Baby and another little girl named Lillian King, same age as baby, will be the crown bearers. Baby will be five years, ten months old. I hope the day will be pretty, for I know that baby will look very sweet in her pretty new dress and little patent leather slippers, and a crown on her little head.

June 6th, 1901: a very hot day. Went to the Boston House at 12 O'clock to buy some embroidery for a very pretty gingham dress for baby, six yds of insertion at 18 cts a yard, \$1.08, 3 yards of edging for ruffle around yoke, 25 cts a yard, 75 cents. 1 ½ for edging for neck and sleeves, 15 cents a yd 23 cts, the embroidery was beautiful and will look very pretty on the dress. It is pink and white-striped gingham, made with a little gored skirt, full waist, star ruffle around the bottom of the skirt. She looks so sweet with her little new dresses on. They are the first waists she has ever had and they are so becoming, because she is getting tall, and they take away that longness. Her hair is growing nicely, it is almost to her waist and is quite thick. She has it curled most of the time. We were in the garden one evening this week planting flowers, the sun was setting, the beautiful rosy clouds were floating around. I called baby to look at the lovely red clouds. She turned around and looked, then said, *Oh! I guess they are having a fire up in Heaven*, then went back to what she was doing. She is very sweet and cute.

Poor dear Lillie [Dietz] has gone at last, a sad ending of a sad life. It is better so. Monday evening just at sunset, waiting & watching for me, she passed quietly away. I went over Wednesday night June 26. 10 o'clock train arrived there at 11.30. Theodore and I, the dear one was in her casket Oh! so changed. We stayed that last night with her, and in the morning at 8.30 she was taken to the church of St. Gregory, then to the cemetery of Sweet Home. Father Walsh read the mass, and spoke over her very sweetly, then he went to the cemetery with us. Lillie's dress was white, and she looked very nice.

Friday, June 28th, 1901: a very hot day, baby is well and is five years, eleven months old. She is growing very tall, baby is fast leaving for the little girl, but she still has the little baby face. Miss Hilfinger is with us for a while and baby enjoys that so much. She is getting ready for a trip to Buffalo.

Sunday, July 28th, 1901: This day baby is six years old, well and happy. Bought her a silver spoon at Desio's on F St., price \$1.50, very pretty and quite heavy. Christie will give her a little ring. Mrs. Hamilton gave her a lovely ring with a ruby, her birth stone. Sunday was a beautiful bright day. Baby had been talking for months about having a birthday party, but coming on Sunday, her father told her she could not have a party, so she said nothing more about it, perfectly satisfied. But we gave her one, *Wednesday, July 31st, 1900.* There were about twenty children invited, and they all looked very sweet & pretty. Aunt Grace came over in the morning and made three cakes for the party—a large birthday cake iced white, 1895 & 1901 July, & her name Lillie in chocolate letters. It was very pretty. Then six red candles, a large coconut layer cake & chocolate layer cake, peanuts, candy, English walnuts, peanut brittle, and plenty of ice cream. Carlo Brown came down with a phonograph, which they all enjoyed very much. We did not tell baby anything about her party until the children came, and she was a very much surprised little girl. Aunt Nellie was there and helped fix the table and hang the Chinese lanterns around the garden. I was very much worried on Wednesday. It poured raining all day, but cleared off beautifully about three o'clock in the afternoon, and was a beautiful evening. The garden looked beautiful with the lanterns, and the beautiful moonlight night, everything went off very nice, and baby was perfectly happy. Mrs. Hamilton gave her a very pretty ring with a ruby in it, her birth stone.

Wednesday, Aug. 28th, 1901: a very pleasant day, not too warm. Baby is well and growing tall. She is losing her little baby teeth, and getting her new ones. Of course she does not look quite so nice, but the new ones are coming in nicely. Just one month since she was six years old, then we gave her a pretty little Maltese kitten. She is very fond of it, and it has become quite a pet with every one, she is so cute. Lillie says she is the cutest baby she ever saw. She is so sweet and gentle with it. Well, Kittie turned out to be a sickly kitten, so we put her to sleep. Baby felt very sorry but we talked to her, and explained to her that kittie would never be any comfort to her. She never played with her any more, but slept all the time and would not eat, so all together her first kittie was very unsatisfactory. A little boy by the name of Felix Daily that waits on the altar has attracted our baby's attention. She thinks he is a cute little boy, and watches everything he does. She did not know his name for a long time, and would say, *mamma, can't you find out his name?* So I did, then she would say, *mamma, don't you think Felix would come down to see me and play with me?* She is the sweetest baby, and so cute about it. She has always said that she did not want a baby brother, but now she wants one just like Felix, a cute little face, just like Felix has. It is too cute to hear her talk. She is so lonely, she longs for someone to play with. She is well, and looks so sweet and pretty, her hair is growing so nicely and her teeth are coming in so nicely, she has her two lower front teeth, and one large upper front tooth just like mine. They look

like they are good strong teeth, and I hope they are. Now two more little teeth are peeping through, one on either side of the two lower front teeth. Her teeth are coming quickly.

Sunday, October 20th: a lovely day. Baby and I went up to Sunday school, then to church. The forty hours devotion began. When little Felix came out on the altar, baby looked at me and smiled in her sweet little way, then she turned to Mrs. Elliot and smiled. It is cute to watch her. Now, baby has never been associated with children, never with boys, she has never been teased about boys at home, she does not know the word *beaux* and *fellows*, as most of children hear those terms. Yet in her own little sweet way, instinct has led her to pick out this little boy that she thinks she would like to have for a brother.

Monday, Oct 28th, 1901: a beautiful warm day, baby is well, is growing nicely, and is just the same happy baby, amuses herself if she can't find someone else to amuse her. Six years two months old.

