

Louisiana Moore Ricker Diary 1872

Monday, January 1, 1872

The new year dawned brightly and beautifully upon us. The weather has moderated from the intense cold of last Thursday and the favorable day has been well improved by callers, young and old. Mattie Gaylord spent the day with Mary and received calls with her. There were about fifty in all I think. Jennie was sick in bed with a sore throat and missed all who called before five o'clock. Jno Peebles, Jms Overturf, A. B. Voorhies, J. N. Murray and E. F. Draper called here together, Jimmie and Will Bonsall were out together. Maggie had one caller, and only one who came to see her personally L. P. Halderman Jr. who has just completed his first year came over with his mother and it was very amusing to see the two babies together. I am still at home and do not know when I shall have any other house than the one I have always had. I dread to think of leaving it and yet I am anxious to get settled in one of my own. In all probability this is the last New Year's day that we will all be at home together.

Tuesday, January 2, 1872

We were expecting the bridal party from Olney here this forenoon to remain until tomorrow but the day passed and nothing was heard from them. We spent the forenoon in expectation but as soon as dinner was over I went up to see Ella Murray and then down to see Emma Spry, and to the store to get Jimmie to go with me and get some paper. After I came home Mrs. Tewksbury, Mrs. Dunlap, Mrs. Iams, Miss Kate Iams, Mrs. Elden, Miss Darlington and Emma Johnson and Miss Shack called if yesterday was the gentleman's day, this must have been ladies day for a great many seemed to be out. In the evening Jimmie and I went to the Club meeting at Mr. Ed Draper's and enjoyed a very pleasant evening.

Wednesday, January 3, 1872

It has been raining all day and I suppose all fears for the river are done away with now. The Bostona has been laid up nearly six months, has only made two or three trips in all

that time. The committee of which I have the honor to be a member met here after dinner today to make out a programme for the next evenings entertainment. Misses Draper and Bannon were present but Mrs. Rifinberick was absent. James, Mary and I are invited up to Mr. Jas Nichols to spent the evening but do not expect to go.

Thursday, January 4, 1872

It was bright and pleasant this morning and after I had dressed baby I dressed myself and went down street. My first errand was to take Hattie Sterett's lesson paper and needle case to her, next I went to Mr. Connolley's then to take Sallie Ball's paper to her. Stopped and made Mrs. Tewksbury a visit then went to Lucy Rifenberrick's and from there to the office to write out the notices for the next Club meeting and then I delivered them one to Jns Overturf at the Bank, one to Will Bonsall and two to A. B. Voorhies. Gussie Halderman and Will Connelley were here to tea and after tea Will Brayton, Mattie and Bennie Gaylord and Jennie Tewksbury were here to spend the evening. We enjoyed our selves as much that 11 o'clock slipped around before we were aware of it.

Friday, January 5, 1872

This has been another delightful day and after dinner I went out much against my will however. I promised Pa I would call on some people who have lately come to town and went out to find company for that purpose but not succeeding. I make two or three calls among some of my own friends. Saw Emma Voorhies and then went to Mr. Spry's but no one was at home. Found Maggie Jones at home and after leaving there I met Maggie Peebles who had just to our house. I turned to walk home with her and met Ella Overturf and Sallie Peebles who had just been to our house also. I was very sorry I had gone out and missed those calls. When I came home I found Carrie Swim here and after wards Mrs. D. S. Johnson came. Carrie Stearnes had been here too. In the evening we went to Prayer meeting and after that was out. Misses Bonsall and Voorhies with Emma came to consult about our charade for the next Club meeting but not having a book we did not accomplish anything.

Saturday, January 6, 1872

Baby Maggie is five months old today and is progressing nicely though she is not as far along in some respects as some children are at her age. She has teeth but is beginning to sit alone and is just as good and sweet as a baby could be.

Sunday, January 7, 1872

I went to Sabbath school as usual and then remained to church. Dr. Pratt preached his 20th anniversary sermon this morning. In the evening monthly concert of prayer for missions was held in the basement and I went.

Monday, January 8, 1872

It snowed this morning and at noon when I went to the door to look for Grandpa Ricker who was to come on the train the snow was nearly two inches deep but being on a sheet of ice it was easily swept off. I swept it all off the steps and away from the gate but did not see any thing of Grandpa. He afterwards came with Jimmie when he came to dinner. Grandma sent a doll to Lucy by him. We all went around to see Uncle Enos who is at home sick and in the evening went to church, this being the week of prayer.

Tuesday, January 9, 1872

It has been cold and gloomy today and not at all pleasant to be out but I was out. I went down to see Emma Voorhies and we went together to see Ella Bonsall and Will about the charade for the next club meeting we finally decided on the word Foot-prints. Pa Ricker and Uncle Drew went up Kanawha this morning. I did not go to church in the evening but stayed with baby who seemed determined not to let me do any thing but attend to her. She and I wrote a letter to her little Grandma, thanking her for the doll she sent her.

Wednesday, January 10, 1872

All around and above us is beautiful and pleasant but under foot it is exceedingly disagreeable. I went out to see uncle Enos this morning and also to the store to do an errand for Ma. Mary the girl, was still sick so by the time I had the room in order, baby washed and my self ready to go out it was nearly noon. Of course I did not accomplish any thing in the forenoon. After dinner Ma went out and I waited some time for her to come back, as she did not come, I dressed baby to go out and just then Mrs. Towne came in and made a long call. She told us a great deal about the Chicago fire, she had a great many friends in the city and was only sixty miles from there herself. Mrs. Cotton was also here awhile. After they were gone I went down to see Mrs. Lodwick, Mrs. Hoover and Miss Switzer. In the evening I went to church and left baby with Jennie.

Papa, baby and I had a great play after we all came home. She was taking a ride on Dobbins and seemed to enjoy it very much.

Thursday, January 11, 1872

I took Maggie up to see uncle Enos this morning and after making him a visit we went down to see Emma Spry. Uncle Enos has been in bed since Sunday. He was vaccinated and erysipelas set in and he is quite sick with it. Emma was looking and feeling quite bright and her friends all seem very much encouraged in regard to her recovery. After dinner Ma, Mary and Jennie went down to Aunt Mary Smith's in expectation of remaining until after Lizzie's wedding which was to have been this evening but it was postponed and they all came right back. Julia Young was here and before she left Maggie Peebles came to stay to tea and go to church with us. Baby was just as good as she could be while she was here and Maggie loves her very much.

Friday, January 12, 1872

The weather is delightful and I thought I had better make the most of it. I went over to see Mrs. Towne this morning and talk a little with her about her house. I should like very much to buy it if we could reasonable. We have a new plan about every twenty four hours. I am very anxious to go to house keeping in the spring. After dinner I dressed Maggie and took her with me to call on Mrs. Weir and Mrs. Cornell our new

neighbors but did not see them. Went to see Mrs. Dugan but she was not at home, neither was Sallie Peebles. Found Lucy Rifemberrick at Ella Overturf's and then called on Mrs. Glover who was sufficiently appreciative of the merits of baby. From there we went to Mr. Peebles and found Sallie there with the baby, hers looks very small by the side of mine. Went to the store but Jimmie had just gone out the back way. I found him on 2nd however and went with him to see Uncle Enos a few minutes. Went to prayer meeting in the evening.

Saturday, January 13, 1872

Mary the girl is sick again, in fact she has not been really well for some time but she is now obliged to give up entirely. I did up my work myself this morning and intended taking baby out in the afternoon but told Jennie she might take her up to Mr. Dronillard's first and when she came back it had grown so cloudy and cold that I thought she had better stay at home. I went up to see how uncle Enos was and then went to the store and came home with Jimmie. After tea he and I went to get Emma Voorhies and then we all went up to Mr. McFarland's to practise a charade which several of us were appointed to render at the next club meeting. The word is Foot-print and was given to Mr. and Mrs. Voorhies, Mr. and Mrs. Bonsall, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. R. who had to call upon Misses Overturf and Rifemberrick to assist.

Sunday, January 14, 1872

I went to Sabbath school in the morning and to church twice. The whole family, or nearly the whole family are on the sick list. Only four of us went to church in the evening.

Monday, January 15, 1872

Baby can sit alone as well as any body and has learned the use of her toys quite well. My face has swollen up since last night and I have been paying most of my attention to that today. Pa Ricker came back from Kanawha and was here to supper. I was feeling very badly when he came and after the folks returned from church I took a foot-bath

and went to bed. Baby tried her best to get in to the bucket of hot water, she knows what water in a tub or bucket means. I received the first dividend from my insurance stock tonight. \$5.00 from each of the companies Amazon and Triumph. This for the last three months makes 20% on the dollar for a year which is doing well if it only holds out.

Tuesday, January 16, 1872

Pa Ricker went down street before I was up this morning and did not get back in time to tell me good bye. When I sat up in bed to drink my tea baby sat up beside me like a little woman and took little sips from the spoon. The club met this evening at Ella Bonsall's but neither Jimmie or I were there. Jimmie had his troublesome old tooth taken out this evening and was afraid of a good deal with it and I am glad it is out at last. I was sorry to miss the club meeting because my absence caused the failure of our charade, Jimmie would not have gone with out me and it was too late for any one to take our places. I was glad I could not go because I did not care to go from prayer meeting to a club meeting so it all happened very well.

Wednesday, January 17, 1872

My face is still very much swollen and makes me look very one sided and anything but handsome. I stayed in bed all the fore noon to have a flax seed poultice on it which did not add to my beauty in the least. After dinner the doctor came in but he can only say, you'll get along, put the same mixture on, ect. Last week I only missed one night from church, this week I don't expect to get out at all. Mr. and Mrs. Jno Clarke, a bride and groom, are visiting John and Sallie and I want very much to call on her but do not expect to be able. It is just three years today since Mary Gaylord died, I remember it when looking at the date. Tonight when I undressed baby I thought I would try and see how she would step and was astonished to see her step off like and older child. I supported her weight of course but she stepped first with one foot and then the other just as well as any one.

Thursday, January 18, 1872

My face is a little better today but it is still ugly and uncomfortable. It has broken in two places inside my nose which is better perhaps than outside. Thersa Spry was here today but I did not see her. After dinner Aunt Maria, Maggie and Mary Peebles and Mrs. Murray were here. Mrs. M. stayed to tea. I put my pillow case in the rings today and am greatly interested in the raised work, when that is done the piece will be finished as I have done all the eyelets and vines. I made a grape leaf today and think I shall be able to do it all very nicely. Mattie Peebles is three months old today.

Friday, January 19, 1872

My face is better today and I am beginning to look like myself again but can not go out yet. It was very windy and disagreeable this evening. Ma was not well enough to go out, I could not go out and the girls went to church alone. Jimmie has a cold and is very hoarse. Tonight he brought me a little medicine glass with the tea and table spoons marked on it, and a little box to keep it in and I want to take good care of it and see how long I can keep it. I had intended doing some work tonight but John brought in one of my old diaries which he had found in the old writing desk and I began to read extracts aloud to Mary which was so entertaining to both of us that I did nothing else all the evening. It was the one I wrote in 1863 and was the first one I ever kept a whole year. I believe there were no mistakes in the spelling but it sounds very ridiculous to me now when I read it over.

Saturday, January 20, 1872

I am very much better today but it is so damp that I dare not go out. I am real sorry that I am not going to get out to call on Mrs. Jno Clarke, Miss Lida Wright that was. I gave Fannie her music lesson this morning and then spent the rest of the day taking care of baby and working on my pillow cover. Laura Loughry was here in the forenoon but after dinner no one came in at all.

Sunday, January 21, 1872

Our little sister would have been nine years old today had she lived. I was at Sabbath School and church as usual. Ma went in the evening and we left today with Mary who takes as good care of her as any of us could.

Monday, January 22, 1872

A wedding generally unfits us for any thing else and particularly when it in day time. Mollie McConnell and Mr. York were married in our church at 1 ½ o'clock today. Davy Jones and Nora Hutchins, Mrs. Hess and Bertha Glidden, Mr. Heather and Lillie Kinney were the attendants. The bride wore white satin handsomely trimmed with satin and fringe and the bridesmaids wore white tarlitan and looked very pretty. It was a very pretty wedding and was witnessed by a very large crowd. The church was darkened and the gas lighted which gave a very pretty effect to the dressing. After the wedding we attended a reception at the house of Mr. McConnell and then bid the happy couple good-bye. They left on the Telegraph for Akron their future home. Mary and I went out and made a few calls. Called on Mrs. Jas Nichols, Miss Williams, Misses Caroline and M. J. Gunn and then went to see Uncle Enos. Mary went to call on our new neighbor Miss Weir. We went to see how Julia and the children were too while we were out.

Tuesday, January 23, 1872

There is little to distinguish one day from another in this cold weather when the days are so short. We rise and eat, I dress baby and by the time I am ready to begin any thing it is nearly noon. We eat again and in the short time that intervenes between that and supper we generally have company or have to go out some where. We went to church this evening as usual. I have gone every evening when I was well enough my self. Baby has not hindered me at all. I wrote a long letter to Ma Ricker this forenoon. I was telling her how badly I want to go to housekeeping. My ideas of complete happiness for a young couple is to have a little home by them selves but it would not

seem right for us to live in one house and Pa and Ma Ricker in another if we live in the same place. I am anxious to know what we are going to do in the spring.

Wednesday, January 24, 1872

It is snowy and cold and I did not go out until church time. I have been working on my pillow cover all day, as much of the time as I had to spare from baby. Mattie Gaylord was here this afternoon which reminds me that I sewed for Ma in the after noon instead of working at my embroidery. John wanted me to put baby in her carriage and let him push her around the room. I put her in and she seemed to enjoy it very much. She can sit up and hold by the straps and think it is great fun. We went to church in the evening and had a very good meeting. Eleven persons were forward I believe. Among the number Florance Vincent to my great surprise and gratification.

Thursday, January 25, 1872

It is very cold again and the river is full of ice. I was at home all day helping on Ma's black lustin dress. Late in the after noon we went down to see Uncle Enos a few minutes and then to the store to get some things. The merchants are selling at reduced prices for the present and Jimmie told me if there was any thing I wanted I had better get it now, so I went and got seventy-six yards of Lousdale cambrie for baby and three pieces of embroidery for dresses for baby, one piece \$4.00, one \$3.00, and one \$2.00. I went to the store to get Jimmie to go with me to get my measure taken for a pair of shoes but he was not there so I came home. We went to prayer meeting and after that to the concert given by Prof. Gittings. Miss Woolum being the vocalist, Lillie Kinney the pianist and Mast. Paul Feine violinist.

Friday, January 26, 1872

After my morning duties were done I sewed for Ma on her black dress. When I had finished my part of that I went down street, I was at the store yesterday but Jimmie was

out and this evening it was too late to go to the shoe factory so I just came home again with Jimmie. We went to church as usual in the evening. There were a great many persons out.

Saturday, January 27, 1872

Breakfast over, I washed and dressed Maggie. It is great to give her her morning bath. She splashes and kicks and enjoys it so thoroughly. I just spread an old blanket on the floor and set her tub on it and let her splash the water about to her heart's content. Just as I was finishing Fannie came to take her music lesson and by the time we were through it was quite late in the forenoon. I dressed myself and went down street. I had been down twice before to get my measure taken for a pair of shoes but was too late both times. This time I met Jimmie at the store and he went with me to Rifenberrick's Drew's factory and I had my measure taken. On our way home we stopped to see Uncle Enos. After dinner I had intended going to make a few calls but Mary had gone to Mr. Gaylord's and Lou Overturf came to take Jimmie skating so I concluded not to dress and go out. Late in the afternoon I went to see Anna Holmes but did not get in. Then I went to see Mrs. Ware and Mrs. J. W. Lewis. Had intended going with Jimmie to call on Nettie McCullough at Mrs. C. P. Tracy's but we changed our minds and embraced the opportunity to stay at home as it was the only evening in the week that we had no church. Jimmie brought baby a present from Pursells.

Sunday, January 28, 1872

I went to Sabbath school and church in the forenoon but did not go out in the evening. Dr. Pratt preached an old sermon but a good one, on the burial of Moses. I recognized it when he gave out the text. In the afternoon I read the Evangelist and attempted to learn my Sabbath school lesson. I do not like our course of lessons for this year at all. It is the Generous System and it seems to me to be fit only for a minister or one nearly as learned. I'm sure it is beyond my comprehension and I will adopt some other method if the girls prefer doing so.

Monday, January 29, 1872

We are enduring another cold snap. The river closed today about 1 o'clock, the second time this winter. I have been working at an old dress today, one that has been to the dyer's and after being dipped has come back to me brown and ready to be made over for about the sixth time. Its history is a long one for I have had it a long time. It was originally a handsome steel colored merino, made long and full, it has since been shortened, gored, turned and lastly dyed. Baby claims so much of my time that I do not progress very rapidly with any work. We have service again every night this week but neither Jimmie nor I went. He has a lame shoulder and I have a cold. I had a letter from Helen Ricker tonight, the first I've had for a long time. Ella Murray has a little girl, born last night.

Tuesday, January 30, 1872

It is moderating a very little today but the river is frozen over so that people can cross on the ice. A tow boat is sunken just opposite the drug-store at the landing when the ice cut her down before it stopped running. I gave Lizzie a lesson this morning and then went at my sewing, after dinner ma went down to take care of baby, receive company and devote the rest of the time to my dress. Mrs. Gus Johnson, Mrs. A. McFarland and Mrs. O. F. Moore were here and I did not get any thing done on my dress. Baby is beginning to be troubled with her teeth.

Wednesday, January 31, 1872

The last day of January 1872, time passes very rapidly. I was at home all day but went to church in the evening. The first time I have been this week I believe. Ma is busily engaged at Dr. Pratt's now helping Laura Loughry make her wedding dress. That's the second one she has made this winter. She with our help made one for Lizzie Smith but after much hurrying in her part to have it ready in time, the wedding was postponed. A great many persons are going to the city on the train this week to hear Niesson in opera. I'm glad I've heard her and don't care to go. It's too cold to be very pleasant traveling.

Thursday, February 1, 1872

The weather has either moderated or we have become accustomed to the cold for it seemed quite pleasant today. I was at home all the forenoon endeavoring to do something at my dress but at noon decided to lay it aside and go out after dinner. In accordance with my purpose Ma and I went together to see Uncle Enos, Mrs. Tracy, Clara Morris and Nettie McCullough, Mrs. Jane and Miss Kate then Ma went to the river with Uncle Sam in search of her children who had gone skating. I went to call on Mrs. Dennis, Mrs. Reed, Mrs. Richeson, Lucy Rifenberrick, Mrs. Tewksbury, Sarah Ball, Mrs. Col. Jones and her daughter five weeks old. Clay Newman who was not at home and Ella Murray and her daughter five days old, no only four days old. In the evening we were at church. Pa has been making a large addition to his library and now the floor, chairs, mantel and every available spot is covered with piles of books. He thanks fortune he is done buying now but for how long I can't say.

Friday, February 2, 1872

I spent the day and part of the evening on my dress and have nearly finished the skirt, hoping by tomorrow night to see it all done. I went to the library this morning for a few minutes and stayed so long that Ma had baby ready for her bath when I came up stairs. Maggie Stewart came right after dinner and stayed until church time. Gussie was in awhile with Ford, she had started down street but it began to snow and she did not go any farther. I did not go to church in the evening as Jimmie thought I had better not risk taking cold. Jimmie brought my shoes home from the factory this evening. They seem rather large but I am going to keep them.

Saturday, February 3, 1872

Every thing is covered with a hearty fall of snow this morning, a few persons who have sleighs are out in them for fear that they will not enjoy the privilege very long. Fannie did not come for her lesson this morning so I put in the day on my dress and did not get it finished after all.

Sunday, February 4, 1872

I was at Sabbath school as usual and had the pleasure of listening to Rev. Dr. Nelson of Lane Sem. a few minutes and he afterwards preached both morning and evening. His sermon in the morning on the text "Behold I stand at the door and knock" was excellent but no better than the one in the evening in which he said a good deal about predestination, a subject we had been discussing at home in the afternoon. There were a great many out in the evening, members of other congregations as well as our own.

Monday, February 5, 1872

Dr. Pratt appointed afternoon prayer meetings for this week and so we went this afternoon. There were not many out but in the evening the house was better filled than it has been for years. He preached from the text "How long hath ye between two opinions. Dr. Nelson has many admirers here. I went after prayer meeting to see Sallie Ball and asked her to come to church as I have done many times before.

Tuesday, February 6, 1872

We went to prayer meeting in the afternoon and church in the evening. Rev. Morey from Cincinnati preached to a house full of people. His style is altogether different from Dr. Nelson's but we all like him very much.

Wednesday, February 7, 1872

Ma was out all the forenoon, I am not doing much now, I can't do very much. Ma went down street after dinner against my wish but did not stay long. She came home and got ready for church and Mrs. Bell and Mary Glidden came to call. After they had gone Cousin Duvall and Julia came and made quite a visit and by the time they left Ma was feeling so much worse that she concluded not to go to prayer meeting so she stayed with baby but before I came home she had to call Mary to baby and go to bed. Rev. Morey preached in the evening. He leaves in the morning.

Thursday, February 8, 1872

I hurried to dress baby and then myself this forenoon to be ready to receive Grandpa and Grandma who are coming today to make us a visit. Pa Ricker is through at Vinton at last and now they are going on a kind of second bridal tour after their long separation. The train was on time and they came. Baby did not remember Grandma of course but she soon made up with her. Grandma had not been here long until she inquired about the carpet rags so I gathered up a few and set them out in a box for her to work at. Lucy Rifemberrick and Rob were here calling and before they left Maggie Peebles came and stayed until church time when we all went together. Pa and Pa Ricker went to the Episcopal dinner at the hall today. In the evening we went to Prayer meeting and I was made glad by seeing Annie Holmes come forward and signify her intention of becoming a christian. Pa and Ma Ricker were up to Mr. Tewksbury's to tea.