Saturday, Nov 16th, 1901: had a fair from the 5th to the 16th. Closed tonight. Lots of young folks were there—Lizzie, Belle and Henry. They all danced the Virginia reel. Uncle Henry selected baby for his partner, she was delighted, but got very much excited over it. She looked so sweet and bright, with her little red dress trimmed in white, and black velvet leggings. She would laugh and clap her hands, and her sweet little musical laugh could be heard all over the hall. Everyone watched her, and she just thought it fine. We got home about 12 p.m. How tired she was, but on Sunday morning I awoke her for Sunday school. That was too much and Sunday night she was so tired she could hardly hold her head up. So we put her to bed very early and she slept soundly all night.

November 18th: snow.

November 28th, Thanksgiving day: Baby 6 years 5 months old is well & happy as a bird. A beautiful clear bright day, but windy. Snowed during the night, and when we got up in the morning, everything was white with snow. It was beautiful, baby was delighted with it, and wanted to go right out on her sled, but it was not deep enough for that. Bought dark green melton cloth for coat for baby, \$2.48 a yard, 2 yds, pink Louisine silk, 89 cents a yard, 5 yds, to line the coat. Tonight, Wednesday, I am going to have her a green velvet hat made.

Saturday, Dec 14th: We did not get the velvet hat after all, the milliner said they were not stylish this winter, so Mrs. Hoff the milliner trimmed her a very pretty tan beaver, in a beautiful shade of pink. It cost \$5.00. Today I bought a beautiful lace collar for her coat, price \$5.00

Coat, 2 yds green Kersey cloth at \$2.48 Per yd.	\$4.96
Pink silk for lining 89 cts per yd five yds	4.45
Lace collar, Point de Jean	5.00
Hat, tan beaver, trimmed in pink	5.00
Patent leather shoes	<u>2.50</u>

Diary: Emma Lucretia Miller Beck

	21.91
Buttons for coat, very large white pearl ½ doz	<u>00.75</u>
	22.66
4 yards of red eider down, at 50 cts a yd	2.00
Lining 5 yds at 10 cts a yd	.40
This is her everyday coat & cap	2.40
Buttons	<u>.10</u>
	2.50

Saturday, Dec 28th, 1901: baby is six years. Baby is not well, I am very much afraid she has the whooping cough. She coughs so much, and especially at night, and throws up everything she eats. I have gotten everything for her, but nothing relieves her. She has lost so much sleep she is worn out, poor little darling. It is too bad.



1902

Jan 8, 1902: baby has really had the whooping cough, and is now almost over it, and I certainly am very glad of it, for she has not had one good night's rest for six weeks, and neither has papa or mamma. She has not been able to wear her new coat or hat yet, but I am in hopes she will be all right now, and if the weather will permit I will soon take her out.

Tuesday, Jan 28th, 1902: Baby is 6 years 6 months old, is well and as happy as usual. She is still coughing, I am afraid she has taken a cold, somehow; her cough was nearly gone and now it has returned. The winter has been beautiful until this week.

Wednesday, Jan 29th: it began snowing sometime during the night. When we got up in the morning, the snow was very deep. In the afternoon it hailed very hard from 12 o'clock until night, so that it is very hard for anyone to get along.

Friday, 31st: snow again began at 7 a.m. Baby is so anxious to get out in the snow, but I will not take her out and run the risk of having her laid up sick.

Friday, Feb 28th, 1902: baby is very well, and has entirely gotten over the whooping cough and is growing so much. She is just as happy as the days are long, and the life of the house. Grandma bought a music box, baby can take out and put in the discs just as well as I or anyone else.

Friday, March 28th, 1902: baby is well and is growing tall. She is now 6 years nine months old, and is just as happy as ever, and loves to tease her father. She is such a sweet dear baby and she and grandma are great chums, and they read, tell one another stories & riddles,

have a good time generally. She has lots of little chickens to amuse her now, and that keeps her busy watching them and running after them.

Monday, April 28th, 1902: a beautiful bright Spring day, everything in the country looks beautiful. Baby has had a very bad cold, but is getting over it. She is 6 years 10 months old, has great times in the garden now, everything is beautiful, she enjoys the flowers, helps me plant the flower seed, and is the same dear sweet little baby of old, mamma's only pet; may she always be the same happy baby.

Wednesday, May 28th, 1902: a beautiful day, baby is well and happy. *Thursday*, grandma had a fall and almost broke her hand. Baby was going to the theater on *Friday 30th of May*, but she said she could not possibly go because grandma had met with an accident, but she went to see *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, which she enjoyed very much. She went with Cousin Lil.

Sunday, June 1st: a very nice day but hot. The children had their May procession at 3 p.m. Lillian King & Lillie carried the pillow with the crown, and they looked very sweet, Lillie has her pretty little white dress trimmed in lace, a pretty new white sash, patent leather slippers, and dear little white kid gloves, a nice new lace handkerchief. Slippers \$1.25 gloves \$1.00 handkerchief 50 cents, Ribbon for sash 55 cents per yard, 3 yards \$1.65 Ribbon for hair 30 cents. Stockings 55 cents. After the May procession was over, Lottie, Katie Meyers, and baby had a lovely evening in the garden. They had their supper table set in the garden, and had a good time, Lillie has been looking forward with a great deal of pleasure and excitement to the coming of her little cousin Theresa.

Friday, June 6th: Lil went over to Baltimore today to bring her over. Baby waited up for them until 11 p.m., but they did not come, so she went to bed tired and disgusted.

Saturday morning, June 7th: as I was going to the office in the car, Lil and the baby passed me on their way out, so I suppose today the baby is happy with her little playmate.