Friday, February 9, 1872

I believe I was not out until Prayer meeting time today. Ma Ricker and I devoted ourselves to baby and the carpet rags. After dinner I dressed myself for prayer meeting and at four o'clock we all went. Ma is still in bed but feeling tolerably comfortable. After meeting Lizzie and I went down to the store and when I came home I found Emma Voorhies downstairs with the baby and Mrs. Tewksbury up stairs with Ma. Aunt Mary and Arthur came soon after dinner to sit with Ma and were with her while we were gone to church. Mrs. Fullerton had called but I did not see her. We sent word for Uncles Sam and Enos to come to tea and we had quite a little tea party with them and Pa and Ma Ricker.

Saturday, February 10, 1872

Ma is still in bed and not much better. I washed baby and gave Fannie her lesson and then cut carpet rags for Ma Ricker to sew until noon. After dinner I took baby out. But I forgot I went out my self in the fore noon. After I gave Fannie her lesson I went out to see Annie Holmes. I missed her at church last night and being anxious to know the reason I went to see her and found her badly hurt. She was on her way to Prayer meeting yesterday and fell and cut her face on the corner of a stone step. I was very sorry it occurred just now because she was intending to go before the session this afternoon. I went and told Dr. Pratt about it and then went to see Mrs. Trotter about

my hat and then down to see the river. It broke up here this morning after being closed by ice for nearly two weeks. After dinner I dressed baby to take her out before I left Sallie Peebles, Jane Tewksbury and Miss Williams called. I woke baby up to see Mr. Henry Tracy and afterwards to call on Lucy Rifemberrick, Mrs. Denins, who were both out, Maggie Peebles and Mrs. Tewksbury. When I came home I found Mrs. J. B. Nichols, Mrs. C. D. Elden, Mrs. Rumsey and Therza Spry here.

Sunday, February 11, 1872

Ma is still sick in bed and this morning I had baby to dress before going to Sabbath school. I dressed her before breakfast and left her with Grandma Ricker while I was gone. Jimmie stayed at home from church to be with Ma and take care of Maggie. When we came home at noon I found Ma crying and feeling very badly. She gets discouraged lying in bed and not improving any more than she does. Dr. Pratt preached both morning and evening. I am taking cold and thought I had better not go out in the evening. Ma Ricker is on the lame list so she stayed, Enos has sore throat and he stayed too. Pa took cold last night and he stayed so about half of us were at home.

Monday, February 12, 1872

Ma is not able to sit up yet and in fact seems no better. It is very discouraging both to her and us. Grandma Ricker is not well either so she stayed at home all day. Pa took cold down on the boat Saturday night and did not get up until nearly noon today. After dinner he went to the office and we took our carpet rags in Ma's room to work where she was. Mrs. D. N. Murray came in with her knitting and sat nearly all the afternoon. Therza Spry was here a while too. Grandma Ricker went to church in the evening but I did not. Jimmie went to a reunion of the officers of the army at the Varner House this evening and came home about 11 o'clock sick with the head ache. Ella Bonsall was here a few minutes this afternoon.

Tuesday, February 13, 1872

The air is very warm today, it looked very much like rain when we got up and while at breakfast it began to rain a little but did not last long. I went down to see Mrs. Rumsey about some medicine for Ma and when I came back Ma Ricker went up street to see some of her friends. It is now raining quite hard. An agent has just been here with a kind of hat rack which I took up stairs and showed to Ma and she thought we had better order one without further parley so he went on his way rejoicing and some time this week we will have hat-rack. I commenced on a bottle of cod-liver oil today which I am going to try to wash down with a preparation of roots, barks and leaves called Forest-wine.

Wednesday, February 14, 1872

I have felt badly all day, Ma is still in bed and I dislike very much to have to give up when she is sick. Pa and Ma Ricker went out to take dinner with John and Sallie Peebles and instead of coming back here they went to Mr. Tewksbury's. I did not go to church in the evening and have not been out any place. This is Valentine's day and the boys have observed it faithfully, nearly demolishing our door bell.

Thursday, February 15, 1872

I was up this morning as usual but have such a severe cold and keep adding to it, that Ma told me I had better go to bed and try to cure it. Accordingly about 11 o'clock I undressed and went to bed. I don't think I ever had such a cold. I couldn't sleep and have been feeling very badly. Of course baby took the cold from me and we were both sick.

Friday, February 16, 1872

In bed all day, no one in. It is gloomy out side and rather discouraging within doors. Ma gets along so slowly. She is out and in from her room to mine but don't get any further. Grandma and Grandpa Ricker came back to day from Uncle Drew Ricker's

where they stayed last night. She bought baby a little white linen apron, the first she has ever had. I put it on her and she looks very sweet in it. The girls went to church as usual.

Saturday, February 17, 1872

The snow was quite deep again this morning and every body who can seems to be availing them selves of the opportunity to sleigh ride. After breakfast I got up and dressed my self and then washed and dressed baby. I don't feel well but want to be up and doing something. Poor Ma is having a serious time of it, she is a little better than she was but there is no telling how long it may be before she is up again. I hope when she does get out again she will be much better than she has been. I have been in her room nearly all day working at my fancy work and watching the sleighs. Lizzie and Bennie Gaylord were out of course. Carrie Swim was here this fore noon.

Sunday, February 18, 1872

I did not go to Sabbath school this morning, it is the first time I have missed this year and for some time before I did not go to church either. There is a heavy face of snow on the ground and I did not dare go out in it. Pa Ricker took charge of my class and I know they had a good teacher. Pa and Ma Ricker went up to Mr. Tewksbury's to dinner and did not come back until after church.

Monday, February 19, 1872

I cleared up my own room this morning and washed and dressed baby and then began on a little pink calico double-wrapper for baby. Maggie Peebles and Carrie R. Swim were here to ask for a jelly cake for the Mission S. S. celebration. After wards Therza Spry and Margretta McCune were here. Margretta expects to go to Ironton to live soon. After dinner Laura Loughry, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Peebles and Mrs. Rumsey were here to see Ma. Pa and Ma Ricker went back to Jackson this morning and Pa Moore went to Cincinnati to attend a convention in reference to the river improvement question. Ma Ricker gave me \$5.00 to spend for baby. I did not get started with my

sewing until quite late and then had a good many interruptions so did not finish what I began.

Tuesday, February 20, 1872

I finished baby's wrapper and then cut out four little short dresses for her. A white, a pink calico a green striped percale and a light calico for mornings. Ma cut a pattern which I think will make up very prettily. Mrs. Dunlap was here this forenoon and Mrs. Murrill after dinner. I had a letter from Pa Ricker tonight in which he sent me a \$5.00 from the new National Bank of Jackson. The young married folks met out at John Overturf's this evening but I could not go and Jimmie would not go without me. The folks went to church in the evening and after I put baby to bed I sewed on my carpet rags. Mrs. Cunningham was here this forenoon and before she left Mrs. Peebles came.

Wednesday, February 21, 1872

Pa did not come up on the boat today but Uncle Sam was brought home sick from a hurt on his knee. I was up there after dinner to see him. I went to Mrs. Trotter's this forenoon and paid \$3.50 for a hat which I was owing and bought another little linen apron for baby and then paid Mr. Broderick for some calico I got there \$1.40 I believe. Mrs. Hoomes was here this afternoon.

Thursday, February 22, 1872

I was in all the forenoon but after dinner I took baby and got her ready for a ride. Mary and I started up to see Mrs. Gaylord and Mrs. Brayton but while we were in at Mrs. Tracy's a few minutes we saw them coming down street in the carriage so we concluded not to go any farther. As we were coming down street we saw Sallie Peebles sitting at the window in Mrs. Tewksbury's so we went in there. She was down spending the day at home and we had the babies together. Mattie is almost if not quite as large as Maggie. She grows very fast. After leaving there we stopped at Mr. Peebles and found Mrs. Gaylord and Mrs. Brayton there. Maggie Peebles went with us down to see Maggie Jones and while we were there Mary Peebles came in. I went

from there to the store for Jimmie. Frank Cunningham was here when I got back. Maggie Peebles gave baby a nice little bib which she had made for her.

Friday, February 23, 1872

I stayed at home today and tried to sew a little on baby's short dresses and it was precious little I sewed too. Mary and Barbara brought the sewing machine in my room so it would be more convenient for me to take care of baby while sewing. After dinner Mary took baby out visiting. I thought I would take advantage of Maggie's absence to do ever so much sewing but we had company all the afternoon and I did not get much done. First Mrs. Col. Bolles and Mrs. Graham then Mrs. Spry and Emma, Mrs. Gaylord and Mrs. Brayton, then Mrs. Draper and lastly Mrs. Tewksbury came in. When she left I went down street and walked home with Jimmie. I have not been to church in the evening for nearly two weeks.

Saturday, February 24, 1872

It was such a pleasant day that I thought I had better take baby and go out than to stay at home and sew, besides Mary wanted the machine to sew some for the girls. While I was giving Fannie her music lesson, Lizzie took baby down to Mrs. McConnell's and Mrs. Hoome's. When she came back I took baby and went down to Laura Loughry's. I had promised to go down sometime to see her wedding clothes. She has a great many nice clothes and some very handsome dresses. Mrs. Draper was there and told me that she made the little apron which Grandma Ricker bought at the society for Maggie. It is the first apron she ever had on.

Sunday, February 25, 1872

I went to Sabbath School and church in the fore noon but did not go out in the evening as all the others were going and I could not leave baby. While we were in Sabbath school this morning the fire bells rang and the engine was started to the fire. A boy

from the 6th Street Methodist Sunday school got permission to go out and see where the fire was and was run over by the hose carriage and his head crushed so that he died before they could get him home. The alarm was false, there being no fire. The Rev. Mr. McShively of Hillsboro came last evening and will remain with us this week. He preached a good sermon this morning.

Ma went to church this evening. Aunt Maria McCall was here, she came up yesterday.

Monday, February 26, 1872

I was out all the forenoon trying to find some thing to make a christening robe for baby but could not find what I wanted. Uncle Sam is sick so I couldn't send to the city by him so I wrote to Maggie Hempstead to see if she would get what I want. I went to prayer meeting in the afternoon and church in the evening and heard another good sermon from Mr. McS. from the words "Be ye reconciled to God. There was a very large attendance.

Tuesday, February 27, 1872

I stayed at home today and sewed a little have the second little dress ready for the buttons and button holes. After dinner Ma went up to Mr. Peebles' and Maggie Peebles came here to see us. She stayed and went to prayer meeting with Mary. Mrs. D. S. Johnson called to see Ma. We have been talking of building on the 5th street lot but have failed to get as much room as we want and so must wait awhile. I am very much disappointed for I wanted to be in a house of our own this summer to prepare for winter. Pa says it is not worth while to rent for so short a time.

Wednesday, February 28, 1872

Ella Greene came home from St. Catherine's this evening after an absence of about seven months. We were all at church in the evening as usual and I spent the day sewing which about completes the record of this day's doing.

Thursday, February 29, 1872

I have sewed all day and am getting along very satisfactorily. In the evening we all went to church to hear Mr. McShively preach his last sermon to us.

Friday, March 1, 1872

I am sewing as busily as I can trying to get something done before warm weather. Next week I will be making a dress for baby to baptized in. We all went to church this evening, it was the last evening of our protracted meeting before communion. The interest seems unabated as yet. Dr. Pratt stated that about 120 had been forward or had manifested and interest. We had preparatory lecture this evening instead of Saturday afternoon as usual. The Session want all the afternoon for their work.

Saturday, March 2, 1872

Jimmie brought up \$25.00 this evening, \$15.00 for Mary B. and \$10.00 for me. I did not go out in the forenoon but as soon after dinner as I could get ready, Mary and I took baby and went up to see Ella Greene. We over took Maggie Peebles on her way up and met Charlie Greene and Sol Churchill coming down. We had a nice visit with Ella who is very much better than when she left. It is very cold weather to take a baby out but I rolled Maggie up warmly and she seemed to enjoy it very much. She behaved so nicely while she was at Mrs. Greene's.

Sunday, March 3, 1872

It is fifteen months today since our wedding and we are still at home. I went to Sabbath School this morning in a hurry with two quarters in my muff and lost them both. Met Mr. Addy and Jno Peebles at the corner and I suppose I must have dropped it there. Communion service was held at 3 o'clock in the afternoon and sixty-nine new members received. I believe they were as follows, Mary Pyles, Mrs. Coleman, Wm B. Grice, R. P. Rifenberick, Wm. P. Mendenhall, Willie and Frank Little, Martin H. Molstic, Elmer H. Clark, Temperance C. Clark, Augusta fulton, Ella Green, Adelia Evans, Addie McCallister, Clara E. Bell, Bery F. Black, Alonzo E. Bing, Bercy H. Gaylord, M. Suter, Ernest Hoomes, Florance C. Vincent Stuart, Howard and Dwight Johnson. Jno and

Mills Thompson, Gus Gaffy, Clara Crisper, J. Pursell Purdum, Eliza W. Rumsey, Alice Maud Roso, Anna Gatterman, Bertha Weyl, Anna W. Holmes, Maggie Reilly, Ella Stewart, Juna C. Fullerton, Omer Van der Lynn, Cole T. J. Overturf, Robt Gibson, Hiram P. Brown, Edward Gibbs, Charles F. Russell, Chas Crotzenberger. Herbert MCorney, Frank Kennedy, R. S. Silcox, Chas V. Silcox, Agnes Graff, America Dickinson, John Thompson, Nellie Crain, B. F. Lynn, Willie Kehler, Mary Gates, Maggie McClain, Russ Edwards, John Lewis, Sadie Collius, Anna Barrett, T. G. Dickenson, Mrs. L. B. Rifemberick, Jennie Morrow, Mary Thompson, Nellie Williams. Cousin Lizzie Smith was married this evening to Milton Steagman.

Monday, March 4, 1872

This morning I wrote a letter to Maggie Hempstead acknowledging the receipt of the organdie for baby's long dress. I could not get it here and sent to Maggie to get it for me. I sent for Frank Johnson and gave him an order to fill for me in the city. I then cut some puffs for Ma to work on and began doing the strips of tucks myself. Carrie Swim was here in the afternoon a little while. In the evening we went to church. We are only to have three services this week.

Tuesday, March 5, 1872

I have been at home all day sewing steadily on baby's dress. I gave Lizzie her lesson this morning and washed and dressed Maggie before settling down to my sewing. Julia Young was here in the forenoon. She says both her girls are going to leave. With her three little ones she will be in a dilemma without help. Therza Spry was here in the afternoon. Jennie had some pictures taken last week and today brought me a large one to frame. She promised it to me on my last birthday and has been waiting until she was feeling and looking well enough to sit for a picture.

Wednesday, March 6, 1872

Maggie is seven months old today and though there seems little room for improvement, still we can see that she does improve with age. She tries to play patty-

cake, holds up her hand as the children do in school, and ever so many cute little things. Pa left very unexpectedly this morning for Cincinnati. He would not tell us what he was going for. Before he left, Mr. Baker and his men brought the new book case in which Pa had made for the library. The trimming for baby's christening dress came this morning and I paid \$8.00 to Harris for Frank Johnson who did the errand for me. After dinner I took my work up to Julia's to see if I could do any better on her machine, ours seems to have taken a tantrum. When I came back Belle Whitney was here and Mrs. Jas Bell had been here.

Thursday, March 7, 1872

We have worked under difficulties today. We will have just so much as we can do to get the dress done and we seem to have more company than usual. Mrs. Peebles, Mrs. Gus Davis, Mrs. Morrow Maggie Peebles were here. Emma Spry was here to dinner and about 4 o'clock Therza, Francie and Grace Helphenstein came to take her home, and Belle Whitney was here to learn to crochet sacks.

Friday, March 8, 1872

Ella Clarke from Chillicothe came this evening she is a relative of Laura's and is to be one of her maids of honor and is Mary's guest until after the wedding. Mary Peebles was here this forenoon and in the afternoon a Committee of the ladies met here to talk over matters relating to Laura's wedding. Mrs. McNeale and Anna and Mrs. Dr. Taylor came up this morning. Pa came home from Cin. He went to have his teeth taken out, his upper ones. He brought me thirteen stereoscopic views to start my collection with he said. For Mary he brought a set of tortoise shell jewelry, Jennie and Lizzie each a shell comb.

Saturday, March 9, 1872

I have been busy all day so has Ma but we had several interruptions. I did not get baby's dress done until bed time but it is very pretty. We have spent the whole week on it and put a great deal of work on it. Mary and Ella Clarke were up to Mr. Peebles'

with the bridal party to tea. Maggie Jones, Mattie Gaylord and Miss Sill called. Mrs. Nathaniel Brown was here a little while this morning. She, John and the girls are on their way to New Castle Penn where Mrs. Brown is sick and they are making a short stay in town. Jimmie brought me a cash book and we tried to fix it up this evening and then I hope to keep it straight and know where every cent of my money goes.

Sunday, March 10, 1872

We went to Sabbath school and church in the forenoon as usual. A young man from Lane Seminary preached both morning and evening. His name is Chapin and he expects to graduate in June. His text in the morning was "Behold the Lamb of God." In the evening, "And they went and told Jesus.

It was the regular day for household consecration and we had our darling consecrated to God in the ordinance of baptism, and called her Margaret Tracy. There were two others baptized, John Buckaninster, Cotton and Martha Steele Peebles. Last Dec. Mr. and Mrs. Jas Rumsey had their youngest child Harry Blashfield baptized and this evening at 8 o'clock he died. It is a sad bereavement to them as he was the only one of the children except John who seemed to have any prospect of a long life, the other all being very delicate.

Monday, March 11, 1872

I tried to sew a little today but can not do much. In the evening I went to church. In the afternoon I wrote a letter to our folks at Jackson.

Tuesday, March 12, 1872

Seven years ago today sister Annie died. Mary had invited Laura and her friends here to spend this evening but when Harry died she recalled the invitations. Teachers' meeting was held at Mr. Patterson's this evening and we were all invited but did not go. I was up to Mr. Peebles' to see Mrs. Hamilton and then I went after Maggie Jones who

came home with me and stayed to tea and spent the evening. Maggie and Mary Peebles came in after teachers' meeting to call on Miss Clark.

Wednesday, March 13, 1872

Ma was going down to Dr. Pratt's this morning as I got ready and went with her to see Mrs. McNeale and Mrs. Churchill. Mrs. C. was not there but I saw Laura and Mrs. McN. Perkins and his wife came this morning but I did not see either of them. After I came home I sewed a little, Ella Clark and Mary went out to the green-house to engage bouquets for the wedding and they spent the whole forenoon doing errands of a similar kind. Ella went to Dr. Pratt's where she remained till late in the afternoon. I met Clara Morris who was coming to call on Ella but when she heard that she was not here she did not come. I went up to Mr. Peebles' to return Mary's shawl for Ma and then to the store to walk home with Jimmie but he was not in so I came home alone. We had a letter from the folds at Jackson.

Thursday, March 14, 1872

We have witnessed the extremes of joy and sorrow today. In the forenoon we went to Harry Rumsey's funeral. In the evening to Laura Loughry's wedding. Ella and Mary being two of the maids of honor had to be assisted in making their torlettes. Maggie Jones came up and helped fix them. When they were gone we went to the church to see the ceremony. Mrs. Draper played just twenty-five minutes before they came. First the four gents who were to attend the maids of honor at the house came and were seated on a front seat in our corner they were misses Damarin, Jones, Jennings and Cadot. Then the family and then the bridal party, First Anna McNeale and Mattie Gaylord, then Mary and Ella Clark, then Maggie Peebles and Mrs. Milton Southard, next Mary Damarin and Capt. Goddard and then Laura and Mrs. Southerd. She wore white satine, the bridesmaids white alpacea and the maids, thin dresses and they all looked very pretty. We went afterward to the reception at the house, the supper was given by the ladies of the church. Laura had a great many handsome presents. It rained all day.

Friday, March 15, 1872

The groom's day began very gloomily but after an attempt to snow it cleared off very pleasant. I was down street to do an errand for Ma and then stopped on my way home at Mrs. Cunningham's. It was very damp and Ma advised me to stay at home which I did and cut out a couple of little flannel shirts for the baby. I did not go to church in the evening.

Saturday, March 16, 1872

Fannie did not come for her music lesson this morning so I went to see about her and found her eye bandaged. She has been troubled with it all week. I was busy until about the middle of the afternoon helping Ma re-bosom some shirts for Pa who is going to start for Pittsburg Monday. Mrs. Hamilton was here to spend the afternoon and take tea. Em Johnson was here calling. I took baby out a little while before supper but it was almost too cold. She is coughing this evening but I do not know whether it was caused by being out or not.

Sunday, March 17, 1872

Attended all the services today as usual. It was quite spring-like and pleasant when we went to Sabbath school but kept turning colder all day and by evening it was quite cold. Ma is in bed again, she became quite discouraged today and we both felt badly. Whenever she feels badly I do too.

Monday, March 18, 1872

This is a real March day, the wind blows very hard and it is quite cold. Ella and Mary went down to Dr. Pratt's to see the folks off. There will be quite a number of them going down. Mrs. McNeale and Anna, Mrs. Dr. Taylor, Mrs. Kenyon, Miss Sallie Chester and I suppose Col. and Mrs. Churchill. Pa went, on his way to Pittsburg. Sallie Chester and Mollie Murray called here but the girls were gone. Ella and I worked a little at my rag-carpet in the afternoon. In the evening Jimmie took Ella, Mary and me to Tosso's concert. He is an old man now and I hardly think he will ever be here after this time. When encored and recalled, he played until he seemed quite exhausted but oh, so

delighted. The concert was very good. Besides the violin there was a very fine pianist, P. Liranovsky who looked like the head cook or steward at some tavern. The two ladies Misses Nettie Cornell and Kates were very good singers and lady-like in their appearance. I never saw such a small, or a more appreciative audience in that hall.

Tuesday, March 19, 1872

The wind yesterday dried up the streets and if it were not for the wind today it would be delightful out of doors. Ma is still in bed but much better she thinks. Ella went to spend the day at Dr. Pratt's but came home before tea. I cut and made a buff merino sack for baby today which was about all I did with my sewing. Aunt Mary and little Mary Moore were here this morning. Fannie's eyes are troubling her again and they think she will have to go to Cincinnati again. Lizzie Smith Steadman was here this afternoon, the first time since her marriage.