Saturday, June 28th, 1902: a very hot day. Baby is well and is 6 years 11 months old, almost 7 years, and quite a big girl she is getting to be. She and the little baby have great times together. All day long they play, making mud cakes and visiting each other.

Saturday, July 5th: Lil and the baby went to Baltimore today to stay over Sunday. Baby missed Theresa very much.

Monday, July 28th, 1902: a very hot day but clear. Baby is well and is 7 years old. We gave her a party. Twenty-three children were there, Chinese lanterns were hung all around the garden, the table was set under the English walnut tree on the west side of the house, lanterns were hung over the table, and everything was very pretty. Mrs. Jessie Beard came down with a graphophone, which the children enjoyed very much, Leo and Felix Daly were down, and Leo appropriated Lillie all the evening. He looked very sweet, in a white suit. Lillie's spoon is very pretty, a birthday spoon, with the sign of the Zodiac, the Lion and the

Unicorn, the month July on the handle, and in the bowl, pond lilies. Price \$2.00, bought at Harris Shaffer and Co.

Tuesday, Aug 5th, 1902: bought a very pretty Jersey Cow, \$30.00. Baby named her Blossom, she gives nearly two gallons milk a day. She is very gentle, and the children just played with her all day, and in the evening when papa milked her, baby and little Theresa kept the flies off with palm leaf fans, while Gertie held her. She had quite a reception when she came; Gertie, Lil, Mr. Blade, Lillie and the baby were at the gate to meet her, and we did nothing but pet her all evening She was very quiet the first night, and after we went to bed we had a bad storm, and she was out in all of it, but she was all right this morning.

Thursday, Aug. 28th, 1902. Baby is well and is 7 years one month old, the same sweet little girl, and just as happy and just as good as ever. It is very sweet and sometimes very funny to see her and the baby play together, they play mother and baby a great deal, and Lillie will go to bed in the hammock with the baby, then they will get up and play it is morning. Then Lillie will make the baby kneel down on the grass, then she will make her say her prayers and this is a picture. A pair of shoes two dollars \$2.00.

Monday, September 22nd, 1902: a beautiful bright warm day. Baby started to school, and a sad day it was for me, I can tell you. She did not know whether she would like it or not, but as I went with her and stayed in the schoolroom with her until school was dismissed at 11.30. Miss Byrne her teacher is a very nice sweet girl, Lillie was very much pleased with everything, and as Lydia McElwee and the two little twins of Mrs. Wertmueller, Hortense & Selma, went, she did not feel lonesome. The second day, I let her go up with the twins alone. I followed shortly with her lunch, stayed a few minutes, came home, went back at recess, saw that she had her lunch. Then when the bell rang for them to go in and she was seated at her little desk, I left her. Went back again at 12.30 when the little ones were dismissed, and brought her home, perfectly happy and delighted, and she said, *I had the best day at school I ever had*, and this was only her second day. I was teaching her that night to remember the day of the month. She was very tired and sleepy, so she said, *mamma, I will put that down on paper and take it up to school with me then I will know how to write it.* I said *Oh! no, that will not do, you must write it on your memory and tuck it away up there in some little corner where you will not forget it.* —*Oh!* she said laughing, *is that to be my little mail corner?* —*Yes,* I said, *that is just what it is going to be.* *Oh!* how I wish that I was home, and could go up with her everyday, and watch over her. But such is life, and she must take it with all the rest.

Sunday, Sept 28th, 1902: a beautiful day, and one week past since baby went to school, a very happy week for her and full of excitement. She is perfectly happy, and loves to go. Everyday she learns something new, and tells me of it when I come home of an evening.

Sunday night at 11.45 received a telegram that Aunt Kittie had died. Went over to Baltimore *Monday morning, October 13th, 1902,* stayed two days from my baby, could not be helped. And Kittie was buried *Tuesday* afternoon at 2 O'clock, lovely weather. Got home *Tuesday* night. My little darling met me at the door, and said *Oh! my dear little mamma, I am*

so glad you have come home again. A pair of lovely patent leather shoes, \$2.50. My baby is getting along nicely at school.

Wednesday, October 15th: little Theresa went back to Baltimore.

Tuesday, October 28th, 1902: baby is well is 7 years 3 months old, is getting along nicely and is learning how to write. Mrs. Fehrs left today for Hagerstown, and last night, in the rain, on the 27th of October, Mrs. Tennyson came to our house.

Monday, November 10th, 1902: today at noon, Lil and Mr. Blade were married, a perfect almost Summer day. Baby went from school to see her married.

Thursday evening, Nov. 13th, 1902: baby was vaccinated by Doctor Loseham on Tennessee Street. The weather so far this month has been perfectly beautiful, they say it is Indian Summer. The days are as warm as Summer, the nights are perfectly lovely, the moon as bright as day, the air balmy and hazy. A pair of shoes, \$2.00.

Friday, November 28th, 1902: baby is well and is growing up nicely, is getting along nicely, and is a lovely sweet baby. She is 7 years 4 months old.

Sunday, Dec 28th, 1902: baby is well and is 7 years 5 months old. Lillie has had a pretty blue cheviot, made with Duchess plaits in the skirt, waist, and sleeves, very becoming. A pink all-wool crepe, lined with pink silk, a little drop skirt of pink silk, with fine knife plaiting at the bottom, yoke of pink silk, trimmed with cream lace.



1903

Saturday, Jan. 10th, 1903: I went over to Baltimore to see the little baby and bring her home, but her grandmother would not let her come. She was just as fat as ever, and just as cute.

Wednesday, Jan. 28th, 1903: baby is well and is 7 years 6 months old, is doing splendidly at school, and always has good reports, and deportment is always excellent.