Wednesday, March 20, 1872

Pa Ricker came down on the morning train to stay a day or two. The train was late as it usually is when we are expecting any one. It is very cold and windy today, a fearful time for fires, we have escaped so far but large fires all over the country are prevalent. We read of them in every paper. The past year has been unusually dry and so many such large fires were never before known. I did not go out to church in the evening but the others did and after they came home Mr. Gus Damarin called to see the girls. He is the first gentleman who has called on Miss Clark and we have felt very much provoked at their carelessness or whatever it was that caused them to act so. They have all been often entertained by us and they never seem to fill any obligation to call on us or our friends after an entertainment.

Thursday, March 21, 1872

We do not accomplish much and can not expect to while Ma is sick in bed and we have company in the house. Mrs. Draper invited the girls to 3 o'clock dinner today so Ella and I went out in the fore noon to make a call and take a walk. Jimmie went to the Water Works with us, we stopped and took Maggie Jones, and then Ella and I went to call on Anna and Belle Sanford but did not find them at home. After our dinner Mary

and Ella went to Mrs. Draper's returning while we were at the supper table. In the evening Mr. Cadot, Davy Jones, Lou Miller and Rick Peebles called, Jim Boal sent his regrets having started and then having to return to the store. One of the springs of baby's carriage having given out we sent it down to Mr. Nichols and he put a pair of new ones in which I think are stronger.

Friday, March 22, 1872

Ma thinks she is better but still she is not able to be up. Pa Ricker was going home today but we persuaded him to wait until tomorrow. He was up to Mr. Tewksbury's to dinner and after dinner we went up to the High School examination. Mrs. Draper and Miss Blackington came up and went with Mary, Ella and Me. Uncle Enos was here this morning a few minutes. Frank Cunningham was here to call on Ella when we came back from school. I did not go out in the evening, it was so snowy and damp. Nora Hutchins and Bertha Glidden were here to see Ella this morning.

Saturday, March 23, 1872

Pa Ricker went home this morning but we have persuaded Ella to wait until next week. Jimmie brought me \$10.00 this evening. No one was in this evening but Jimmie brought up a paper sack of oranges and some candy and we had quite an entertainment all to our selves. I am not doing much but expect to rent a machine next week after Ella goes away and put in the time faithfully while I have it.

Sunday, March 24, 1872

We went to Sabbath school and church as usual. Rev. Mr. Condit from Ashland exchanged pulpits with Dr. Pratt. I liked his sermons very much and liked the way he delivered them. In the morning he preached from Gal. 6th 14th and in the evening from the text the words of which are "The harvest is past, the summer is ended and we are not saved."

Monday, March 25, 1872

I wrote to Maggie Hempstead this morning and enclosed \$5.00 the price of the organdie she got for me. I wrote to Ma Ricker after supper in answer to a letter received in the evening mail. I commenced a letter to Aunt Betsy but have not finished it yet. Mary and Ella went up to Mr. Towell's to attend a meeting of the reading club. After they had gone Mr. Cadot, Will Pursell, Frank Connolly and Saw Johnson called. It has rained all day and is very gloomy out side.

Tuesday, March 26, 1872

We wanted to entertain Ella and her callers before she left and this being her last evening here Mary and she went out to return a few calls and invite them all to spend this evening with us. I went to invite Maggie and Mary Peebles and after dinner I called at Mrs. Weir's and invited Mr. and Mrs. Cornell and Mr. and Mrs. Weir but they were all sick and could not come. Of the thirty-five who were asked only fifteen were present. Misses Maggie and Mary Peebles, Maggie Jones, Helen Stringer, Bertha Glidden, Nora Hutchins, Therza Spry and Misses Cadot, Pursell, Jones, Peebles, Miller, Damarin, Johnson I believe were all that came. They stayed until about 12 o'clock which looked as though they enjoyed themselves. Aunt Jennie Ricker was here this afternoon.

Wednesday, March 27, 1872

Ella left this morning accompanied to the depot by Jimmie, Mary, Jennie and Lizzie and followed by Bennie Gaylord riding. Fannie followed by Dash. We have enjoyed her visit of two and a half weeks very much and hope we may see more of each other. In the afternoon Mary, baby and I went out to make some calls. We felt very well satisfied with our afternoon's work having called on Ella Overturf, Sallie Peebles, Mrs. Robinson and Kate Crichton. Mrs. Gus Davis, were going to Mrs. Hutchins but met Bertha Glidden who said Mrs. H. was out. We then went to Mrs. C. S. Green's, Mrs. Prescott's, Mrs. E. B. Greene's and I was in at Ella Murray's a few minutes and then to the store. In the evening we went to church. This has been the first real spring -like

day we have had. This forenoon I finished the last of a set of six toilette mats which I began last summer.

Thursday, March 28, 1872

This has been another beautiful day, we have had the windows open and tried to get the full benefit of sunlight and air. Ma was up to Mrs. Nichols this morning and Lizzie took dinner with Addie Murray. After dinner Ma took the boys and went out buggy riding. Jennie was expecting Rena and Helen Stringer to spend the afternoon with her and she stayed upstairs with me until about 3 o'clock. We saw them trying the fire plugs on Market St. and could see streams of water from six at one time. When Ma came back Jimmie, baby and I took a buggy ride. When we returned we found Rena and Helen here, also Addie Murray and Frank Cunningham, they all stayed to tea. After tea Jimmie and I went up to the party at Mr. Charles Lloyd's. We had a letter from Pa Ricker at Vinton Furnace again.

Friday, March 29, 1872

I was at home all the forenoon waiting for the agent to bring me a Singer sewing machine which he had promised to bring today. I am going to rent one for a few weeks to do some sewing and as there is no Florance agency I will try a Singer. In the afternoon Ma and I went to call on Mrs. Sturges and the girls at Judge Towne's and then I came home to receive some instructions in the use of the machine. When the evening train came in it brought Pa who has been gone since Monday week. In the evening I went to church with the girls.

Saturday, March 30, 1872

Jimmie brought me \$10.00 again and I paid Mary Butzer \$6.00. It has looked cloudy and as though it would rain all day. I suppose it will tomorrow. After dinner Mary and I took baby and went up to Mollie Murray's to see her and Mrs. Hattie Newman. We

intended going several other places but it began to sprinkle and we thought we had better be going towards home. On my way down I stopped to call on Mary McDowell Kreider as the rain had disappeared and then I went to the store.

Sunday, March 31, 1872

March went out like a lion and an angry one too, and if there is any dependence to be placed in the old saying we may look for rain on every succeeding Sabbath for seven weeks at least, this being Easter Sunday. Two years ago it was frozen true to the tenth instead of seventh Sunday. Ma has been much better but today she is in bed again.

Monday, April 1, 1872

The day began with clouds and a few flakes of snow but it cleared off beautifully. I began to sew today with the determination to accomplish something but Ma is still sick, the girls were all away and with the sole care of baby I could not get along very fast. Baby's first tooth cut through the gum today. She has not had any trouble with them and I have not noticed her being cross. Maggie and Mary Peebles went to Springfield today and Maggie went with her aunt Mary to bid their good bye. In the afternoon aunt Lizzie took her down to see Maggie and Mary Hempstead as they passed down on the Telegraph but the boat was late and she did not see them. I went up to Connolly's to get some material for night dresses for Ma.

Tuesday, April 2, 1872

I spent nearly all day ripping up my black silk dress which I am going to make over. The dress has been in service for about three years and is still good only that it has worn smooth and shiny and needed altering very badly. I cut out a night dress for Ma. I went up to the store and bought four pieces of barred and striped nainsooks for night dresses which Mary and I intend making. I was very tired when I got through ripping but I went up to the store and after supper Jimmie and I went out to John Overturf's to spend the evening at a club meeting.

Wednesday, April 3, 1872

I cleaned my dress this forenoon and then Mary and I began on one of Ma's night dresses which I finished all but the button holes just before supper. I took baby this forenoon and went up to ask Uncle Sam to match a price of silk for me in Cin. He had gone to the boat so I went on down to the store. Jimmie had gone to the boat so I left baby with Billy Stevenson and started down by myself, overtaking Uncle Sam on the grade. Jimmie walked back with us and we went to the book store to see Mrs. Mather of Ironton. While waiting there Maggie Reilly exhibited a couple of creeping dolls which were the cutest dolls I ever saw. She wound them up with a key and they would creep on their hands and knees and turn their heads as naturally as a living child, looking at the pictures on one side or people on the other. Maggie's other tooth is through today.

Thursday, April 4, 1872

This has been a beautiful bright day but I have felt sad and discouraged throughout the whole of it and had nearly come to tears by bed time. We had several callers during the afternoon and consequently did not do much sewing. Emma Spry came in the forenoon looking brighter, stronger and better in every way than she has for a long time. She stayed until late in the afternoon. It is the first time she has been here by herself this winter I believe. During the afternoon Mrs. Towne and her sister Mrs. Sturges called, then Essie Lowell, and Aunt Mary was here to see Ma. I worked late in the evening to make up for lost time. Jimmie was up to see Mr. Tracy and found him much better, the doctor is quite encouraged about him.

Friday, April 5, 1872

We looked for Mr. Catin on the Bostona this morning who is on his way to Presbytery and will be here over Sabbath and fill our pulpit in Dr. P's absence. He did not come. Dr. McDowell came to see Ma this morning and at bed time she felt much better. Mary and I finished two night dresses and made one chemise for Ma. Us four girls went to prayer meeting.

Baby began walking by a chair today. She can get around right fast when we hold her skirts out of her way.

Saturday, April 6, 1872

Mr. Catin came this morning. Pa's other new set of book shelves is finished and filled, he finished putting the books in last night. Baby is eight months old today and has two teeth and can run like a little indian if not hindered by her skirts, of course she does not go alone. Mattie and Nellie Gaylord and their friend Miss Nellie Waddle were here to tea. Therza Spry came up to see how Ma was and we insisted upon her remaining to spend the evening with us. Bennie Gaylord came after tea. Late in the evening the girls, Jennie, Lizzie and Nellie and Bennie were in the library playing and accidentally upset the lamp. It was loose from the stand and fell on to the floor creating a good deal of excitement. I thought I heard a noise and upon going to the library I found the lamp rolling about the floor the oil spilling out and all ablaze. I called Jimmie and he, closely followed by Mr. Catin rushed to the rescue. After a fruitless effort to blow it out they succeeded in smothering it with a piece of carpet and a door mat. The oil had spread over nearly a yard of the carpet but after it was extinguished the carpet was found uninjured. We are all growing very tired of the carbon oil dispensation.

Sunday, April 7, 1872

A very hard rain accompanied with thunder and lightning proved the old sign true as far as the second Sunday. The prospect was for a very gloomy day but before school time it cleared off beautifully. Mr. Catin preached both morning and evening. In the

morning from Gen. 11th part of 32nd verse. In the evening he delivered the sermon with which he is to open Presbytery at Gallipolis on next Tuesday. The theme being the salvation of souls the Christian work.