Tuesday Feb. 3rd: baby and Mrs. Fehrs came downtown to meet me to go to St. Patrick's church to have our throats blessed. It was a nice warm day. *Wednesday* was a very warm day, after the rain of Tuesday night, but *Wednesday* night the wind blew terribly, and it looked like we would have a blizzard, but *Thursday* morning, while the wind is still blowing hard, it is clear and I hope we will have no blizzard.

Saturday, Feb 14th, 1903: baby received three valentines at school, and she was delighted with them. Then she said she would make some comic valentines for her father and here they are, she spent the day painting them.

Monday night, Feb. 16th, 1903: snow, rain, hail, and blow. I tell you it was a bad night, but baby went to school *Tuesday* morning, although the snow was quite deep, and it was very cold. *Wednesday*, cold and clear.

Saturday, Feb. 28th, 1903: Baby is well and as happy as a bird, she is 7 years 7 months old, is getting along beautifully at school. She writes, reads and spells all in six months.

Monday, March 16th, 1903: Lillie came from school today and told me that her teacher had said to the children in the school, *if you all would read as well as Lillie, you would do well*. She is very proud of this and works very hard. She says, *I am not afraid to work*. The days are beautiful and warm and Lillie is working out in the garden, making her garden. She enjoys it so much, the cow and chickens are a source of great pleasure to her. She calls Blossom a spoilt baby, and says I am her mother and papa is her father.



Saturday, March 28th, 1903: a warm day. Papa brought Lillie downtown to see me on his way to work. I took Lillie to the dentist to have her teeth attended to, and found she had to have her six year molars filled, the two upper ones—two cavities in one, and one in the other. \$3.00. Lillie is well and is 7 years 8 months old, is very well, and as happy as the days are long.

Easter Sunday, April 12th: cloudy all day. Baby had a pretty Easter hat of fancy straw braid trimmed in pink, pink roses, \$4.75. She looked very sweet in it. It also has black velvet around the crown.

Wednesday, May 13th, 1903: went home this evening, found baby sick. For three days, she continued feeling badly, and on *Sunday morning May 17th* measles developed. A great many children have it at school, and Lillie caught it. I hope she will be over it in a few days.

Monday evening, May 18th, 1903: 5.30 p.m., Blossom's little calf came to town, looks just like her, marks just like her. Baby was sick with measles when Blossom's baby came, and we told her nothing of it until she was more than a week old. So one day I carried her back in the garden where Blossom was standing. The baby was lying down on the other side of her mother and Lillie did not see her immediately. Finally Blossom moved aside, then Lillie saw the little brown heap with her little head resting on her feet, and her bright eyes shining at us from under the honeysuckle. I think I never saw anyone so surprised. *Oh! mamma what is that?* and before I could answer, she said, *Blossom's dear little baby, why you dear little dot of a thing, who brought her mamma?* So she has petted her and fed her, and now

Diary: Emma Lucretia Miller Beck

she is one month old today, *June 18th, 1903*. And we tie her in the garden, let her eat grass and feed her, but as she still sucks her mother. She is not very particular about eating. She is a beautiful baby, and Lillie calls her Dimple.

Thursday, May 28th, 1903: Baby is 7 years 10 months old and is just getting over the measles.

Wednesday, June 17th, 1903: Today Lillie's school closed, and she was transferred to the 2nd grade, which pleased her very much.

Wednesday, June 24th, 1903: cloudy in the morning, but in the afternoon the sun came out and it was a beautiful afternoon, and this was the day that Henry and Bessie were married, a very sweet pretty wedding.

Sunday, June 28th, 1903: baby is 7 years 11 months old, almost 8 years old. How she is growing, and such a happy child. She will play for hours with the chickens, and talk and laugh with them like children. Her sweet little musical laugh will ring out every now and then, look out in the garden and you will see her standing feeding the chickens and laughing at their antics.

Thursday, July 2nd, 1903: Annie came from Canandaigua to visit us. She arrived at the station about 7.30 p.m. Lillie and I went out to meet her. We got a carriage and drove out. It was a very pleasant evening, she likes the place very much. The weather has been very hot.

Tuesday, July 28th, 1903: a lovely day, baby is 8 years old, and this evening she has had her party. About 24 children were there, the bale was set on the lawn, we had the lanterns all around the garden. Mr. Dorisey came out and took the pictures of the group, Mr. Brown came down with the Graphophone, which the children enjoyed very much. Lillie's spoon is very pretty and quite heavy, bought at Mr. Hines on F St bet 9th & 10, cost \$1.75.

Friday, August 28th, 1903: A lovely day, baby is well and is having great times with Annie.

Friday, September 18th, 1903: today we went to Mount Vernon, a beautiful day, Charlie, Annie, baby and myself, Annie enjoyed it very much.

Saturday, Sept 19th: went to the music at the White House grounds. Shoes \$2.50.

Monday, September 21st, 1903: school opened today and Lillie went to the 2nd grade. Miss Cole is her teacher, she is a very sweet girl. I went up to school everyday for a week with Lillie and enjoyed the children very much.

Tuesday, October 6th, 1903: Annie received a letter from home saying that her mother was sick, at 4.13 a got a telegram to come home. So on *Wednesday* morning at 7.50 she started,

a beautiful day warm as Summer, but Aunt Emily died at 12 O'clock Tuesday night, so that Annie could not get there in time.

Dec. 16th, 1903: Wednesday, looks like snow. Lillie wrote a letter to Santa Claus at the request of her teacher Miss Cole. She said in her letter that she had everything she needed, all she wanted was a baby sister. Dear little Lillie, she is so lovely and such a sweet baby herself, so well and so full of life and romp, just the happiest little thing in the world, and her cheeks are just as red as red roses.



1904

Thursday, July 28th, 1904: a hot day, cloudy & showery. Lillie had her party, thirty-five children, but a storm came up just as the children were having their pictures taken, then such a scramble for the porch & house. Then after the party was all over, the moon came out beautiful & bright. The children had a good time however; plenty of cake & cream, peanuts, caramels, peanut brittle, bananas, chocolate cake, jellie cake, coconut cake, & white cake iced for the birthday cake with nine little candles. Nine years old, dear little baby, just the same sweet child, and just as much a baby as ever, but she is growing so tall.

Sunday, August 28th: 9 years one month old, how quickly the time flies, and my little baby is growing to be quite a tall girl.

Thursday, September 8th, 1904: Charley, Lillie, and I went to N.Y., had a nice time. Arrived in N.Y. at 1 p.m., went over to Brooklyn to see sister, she was living at 365 Hoyt St. Went down to Coney Island that night, saw the beautiful ocean, and all the many things that are to be seen at Coney.

Saturday: started out to get the boat to go up the Hudson, but missed it, so went down to Coney by water. Spent the day there, had lunch. Charley ordered clam chowder, which was the finest he had ever had, so he said. Lillie ordered cocoa, and she thought it would do her more good to put it on the outside of her stomach than in, which she proceeded to do. Of course it made more of a mess all over her nice little clothes, clear through to her little drawers. But then she had her little coat long, so she put it on to cover her up, and as it was a cool day, it was all right. Then we went on the beach, and as it was too cold to go in the water, we just took our shoes and stockings off & waded in, and let the big waves splash over our feet.

Sunday, Sept. 11th, 1904: a perfectly beautiful day. We went up the Hudson as far as Poughkeepsie. Started at 10 a.m., got back to N.Y. at 6 p.m., it was simply beautiful.

Monday morning: to the Ferry for N.Y. from Brooklyn to see the markets, then back home. Had dinner, went to Coney Island, went in bathing but it was quite cool. Got home about 7.30, there Lillie and I stayed. Charley went up to N.Y. and took in the Bowery.

Tuesday, Sept. 13th, 1904: went to the art gallery, stayed there all the afternoon. Had lunch there, then had a long ride & a very long walk to the Williamsport Bridge, which has just been finished, but the cars are not running over yet. Charley, Lillie, and I walked over the bridge, which is one mile and a half long. It started to rain when we were almost over but not very much. And on *Wednesday* morning when we started for home, it was raining, and at every place we came through it was pouring.

Monday morning, Sept 19th: Lillie started for school, to Miss Coles in the 3rd grade. She is getting along very nicely.

Thursday, Sept 29th: went to the dentist, Dr. Nora Moyer, to have her little front tooth filled, her second teeth, \$1.00.

Thursday, Oct. 6th, 1904: will go again to have her two lower molars filled. Charley and Mr. Reddy are building a small addition to the kitchen, or covering for the cellar and kitchen steps.

Friday, Oct. 28th, 1904: Lillie is well, getting along lovely at school, is 9 years 3 months old.

Monday, Oct 31st, 1904: Lillie started in with music, the Fletcher system. Her teacher is Miss Payne, 13123 G St N.W. She is getting along lovely, and her teacher says she is the most delightful child she had ever taught. She is very fond of music, and I hope she will make a good player.

Dec 25th, 1904: Lillie is well and had her usual amount of Christmas presents and a tree, which she always enjoys.



1905

June is here & school has closed. Lillie has done very well and is transferred to the 4th grade. Her teacher this year will be Miss Clarke. She is still the same happy child and the same sweet nature.

Friday, July 28th, 1905: a cloudy uncertain day, but we had the party, which went off very nicely. There were 44 children, and they all had a good time.

Wednesday, August 16th, 1905: Annie McIntyre and Mamie Rossiter came to see us. We have had lovely weather since they have been here, and they are having a good time seeing things.

Tuesday, September 12th, 1905: Lovely day. Charley took Lillie, Annie, and Mamie to Mt. Vernon by boat. They all had a lovely day.

Wednesday: a beautiful day. They will come downtown today to go to the Lafayette theatre.

Friday, Sept. 15th, 1905: Friday morning at 7.50, Annie & Mamie started for home. A beautiful day, cool & bright.

Monday, September 18th, 1905: cloudy in the morning, but sun came out very hot in the afternoon. School opened and I went up with Lillie. She looked very sweet in her little baby blue suspender dress of linen & silk and a very pretty embroidery, & white goods for a waist, and her hair in curls. She went to the 4th grade, her teacher is Miss Alice Clark.

Thursday, September 21st, 1905: a beautiful day. Lillie started her music with Miss Payne again, lessons \$1.00, or \$1.50 for two lessons.

Thursday, September 28th: Lillie is well and is growing lovely, has a splendid appetite and is as plump as a partridge and as solid as a rock. She is getting along nicely at school, and the same sweet lovely disposition and happy as the days are long. She is 10 years two months old.

Ode to Mrs. Beck's pedal extremities.

Oct. 26 1904

Twinkle, Twinkle, little legs,
Quicker far than wooden pegs,
Which in Brightwood mud might stick
As you wildly rush click, click,
In and out and round about seeking grub.

—By Mrs. Sherwood

And as her grub she homeward carries,
She shakes her fist and swears at "Harries"

—Miss Laura Brooke

Thursday, November 16th, 1905: a very windy evening. As we came from music, we stopped in at Mrs. Saum on F St near 12th to get Lillie's hat, which cost \$15.00. It is made of black mirror velvet, quite a large hat, shirred on the top brim under the brim it is shirred beautifully with pink chiffon, there are three beautiful ostrich feathers on the top, pink. It is very becoming to her, and she looks lovely in it.