Monday, April 8, 1872

As Mr. Catin was going away today we did not like to devote ourselves entirely to work so the time for a good beginning passed by. I put a few stitches in my embroidery and went down to the dry goods store before dinner. Came back just in time to say good bye to Mr. C. who went on the Granite State at noon. It rained very hard this afternoon and evening. The reading Club of which Mary is a member met at our house. I did not go down stairs. I saw Anna Ross in the front room a few minutes and Therza Spry was in our room for half an hour or more. Jimmie brought up half a dozen oranges which we enjoyed very much. Jennie was studying in her room so Ma took her one.

Tuesday, April 9, 1872

It rained very hard last night, about two inches of water fell they say. It has been so dark all the day that we could not see to work to do any good. My present work being my black silk dress is worse than white sewing would be. Mary went over to sit awhile with our neighbors at Mr. Weir's this evening and was so well entertained that she stayed quite late. The wind blew terribly the whole evening and I was so uneasy that I could not sleep. The door was left open for her and after I had once gone to bed I got up and went down after Jimmie's overcoat for fear of its being stolen. Once I dropped off to sleep for a few minutes and in that time Mary came so when I wakened I waited a long time to hear her come in and not hearing I got up again and went to see if I could find her. When I finally got settled it was nearly 1 o'clock. Mrs. Lodwick was here this afternoon awhile.

Wednesday, April 10, 1872

I guess it rained today, it has pretty much all the time for several days past. The Bostona came up this morning a sight to behold. Since she was last at Cin the river

had raised fifteen feet or more and she ran against the bridge knocking down her chimneys and doing six or seven hundreds of dollars damages to herself. Mrs. Peebles was here this afternoon to see Ma.

Thursday, April 11, 1872

There is a new Building Association in process of organization in town and our folks, Pa, Jimmie, Uncle Sam, John, Enos and the rest of us took a number of shares today. Pa took two for each of the boys, some for himself and Uncle Sam. We, Jimmie, Baby and I are to have ten shares between us. We had a letter from Pa Ricker tonight who wants to see baby very badly and hopes to be down next week. Mrs. Albert McFarland was here this forenoon seeing about some patterns. She was telling us about Ella and her present work of making little dresses ect.

Friday, April 12, 1872

After the usual routine of breakfast, washing baby and such things I got settled to sewing and kept at it until about 11 o'clock at night with a few interruptions. It is slow work to make dresses to and care for baby at the same time but I am thankful to be well and able to do it myself. I am getting a little better of my cold which has been the most serious trouble I have had this winter. Sallie Peebles has been having quite a severe attack of erysipelas in her face this week. Therza Spry was here this afternoon and the wind was quite high. None of our folks went to church which was quite unusual. Davy Jones came home on the Fleet wood this evening and saw Mr. Catin who said he saw Helen Ricker while the boat was lying at Ironton. Mary measured my hair today and found it to be 1 yard and a little over $\frac{3}{8}$ ths in length, I cut off about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a yard it was so uneven.

Saturday, April 13, 1872

Saturday night finds me with my week's work still unfinished, I had said that I would not sleep until the last stitch was taken in my black silk dress but I am obliged to take it back. The skirt is finished but there is still work to be done on the overskirt. Mrs.

Lodwick came in to sit awhile after tea so I put my work away being thankful for a visit from her. She was very kind to me when I was sick and I am always glad to see her. We had a letter from Ma Ricker tonight and she says she is thankful every day that Grandpa has this dear little baby to love. Pa and Ma went up to Wheelers burg in a buggy this afternoon, it was quite a long ride for her to take but she seemed to stand it very well.

Jimmie brought home ½ dozen new linen collars for himself.

Sunday, April 14, 1872

Seven years today since President Lincoln was assassinated. I was at Sabbath school and church in the forenoon but did not go out in the evening as it was very windy and I am not over my cold yet. In the afternoon Uncle Enos was here a long time and when he left Jimmie and I went out to see Sallie Peebles who is quite sick, has erysipelas all over her face. She has been suffering a great deal since Wednesday and does not seem to notice any thing that passes in the room now. Unless it rained before midnight the old sign has failed this time.

Monday, April 15, 1872

I have been in all day planning for and fixing over my dresses. It seemed rather a discouraging undertaking this morning but now I have the silk one all done but the buttons, and the light poplin finished and the plan laid for the grenadine it doesn't seem so hopeless. This is the middle of April and fires are necessary still. It has rained very hard today and did last night. I do not know whether it rained in time to verify the old saying about Easter Sunday or not.

Tuesday, April 16, 1872

Ma seemed a great deal better this morning but she very unprudently went to calking up the water barrels and it made her very much worse. We were invited over to spend the evening at Judge Towne's with a party of about sixty married folks. Pa has gone to Huntington, Ma was sick and Pa and Ma Ricker who just came down on the evening train did not feel like going so Jimmie and I went alone. We had a very pleasant evening but I was very sorry Ma could not have gone with us.

Wednesday, April 17, 1872

This has been a rainy day, at least the latter part of it. Jennie and Lizzie were invited over to Judge Towne's to a dance given Rena and Helen Sturges but as they do not dance and it was church night they did not go. Mary was invited too. I watched some of the guests arriving in omnibuses and carriages and the rain coming down in torrents. Maggie and Mary Peebles were here this afternoon to return the call I made them this morning. They just returned from a visit to Springfield yesterday. I was out this forenoon doing several errands and just stopped a few minutes to see them.

Thursday, April 18, 1872

This is the day appointed for the grand opening of the new hotel, the Biggs House which is to replace the Taylor House that was burned a year ago. The citizens give the proprietors, Misses Pat Prendergast and S. B. Jennings, a complimentary opening. Carrie's Band from Cin. came up this morning for the occasion. There was to have been a grand display of water works and firemen's parade but the water works from above interfered with that part of the programme. It poured in torrents and thundered and lightened very hard. Jimmie and I, Pa and Ma Ricker, Pa and Mary went between showers to the Hotel and spent a couple of hours in a promiscuous squeeze. It is thought that there were no less than 1000 people present. After the supper the young folks had a dance which they prolonged until 5 o'clock in the morning. In the midst of the rejoicings there was an unregistered arrival in one of the boarder's rooms. Mrs. Alice Bonsall Higgins had a daughter. It was born about six o'clock this evening.

Friday, April 19, 1872

This has been a very bright pleasant day in striking contrast to the gloom of yesterday. Ma has been worse than usual and seems very much depressed in spirits. Dr. McDowell has not helped her any and today I went to see the lady who has been treating Mrs. Cunningham and asked her to come and see Ma again. She is going to stay with Ma tonight. Baby has been real sick all the afternoon I suppose her teeth are troubling her. Mrs. John Nichols was here quite awhile this afternoon and after wards Mrs. Gaylord and Hattie Norton were here. I have not been to see Hattie since she came and was quite surprised that she came. We waited dinner or rather were late with one dinner today because Pa did not come and after we had decided that he would not be here we ate and I went to the shop to see what had become of him. Found that Mr. Murray had forgotten to send up word that he had gone to Zaleski. My dear Pa Ricker gave me another token of his love the size of a beautiful new Florance Sewing Machine with all the improvements today. It came from Cin. Helen and Rena Sturges were here this evening.

Saturday, April 20, 1872

Baby has lung fever, her first sick spell and has been very sick all day. We do not have to sit up all night but stay up and give her medicine until she is asleep for the night. Ma was some better today but not able to be up. Pa came home at noon today. After dinner Baby seemed better and Jimmie came up to see if I would not like a short ride. The folks all thought it would do me good and as Maggie had plenty of good nurses I went. We had a delightful ride of about an hour and then Jimmie took Jennie. During the afternoon Mrs. Hurd called to see Ma Ricker. Miss Sill and Mr. Manly were here to see the library and when I came home I found Mrs. Peebles here and after wards Mrs. Pursell came in. Mrs. Spry and Therza were here after tea. Mrs. Peebles told us that Mr. Peebles, herself and the two girls are going to Europe in June. I hope I may go some time.

Sunday, April 21, 1872

Baby slept tolerably well last night but coughed a good deal. Pa Ricker took my S. S. Class and neither Jimmie nor I went to Sabbath S. He was going but the Dr. sent him for a bottle of Potassa for baby. Ma is improving very fast under her present treatment.

Mattie Gaylord and Aunt Jennie Ricker were here to see baby but I was asleep and did not see them.

Monday, April 22, 1872

This has been a bright and beautiful day, the fruit trees are in bloom and the leaves are coming out on the shade trees. Mrs. Tewksbury was here this forenoon and after dinner Therza and Emma Spry and Maggie Peebles were here. Frank Cunningham was here in the morning too. Baby seems to be much better but she still has some fever.

Tuesday, April 23, 1872

Baby is still quite sick. I don't know what we would do without our dear little grandma Ricker, she is so good and kind and helps us so much with our sick folks.

Wednesday, April 24, 1872

Baby's fever seems to be leaving her but she still has a good deal. Julia Young was here this evening after the folks were gone to church. Ma is still in bed and while she and baby are sick we can't do much sewing. John and Sallie called this afternoon to inquire about baby.

Thursday, April 25, 1872

Baby's fever has left her very weak and this evening we were badly frightened about her. She seemed so exhausted that for awhile we feared she would just fade away. Mr. Campbell's baby, a day younger than ours is very sick too. Mrs. Reed and Frank Cunningham were in this evening.

Friday, April 26, 1872

Baby seems quite like herself again and I have been out all day taking exercise, running from store to store trying to find something for spring wear. I got a hat for baby which I am going to trim myself, and a parasol for myself. In the afternoon I called at Mr. Peebles' where I saw the girls, Hattie and Bennie Norton, Mrs. Gaylord, Mrs. Neal of Ironton, Mrs. S. B. Hempstead, Mrs. Dole and Mrs. Hamilton. I afterwards stopped to see Ella McF. Bonsall a few minutes. Grandpa Ricker took all the folks to Mrs. Knittle's opening and treated them to ice-cream. Jimmie and I were not there so he brought some home to us.

Saturday, April 27, 1872

Pa Ricker is 59 years old today and no one would take him to be more than 49. It has been very warm today. I went down street this morning and got a hat and the trimmings for it and during the odd minutes through the day I trimmed it. I like it very much, white straw trimmed in slate color and pink roses. Pa and Ma Ricker went out to spend the day at uncle Drew's. Maggie Crosby and Rosie Hempstead were here in the afternoon. Hattie Sterett brought her two white poodles over for baby to see. In the evening I went down street and after tea I went over to Mrs. Gilbert's. I put away a jar of maple sugar today. Jimmie got it several days ago and sent me a jar to put it in so I have that much towards house keeping.