Monday, November 27th, 1905: a beautiful day, cool. Had Lillie's piano brought out, a Knabe, \$500.00. It is lovely. She knew nothing of it until I took her into the parlor after dinner, then she smiled her sweet little smile, and buried her little head in my arms. She was delighted, and sat down and played her little exercises for us, but she was so nervous and excited. She did very nicely. Grandma came down to celebrate, Gussie was there, Charley and myself.

Tuesday, Nov 28th: a rainy, cold day. Lillie is well and as happy as a bird, she is ten years 4 months old.

Wednesday, Dec. 6th, 1905: a lovely day. Mrs. Baker came back to live with us.

Sunday, Dec. 24th: a lovely day. We went over to Rock Creek Park, rambled through the woods, gathered lots of evergreens and little red partridge berries which are beautiful, lots of lovely moss, came home and trimmed up our tree.

Christmas dawned beautiful and bright, a lovely day. I went to 8 O'clock mass, Sister went to 10.30. Mrs. Baker went home to spend Christmas and did not come back again. Lillie had a new plaid dress green, blue & black, new pair of shoes, 2 ½ dollars, dress goods was 75 cts a yd.



1906

Sunday, Jan. 28th, 1906: started for a walk over to 14th St where they are cutting the new road through for the extension of the railroad. It rained quite hard but we did not care, we kept right on, but in a little while it stopped. We rambled through the woods, gathered lots of beautiful moss, and Lillie picked up so many stones and put them in her fathers overcoat pockets, he said he would bring a cart along next time.

Sunday, Feb 4th, 1906: went for a ramble to the zoo and the park. It was a beautiful day. One place in the creek was frozen and the skaters were out in full force We walked quite a distance, and Lillie was very tired and hungry. My, she said, *if I only had some of that nice chicken with me*, then by and by she said, *I am so hungry that I could eat a dry crust of bread*. We reached home at last, and I made her lie down on the couch and rest. While she was lying there, she kept saying to herself, *here chickie, chickie, chickie, here chickie, here chickie, here chickie, chickie, chickie, chickie*, calling the cooked chicken to come to her, she was so tired. When she was rested a little she came to the table to eat her dinner, and such a dinner as she did eat, you would not think that such a small breadbasket would hold so much.

Tuesday, Feb 27th: a cold, windy snowy day. Lillie made me a cake for my birthday, sent Mr. Reddy downtown for ice cream, and the night was so cold I nearly froze eating it.

Feb. 28th: clear, cold & windy. Lillie is well, is getting along nicely with her music, and is the same lovely sweet child, getting along nicely at school. We have some lovely rambles over in the Rock Creek Park, Charley, Lillie and I. It is beautiful there.

Saturday, March 10th: little Margaret McElwee had a party on her 8th birthday. Lillie was invited and had a lovely time.

Sunday March 11th: we went over to the Fort on Military road. Then we came to a nice pine woods so sat down to rest, and ate a little lunch of apples and ginger snaps, this Lillie thinks lots of fun. It was a beautiful day.

Saturday, March 31th, 1906: Dorothy Bright gave a party on her 12th birthday. Lillie was among those invited and had a delightful time.

Monday, April 2nd: Ralph Condra gave a birthday party, 7 years old. He invited Lillie but it was her music evening down town so she could not go, she was very sorry.

Sunday May 20th: a beautiful day, a little cool. We had our May procession, it was very sweet. Lillie looked very sweet in her white dress, and new patent leather ties, which cost two dollars. She had a new straw hat for school, which cost \$3.00. She is getting along nicely at school, and also with her music. Miss Payne expects to leave for home on Saturday May 26.

Tuesday evening, May 29th, 1906: Miss Payne came out to see Lillie. It was a lovely evening and she enjoyed her visit very much, and Lillie enjoyed having her. She left Thursday morning May 31st for Boston.

Wednesday morning, June 6th: a lovely morning. Lillie was not feeling very well. I remained home from the office, and sent for the Doctor, Dr. Waters. He is one of the finest men I have ever met. He talked and joked with Lillie, and when I asked him if he thought that milk made her bilious, he laughed & said, *did you ever hear of a bilious calf?* This amused Lillie very much. While the doctor was talking with her, Father Mackin came in to give mamma communion and when he had finished with her, he came downstairs, and as the doctor had left, he sat down to have a chat with my little girl. And there in the hall, as she lay on the couch, windows and doors open to let in the lovely June breeze laden with honeysuckle and roses, Lillie made her first confession to Father Mackin of St. Paul's church. She is 10 years eleven months old, and Father Mackin was so lovely to her that he quite won her heart. She is a sweet, lovely child, pure and untouched by the world, and always good and obedient to all.

Monday morning, June 11th: Lillie is better and has returned to school. Last week was quite an eventful week for Lillie. She moved out of my room into her own little room, and I slept with her for two nights until she got used to it. She was rather timid, but she loves her little room so much and keeps everything lovely.

Thursday, June 28th: Lillie is getting along nicely now, she feels better than she has for the last two or three weeks. I bought a piece of long cloth and one piece of nainsook for under garments for Lillie. Long cloth \$1.25 for 12 yds., nainsook \$1.50 for 12 yds. 3 gowns were made out of the long cloth, and 3 pair of umbrella drawers, and two lovely skirts out of the nainsook, embroidery of drawers 75 cts for one pair 2 ½ yds, 30 cts a yd. 60 cts for the second pair and 45 for the 3rd pair, embroidery for skirt, \$2.03 4 ½ at 45 cts a yd. Bought dotted Swiss for dress for Lillie, German Vallences lace for trimming. The skirt was slashed in square slashes at the bottom, and trimmed with the insertion and edging of the lace and bertha made in same way. \$6.20 for the lace on Lillie's dress. She wore it at her party. Silver Fork July 28, 1906, cost \$2.25

Saturday evening, July 28th, 1906th: it was a lovely evening. There were 50 children and Miss Emma Fisher, Mrs. Calhoon and her two little girls, Hazel 12 and Frances 5 years from the city, then two friends of theirs Ethel and Albert La Frere. They all had a lovely time We had the little donkey pinned up on a sheet on the West side of the house, and they had great times over that, then the peanuts were hidden in the bushes and the flower beds, and the children had a grand scramble for them.