Sunday, April 28, 1872

I went to Sabbath School and when I came home my tooth ached so badly that I thought I would not go to church. It hurt me last night and this morning it was worse. After dinner it was relieved a little so I went with Jimmie, Pa Ricker and the girls to the Opera House to a Y.M.C. A. meeting. The house was well filled and it was very warm and my tooth hurt me again so I did not enjoy it very much. Dr.'s Pratt and Burr, Rev. De Wolfe, Franklin, Jones, A. B. Riggs, Stanly and a German preacher, with Jno Peebles to represent the Y.M.C.A. occupied the stage. I did not go to church in the evening. On my way home from the afternoon meeting I stopped to consult Dr. Gibbs about my tooth but he said it was perfectly sound and ought not to be taken out. Cousin Duvall, Julia, Lou and Junior were here. Ma is still unable to be up.

Monday, April 29, 1872

This has been one of the hardest days I ever passed. Ma felt a little ear ache this morning and we began to treat it to the best of our knowledge and ability. Grandma Ricker had made her arrangements to go up to spend the day with Mrs. Tewksbury and not thinking Ma seriously sick she went leaving only Mary and me to take care of Ma and baby. Ma kept growing worse and worse and we had to send for the doctor. There wasn't five minutes during the day that we were not trying something. The doctor said it wouldn't get any better until it broke so we had to wait. Ma and Pa came back in the evening and were up until about eleven o'clock. Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. S. B. Hempstead, Hattie Norton and little Bennie were here to inquire about Ma but I did not see them. Therza and Em Spry were here at tea time and later, Maggie Peebles and Maggie Jones came.

Tuesday, April 30, 1872

Last day of April. I was going to put baby in short clothes before this time but it seems doubtful whether I shall ever get any ready for her. Grandma Ricker brought her a beautiful dress with a tiny little figure in it, one she bought yesterday. Mary and I sat up all night with Ma and she passed a very miserable night. The gathering in her head never broke until morning and she never slept until it did. She suffered a great deal and we could not relieve her although we did all that could be done. Emma Spry came up in the morning and stayed until about 3 o'clock. Therza was here after dinner. They each brought her something. They are just as kind to all of us as they can be.

Wednesday, May 1, 1872

Pa and Ma Ricker left this morning. May day is not very favorable for picnics this season. Arrangements have been made for a grand picnic at Dregan's grove and part of Carrie's band all here to make music for the dancers. I never saw blacker clouds or harder showers than we have had today. It has rained nearly all day, still there are many who went. None of our family were invited. I did not go to church this evening, have not been for some time, have even missed for two Sabbaths past.

Thursday, May 2, 1872

I finished Maggie's Dolly Vardin wrapper today. Grandma gave her the goods, trimming and thread with which to make it and Grandpa gave me the machine to sew it on. Mrs. Lodwick in a few minutes, Miss Weir made us a nice long call and Emma Bell was here a few minutes. In the evening Addie and Howard Dunlap called to see the girls.

We miss Ma and Pa Ricker very much. I wrote to them tonight.

Friday, May 3, 1872

I commenced trimming baby's hat today but did not finish. Ma seemed to be feeling comfortable and as I had an errand up to Uncle Sam's I thought I would attend to some others at the same time. I put on baby's Dolly Vardin wrapper over her dress and put the seat in her carriage for the first time and started out with four glasses, one china cup and a napkin to return to their several owners who had kindly sent relishes to Ma. To Aunt Mary a glass to Francie Helphenstein a glass and napkin to Mrs. Ida Brown two glasses and a cup. We went to see Maggie and Mary Peebles a little while and also stopped at Mrs. Albert McFarland's. Mrs. Helphenstein and Emma Spry were here when I was out. Emma Bell was here in the afternoon and Maggie Jones was here sometime. In the evening we had a call from our friend Mr. Addy of Cin. We asked him to stop with us while in the city but he thought he had better not.

Saturday, May 4, 1872

Every thing out of doors looks beautiful. The trees are in full dress for the season and in the middle of the day the sun is warm enough to make the shade very pleasant but mornings and evenings are still cool enough for fires. Ma does not seem to improve very fast, being still unable to sit up but we hope she is no worse. What time I could get from other duties this forenoon I spent in making rosettes for baby's first hat, a little soft straw trimmed with eight blue rosettes, one edge of each tacked to the up turned brim and the other to the crown. Mrs. Lodwick and Emma Bell were here this fore

noon. We had preparatory lecture in the afternoon and when I came home I found Mrs. Spry and Maggie Jones' mother here after they left, Mrs. Jno Nichols, Mrs. Graham, Mrs. Murray, Mrs. Mary Glidden, Maggie and Mary Peebles and Mrs. Cunningham were here. Frank Cunningham was here this morning.

Sunday, May 5, 1872

I went to Sabbath School, and to church twice today. In the afternoon Communion service was held and sixteen persons united with the church. It is very warm and has not rained a drop today which disproves the old saying. We had no service in our church in the evening and the others went to All Saints to the Bible meeting but Jimmie and I stayed at home.

Monday, May 6, 1872

Baby is nine months old today and has only had one sick spell from which she has now about recovered. She has various little accomplishments which she has learned. I have not put her in short clothes yet but intend to as soon as I can get some ready for her. Mrs. Peebles was here in the afternoon and when she had gone I took baby and went up to Mr. Connolley's store. She wore her hat for the first time and she or some other child snapped the rubber on her cheek while I was in the store and raised a great welt across her cheek. I was getting some trimmings for some night dresses and skirts which I cut out for her today. I cut them of the former and four of the latter which I want to get done this week.

Tuesday, May 7, 1872

I improved my time today and finished one night dress and more than half made another. My machine is a treasure. Ma is better today but not able to sit up more than a few minutes at a time. She has not had so much company today. It is very warm now and I am not ready for it either. After I had put baby to bed Jimmie and I went and took a little walk and then came home and made a couple of glasses of lemonade.

Wednesday, May 8, 1872

While it was cool and pleasant baby and I went out to take a little fresh air. We went to the store and to Mr. Lowell's and then home again about 9 o'clock. I sewed the rest of the fore noon, except what time I spent in giving baby a lesson which was both hard to take and give but she has a will of her own and I could not risk letting her have it all her own now or she might get beyond me. I went up to see Lake Lewis a little while. After dinner Lake and Sarah Gilbert were here a while. Ma is anxious to have them make Mrs. Lewis submit to treatment from Miss Lesure who has helped her a great deal. Aunt Sallie Young came up on the boat and after tea she and Julia were here awhile.

Thursday, May 9, 1872

I've been busy all day. Awhile after dinner I finished the third and last little night dress which I intend making at present. Mary is and has been working on shirts for the boys all this week. She has six ready for button holes and when I finished baby's gown I began on the button holes.

Aunt Sallie Young was here to spend the day. Emma Spry was here a while in the forenoon. Dill Ramsey was here in the morning and took baby out to call on Carrie Swim. This is Emma Cragg's wedding day. She is to be married at 7 ½ PM to Mr. T. Walston we received her cards several days ago. I wrote to her after tea this evening sending love and congratulations. After I had put baby to bed Jimmie and I went and got some cream and brought some home for Ma.

Friday, May 10, 1872

Hot weather has made a sudden descent upon us without the usual preliminary of spring. It is very hot and dusty except where the citizens avail themselves of the privilege of sprinkling from the water works. I finished the forty nine button holes and Mary finished the eight shirts today. At 1 ½ o'clock today a man named Donaldson went up with a balloon from the market square. The man performed the most daring feats in a trapeze bar from the moment the balloon was cut loose until it had passed out of sight. I did not go down street but saw him from the window. He dropped himself down and hung by his feet, head down, and then threw himself across the bar balancing himself just as he might lie on a table. I almost feared to see him. Late in the afternoon I took baby down to the store and Jimmie went with us to Mr. Lowell's where I got a brown gingham dress for myself and a piece of pink tarlatan for the girl's for party dresses. Mary, Jennie and Lizzie received cards to a party at Col. Kinney's on the 16th of May. I was at Mrs. Miller's but no one was at home. Was also at Mrs. Gibb's. Barbara left.

Saturday, May 11, 1872

I have not done much today. I had finished the button holes and did not want to begin any thing until next week. I went up to see Aunt Sallie and Julia in the forenoon and after dinner it was so windy and dusty that I did not want to go out. Frank Cunningham was here awhile. She leaves tonight for Dayton. After tea Jimmie and I went down street and took baby. The wind had fallen and it was quite pleasant.

Sunday, May 12, 1872

I was at Sabbath School and church in the fore noon, Jimmie stayed from church and took care of baby. In the afternoon we both went to see the babies baptized and in the evening I kept baby and he went to church.

Monday, May 13, 1872

I tried to begin in earnest today with baby's short clothes but I did not get a very early start. In the evening Therza and Em brought little Roberta Spry up to see Maggie. Grandma was here to spend the day and Aunt Sallie Young was here all the afternoon. After tea Jimmie and the boys took the little cow out to Harry Pursell's pasture.

I commenced winding my watch in the morning and want to see how long I will keep it running.

Tuesday, May 14, 1872

I am making little skirts for baby. I am very anxious to get some of her short clothes ready. The Sturm family consisting of father, three sons and three daughters gave a concert here this evening for the benefit of the Y.M.C.A. and which was also to serve as an advertisement for the Prof. Pa, the girls, Jimmie and I went and we, Jimmie and I were much pleased. Miss Emma Bell came in just after tea and stayed with Ma until our return. Emma Spry was at the concert, the first time she has been out in the evening for months.

Wednesday, May 15, 1872

It has been rather cloudy all day and rained a little in the evening. I sewed until about 4 o'clock when I took baby and went up to Connolley's to get her some little dresses and skirts. Mrs. Cunningham and Mrs. J. B. Nichols were here to see Ma. Mollie Murray was here but I did not see her only to say good evening. Jimmie went fishing this afternoon but did not bring any thing home but a paper of sugar cakes which looked as though they were caught at the corner of 4th street. I did not go to church. Ma is not well enough to take care of baby and herself though she is better than she has been. Had a letter from Aunt Betsy Ricker tonight. Jimmie brought me Marion Harland's Common Sense in the Household this evening.

Thursday, May 16, 1872

There is a large party at Col. Peter Kinney's this evening, preparatory to the departure of Mrs. K., and Emma for "Urip and Paris". Mary and Jennie went. I was ladies' maid for them and they looked very pretty when they were ready to go. Jimmie went to Ironton today. Maggie Peebles was here this morning and Miss Switzer this evening. I have finished six skirts for baby and there are 18 button holes in them. I want to keep account of the button holes I make this summer. I used my pattern cutter Jimmie brought me yesterday. He also got a new strap made for baby's carriage in place of the old one which was not strong enough.

Friday, May 17, 1872

The cloudy morning was followed by a rainy day which was very much needed. It has seemed gloomy and I have missed Jimmie's cheerful face and voice. It is now past 9 o'clock P.M. and the Fleet-wood has not come but I am hoping every minute to hear her whistle. The family are all in bed. Ma has not seemed quite so well this evening. Her improvement is very slow but I hope it is sure. I have been sewing when I could today and finished the dress Grandma Ricker gave baby, put four button holes in it, these with the nine in her night dresses make 80 that I have made since the first of the month, yes, counting the six in her Dolly Vardin will make it 86 since the 1st of May.