Saturday, Sept 22nd: Lillie came to the city to meet me. We went to Bell's to have Lillie's picture taken. From there we went to the Columbia Theater to see *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*, which was very fine.

Saturday, Sept. 29th: we went to the Belasco, but we were disgusted with that, it was Vaudeville.

Monday, October 8th: I received from Philadelphia, John Wanamaker, goods for a dress for Lillie. Poplin plaid \$1.75 per yard, four yards, which was \$7.00, thirty cents for mailing. I bought this week a shepherd's plaid for Lillie, made low square neck, laced with red ribbon in the front of the waist & sleeves. It is just like Ethel's, her little chum and twin sister, as Lillie calls her.

Saturday, Oct. 20th: a cloudy, rainy day. Went to see the Opera, *Madam Butterfly*. The scenery was very beautiful and Lillie enjoyed it very much. On our way home, we stopped in the Boston house and bought a postal card album, \$1.00.

Wednesday, Oct. 24th: evening, Lillie complained of not feeling so well. Thursday morning I sent for the doctor and remained home with her for three days. She had a breaking out all over her little body. The doctor called it Hebes, or twin sister to chicken pox.

Monday, Oct. 29th: she is better. *Saturday morning Oct. 27* at 3 am little Michael died of membranous croup, and buried to day Monday Oct. 29 at 2 P.M.

Saturday afternoon, Nov. 10th, 1906: the 14th St cars started.

Monday evening, Nov 12th: I had the pleasure of riding home by that route, which was perfectly delightful.

Monday, Nov. 19th, 1906: Rainy day. Lillie went to school this morning after three weeks at home. Charley takes his leave to day to put up a new fence front and side.

Tuesday, Nov. 20th: began exray treatment for my hand.

Tuesday, Nov. 27th: 2nd treatment.

Sunday, Dec. 30th, 1906: an entertainment was given at the Sunday school, singing and recitations. Lillie spoke a verse called *The Star of Hope*, there were five other stars. Another piece of 6 verses called *The Telephone Message*. It came off very nicely, and Lillie received a very hearty applause.



1907

Friday, March 1st: a cloudy, cold, raw day. Lillie went to confession to Father Rosensteel for the first time. This was her second confession. She is just as lovely and sweet and pure as ever. We have our own little chats every night and she tells me all of her day's fun & troubles.

Monday, March 4th, 1907: Lillie had one little jaw tooth taken out by Dr. Fergel. Poor little darling, she was very brave about it. Dr. Fergel put cocaine on the gum so that it did not hurt very much.

Saturday, March 16th, 1907: a lovely day. Lillie went to a party given by Frances Calhoun, she was 6 years old. She had a lovely time and looked very sweet in her dotted swiss trimmed in Vallences lace, and everyone admired her. She is a dear sweet child everywhere, at home as well as abroad. I have just bought three pieces of velvet for trimming her plaid dress, which cost \$4.35, and dark green silk for the little drop skirt and waist lining, cost for 5 yards (6 yds) \$2.81, 59 cts a yard [2.81 + 59=3.40], a pretty spring coat, \$12.50, which is very becoming to her.

Friday, April 6th, 1907: a pair of tan low shoes, \$3.00, expensive but very pretty, bought at the Boston House. Lillie has become quite a favorite with her teacher Miss Sullivan. She is very fond of Lillie, and this pleases Lillie very much, as everyone thinks Miss Sullivan so cross.

Tuesday, April 9th, 1907: a real Winter's day. Rain all night, snow half the day, and the wind blew a gale. *Wednesday* it was cold & windy, *Thursday* it was quite windy, but the sun is shining brightly and it is much warmer. Ethel, Lillie's little chum has been away from

school for two or three days, and Lillie misses her very much, but she goes to school today, *Thursday, April 11th*, so Lillie is happy. Lillie is well and happy, getting along nicely with her music and at school, loved by all her teachers, and just as lovely and sweet as ever at her home. Sent away for \$6.00 worth of roses, \$5.00 worth of plants, Sidney Park Conservations.

(Ovid) "Exitus acta probat" "Actions are tested by their results."

Tuesday, April 23rd, 1907: raining, but everything looks sweet and Springy. The crab apple blossoms are out and they are beautiful, but it has been a very cold Spring and nearly all the fruit has been ruined. Lillie is well and as happy as a bird, as she and Ethel and Frank play around the garden, while another little admirer, Ewing Fant, skates up and down on the outside or stands near the fence, and watches the children at play, especially Lillie. We had little Florence Fant down Sunday after Sunday school. We took her to Sunday school for the first time, and she was very much excited over it. She was very much pleased to come down with Lillie, and she had such a good time with the little pink parasol that she offered to buy it from Lillie. She is only 4 years old, and we thought it was very cute.

Thursday, May 16th, 1907: We have a lovely fish pond. Charley made it for Lillie, and I brought home 9 beautiful gold fish for the pond. It was pouring rain, we put them in the pond and they seemed to like it very much.

Saturday: Lillie fed them with cracker, and they all came up and took it from her fingers. Lillie was very much excited when I came home, Ethel & Frank were there and they had been having great times with the fish.

Sunday: Ewing Fant & his little sister Florence came down after church to see the fish. Ewing is quite a little chum of Lillie's and is very fond of her. He is dark with dark brown eyes, and is quite a nice looking little fellow. Bought Lillie a lovely pink sash, \$3.85.

Sunday, May 19th, 1907: we had our May procession. Lillie took little Florence Fant and Mary Green, aged four years, up with her. They looked very sweet, they were so tiny. While we were in church, the storm that had been threatening came. It rained in torrents and hailed, but when we came out of the church it let up long enough for us to get home, then it rained all night. Ewing comes down nearly every evening for some excuse or other.

Wednesday, June 19th: school closed. Lillie recited a piece, "Nature's Flag" which she did very nicely. Ethel, Ewing, Frank and Lillie were out in the road gathering daisies. Then they thought they would try their fortunes, which they did out there in the moonlight.

Saturday, July 13th, 1907: a lovely day but very warm. Lillie discovered that there were some baby fish in the pond. She was delighted.

Monday morning, July 15th, 1907: Lillie began lessons with Mrs. McKnight in Elocution. She is a lovely woman and has a lovely voice.

Monday, July 15th, 1907: St. Swithen's day, cloudy all day but did not rain. If it rains on that day, it will rain for forty days, so goes the old legend.

Saturday, July 20th, 1907: bought Lillie a lovely little pin with a small diamond in it, \$3.75, for her birthday present. A silver tablespoon with Lily of the Valley pattern, \$2.25.

Saturday, July 27th, 1907: a beautiful day and night. We had the party, thirty-eight children and about 20 grown people. Ice cream was furnished by Freund and was very nice. We had 3 ½ gallons, some left over for the next day, Sunday, and as Nellie Dunne had stayed all night and until after dinner on Sunday, it came in very nicely. We had chicken for dinner and ice cream for dessert. Mary Fisher was out to the party and brought Lillie a little painting, her own work, which was very pretty. We had 9 large cakes, ½ bushel peanuts and 7 pounds of candy.

August 1st: bought Lillie blue linen for a dress 50 cts per yard (4 yds) and white embroidery to trim. Bought 5 yds Scotch gingham at 50 cts per yard for dress white embroidery beading for trimming, with black velvet run through, they are both Jumper dresses and are very pretty and becoming to Lillie, the gingham looks like silk and had three shades of blue, red and yellow in the little check.

Friday evening, Sept. 13th, 1907: gave Father Rosensteel a farewell reception. The purse amounted to \$91.00, it should have been as much again. Ice cream & cake was served, the children sang, little Mary Green recited a farewell verse to Father, which was very sweet. She is only four years old.

Sunday, Sept. 15th, 1907: a perfectly beautiful day. Cardinal Gibbons came to Forest Glen to Confirm the children of that church and the children from the church of the Nativity at Brightwood. We had 15 girls and 7 boys, there were about 50 in all. Father Rosensteel, Father Mackin from St. Paul's Church 15 & V N.W., and Father Dougherty assisted the Cardinal. The children looked very nice in their white dresses & veils, and Lillie looked particularly sweet and innocent, which she is. After the services, the Cardinal stood on the porch of Father Rosensteel's house to welcome those that cared to see him. It was a beautiful picture, the Cardinal in his beautiful scarlet robes, the children dotted here and there on the lawn, in their white dresses and veils people standing around in groups, the lovely lawn, the beautiful flowers, the birds singing and everything in harmony for the occasion. Lillie May Cecelia Beck.

Sept 19th, 1907: Thursday, a rainy day, and Mr. Hazzard and family expected to move today to Falls Church. We all feel very badly about it. Lillie loves Ethel and Frank, they are constant companions, and so congenial. Lillie will be lost for a companion. It is almost time for school to open, so that will help a little to break the loneliness.

Sunday Sept. 22nd, 1907: Father Bischoff said mass for the first time in our church. It rained all day.

Tuesday evening, Sept 24th: gave Father a reception. The children sang a song of welcome, Mary Green recited a verse of welcome, and we wound up the evening by having a storm in which Father Bischoff, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Fant, Charles, Lillie, Ewing, and myself were caught in the shower near the hotel. Gave Lillie a silver knife to match her fork, which cost \$2.75. Went to the National Theater to see *Peter Pan*, Maud Adams, it was a lovely play and Lillie enjoyed it very much. The house was crowded, had seats in the Gallery, \$1.50, which was quite high.



1908

Feb. 1st, 1908: a pair of shoes, \$3.00.

Feb 8th, 1908: a lovely day but cold and the ground is covered with snow. It is Saturday and Charley has been home all the week painting the kitchen & our room. I guess Lillie will have a good time with him today, as she always enjoys having him home. Lillie is well and is growing tall, she is the same lovely sweet child. She is preparing for her first Communion, and goes up to church every Saturday morning for instructions. Father Bischoff teaches the children. Lizzie Hessemer left us *Monday, Jan. 27th, 1908.* We paid her \$20 a month. We get along very well without her. Lillie's teacher Mr. Nally had a stroke sometime in December 1907, but he is now better and back to school again. Lillie was delighted when he came back. Mamma had a fall Christmas Eve. We had a nurse for her, Sister Seraphine, she was with us almost three weeks. She is a dear sweet little woman, and we did not like the idea of her leaving so soon.

Wednesday March 11th, 1908: Lillie is well and happy, is 12 years, 7 months old & eleven days, and the dread time has arrived. It seems so soon, as she is still a baby in knowledge. Mrs. Hazzard, Ethel and Frank came over today to see us. Ethel and Frank went up to the school to see Lillie. She was as happy as a bird.