Saturday, May 18, 1872

I tried hard to finish one of baby's five dresses today but finally had to give it up. It has been a very April-like day being stormy and sun shiny by turns. I did want to take baby up to see Maggie and Mary Peebles this after noon but thought it best not to take her out in the damp. Mary Peebles was here in the afternoon and I told her that we would try to go up a little while in the evening. After supper I gave baby a Saturday bath and was just in the midst of it when Miss Emma Bell came in. I was not yet dressed to go out and thought I should have to give that up but she did not stay long and when she had gone I got myself ready and Jimmie and I went and stayed about an hour at Mr. Peebles.

Last night after the streets were all quiet a number of the citizens who had procured an action from council in favor of tearing down the old Market House, put the motion into execution and this morning dawned in the ruins.

Sunday, May 19, 1872

I went to Sabbath school and when I came back I found Ma sitting up in a rocking chair with a dress on. I am so glad to see her so much better. I did not want to leave baby with her while I went to church but she insisted that she could take care of her just as well as not so I went. They both slept nearly all the time we were gone. I went again in the evening, I haven't been out in the evening before for some time. We all brought our books and fairs home according to instructions because the church is to undergo a thorough renovation and we will not have service again for a week or two.

Monday, May 20, 1872

I did not get to work very early because I had to give my room a thorough sweeping and dusting but I managed in the course of the day to finish that dress I had commenced and cut out a plain barred muslin for marring. Gussie Haldeman came to visit her mother Saturday and this afternoon Mrs. Connolley brought Ford over to see Maggie. He was very much pleased with her in his efforts to pet her he treated her quite roughly. Just before tea Mary and I took baby over to see Gussie. I dressed her up in her short clothes for the first time though I am not ready to keep her in them yet. She has neither shoes nor stockings. I don't like to think of taking her long clothes off, she will never be a baby again and will so soon be a big girl when once she gets into short clothes and shoes. I made button holes in shirts for Pa and a dress for baby, 15 in all, making 101 so far.

Tuesday, May 21, 1872

I finished the dress commenced yesterday but did not cut out any more. It has been rather too cool for several days past to make any change in her clothes any way.

When I was through this evening I took baby down to the store to her Papa. We went to look at some shoes for her and brought three pairs home but they were all too large. Miss Ann Hancock was here this afternoon and promised Ma she would help Jennie with her graduating dress. Mrs. Jno Gregory was here today while Ma was out.

The great event of the day was Ma's making her appearance at the breakfast, dinner and supper table and she also went out and took a short ride with Pa. We got a little pair of socks or short stockings for baby, the first she has ever had.

Wednesday, May 22, 1872

Mr. Tracy sent Maggie her first pair of shoes. After dinner we dressed her in short clothes and new shoes and Mary took her over to see Mrs. Towne. While they were there it began to rain very hard and they did not get home until supper time. Jimmie brought baby home and after the rain, and tea were over Mary took baby over to call on Miss Weir. It rained so hard in the evening that none of the family went to church and it was well enough they did not for those who did go had to go home again because the house was not in a condition to be used.

I made three button holes in another dress today-104. The cow and calf were brought home today.

Thursday, May 23, 1872

I have sewed industerously what time I could today but do not accomplish much as I have done in other days. After 4 o'clock Jimmie came up with a buggy and told me if I wanted to take a ride I could so I hastily got myself and baby ready and while I was waiting for him to come back from the store, Mrs. Towne came in but I did not stay on that account much as I wished to visit with her, but I don't get a chance to ride every day. We had a delightful ride of an hour or more. After tea Mrs. Pursell, Mary and Emma Spry came in.

Maggie tries to creep but prefers walking with a little assistance which she can do very well. She makes a very good attempt to say pussy cat, kitty and a few other things.

Friday, May 24, 1872

Ma is not quite so bright today though she is not obliged to stay in bed. I have sewed nearly all day. In the afternoon Jimmie came up to say that Capt. Meredith would be here to tea, he then went back to the store and when he came to tea, he brought very sad news from Jackson. Last evening Pa and Ma Ricker were out riding and in jumping out of the buggy, Pa broke his leg, both bones. It will probably lay him up all summer but I will feel very thankful if he gets well then. I am so fearful of the effects of the hot weather on him, his being such a large, fleshy man and in his 60th year is very much against him.

After Mr. Meredith had gone Mary and I went over to call on Mr. Sherman Johnson's bride at Mr. Gilbert's where they board. Mrs. Henry Kinney was here this morning. Jimmie gave me \$15.00.

Saturday, May 25, 1872

Jimmie and Uncle Drew went up to Jackson this morning and Jimmie will not be back before Monday, not then I suppose if he is needed longer. I have sewed steadily all day and have had a better opportunity than usual for Mary has had baby out nearly all day. Emma Spry was here to dinner and after tea Mr. and Mrs. Peebles and Emma Bell were here.

Sunday, May 26, 1872

I went to Sabbath School as usual. The upper room is being newly frescoed and only a part of the pews could be occupied so we all had to find seats on the South side of the room. We had no church service. I came home and attended to baby and left her in Jennie's care and started with Lizzie and the boys to go to the Baptist church but we met Pa and Uncle Enos on their way to All Saints so Lizzie and I went with them and the boys went on to the Baptist where Mary had gone with Maggie Stewart. I did not go any where in the evening. I've missed Jimmie very much today, it's only the second Sabbath that we have spent away from each other since we were married.

Monday, May 27, 1872

A wind and rain came up suddenly in the night and made the doors and windows slam. It rained quite hard. We had quite a sweeping and dusting match after breakfast and then I sat down to my work but did not do very much however I finished baby's puffed dress, making the button holes and sewing on the buttons. There were nine in the dress and two in her wrapper which I had not counted before which swells the number to 115. After dinner I commenced a linen lawn dress for her. She required a good deal of attention during the afternoon and Gussie C. Halderman was in calling and then Jimmie came home so I did not do much. He came down in his father's buggy, it would be of no use to them for some weeks perhaps months so he thought he had better take care of the horse and have the use of him.

Tuesday, May 28, 1872

It has been a warm day, I have been sewing but do not get along very fast. This afternoon I went around to see Aunt Mary for Ma but did not stay long. It seems quite lonely there. Grandma and Fannie went down to Aunt Maria's last Friday to be gone all summer and the house seems quite deserted when Mary and Ralphie are gone to school. Jimmie took Aunt Mary down to her father's before tea and after tea we took a little ride. Went out to see Jas Bannon who was hooked nearly to death yesterday by one of his fancy, high bred cows. He was badly hurt but is doing very well. Mrs. Dugan and Mrs. Baker were here to see Ma.

Ella Greene was here this after noon, the first time she has been in the house since the night I was married. Miss Phoebe Gould and Mrs. Gilbert were here after tea. Jimmie gave me \$5.00

Wednesday, May 29, 1872

Ma was well enough to take a long ride over in KY this afternoon, Pa drove Charley. I did not get to sit down to my sewing this forenoon at all. I cleared my room and then went out to hunt a girl that Mrs. Baker knew of and was unsuccessful after all. Emma Spry and Mrs. Jno Lodwick were here. She had just been to Mrs. Salter's funeral. The old lady died yesterday of a paralytic stroke. Aunt Mary was here this morning to see if Mary and Ralph could stay here while she is gone to Cincinnati.

Thursday, May 30, 1872

The event of this day was a good long ride in the country in search of the seventeen year locusts. They are very abundant in these parts now but we were too late in the day to see more than three or four.

Friday, May 31, 1872

Baby and I went up to Mr. Peebles' today about 11 ½ o'clock after attending to several errands and Jimmie came at noon. Mary was to have gone with us but she did not get through with her bills in time. John, Sallie and Mattie Peebles, Mr. Joseph Peebles and Mr. McMartin of Cin were also there to dinner. We stayed until about 8 ½ o'clock. It will be the last day I will spend with them for some time if ever again. It is not quite two weeks now until the time they sail and I shall be very busy getting ready to go to see Pa Ricker next week.

Saturday, June 1, 1872

Yesterday I entertained some thought of going to Mrs. Tewksbury's to spend today but when this morning came I thought I had no time to lose and had better stay at home and sew. I found that I could do nothing however until I went up to Mr. Connolley's for two or three articles. Ma went up to Aunt Mary's and afterwards to Julia's where she stayed to dinner. I made up a handsome skirt for baby and concluded that it was too pretty for a skirt so I shall make a waist for it and call it a dress. I nearly finished the skirt of another fine petticoat. Jimmie and I were going to ride this evening but an unexpected rain interfered with our plans. We have had a letter from Jackson every day this week. Jimmie brought up \$5.00 for Mary B.

Sunday, June 2, 1872

It was rainy this forenoon and I did not come home as I usually do between the services of Sabbath School and church. Dr. Pratt preached a good sermon both morning and evening. I like to hear other preachers occasionally but am always glad when it is his turn again. The church has been thoroughly renovated and in some places, the frescoing has been renewed so it seems much cleaner than it did.

Monday, June 3, 1872

Nineteen months today since our wedding, little thought then that I would still be at my old home at this time, but here I am and with no immediate prospect of a move. I am going to be very busy this week getting ready to go to Jackson the latter part of the week. I began work by going out to do some errands, as I always have to do. First to Julia Young's to get some patterns, then to Aunt Mary's and afterwards to Mr. Peebles and finally to Mrs. Trotter's. Came home, and nearly made the polonaise to my brown gingham suit. Jimmie gave me \$15.00 at noon and in the evening brought me a new scrap-book.

Tuesday, June 4, 1872

Went to work early and had to quit early. Mrs. Jas Nichols came down in the evening to say that she would have to give up her sewing girl this week instead of next, when she was to come to Ma so I think I will get her to help me this week. Mrs. Dermirs was here and made quite a visit. When she had gone I took baby up to see Mrs. Horner at Mr. Collin's but she was not there. I went on up to Mr. Connolley's and then came home to supper. After supper I went down to see Mrs. Lodwick but she was not in town so we came home and now I am waiting for Jimmie to come to take us out to Mr. Bell's to teachers' meeting.

I have made the button holes in my polonaise and two skirts and one dress for baby, twenty-two and 115 make 137.

Wednesday, June 5, 1872

Mrs. Gunn and her daughter Fanny, from Olney came to Uncle Enos' this morning. Miss Hamilton came here to sew for a few days before finishing her engagement with Mrs. Nichols, when she will return to sew for Ma. I am going to get her to fix a couple of dresses for me. I have taken a very severe cold and it all seems to be settling in my nose. I should have gone to church this evening but for that. Ma went the first time for months, she has not been to the church since the day baby was baptized.

Thursday, June 6, 1872

This forenoon Ma, Mary, baby and I spent in doing a little visiting and a few errands. First we called on Mrs. Gunn and Fanny at Uncle Enos' and then we went to Mr. Peebles' the last visit I expect to make them previous to their departure for Europe. We saw Miss Jennie Clark of Ironton who has just returned from a three year sojourn in Europe. She only landed in New York about a week ago. Baby is ten months old today and still wears her long clothes more than half the time. I am sorry to see her take them off. There is a Soldier's Monument festival in town tonight but I can not go on account of my cold. Mr. Elmer H. Clark who visited with our church last communion or the one previous, died today of pneumonia. Therza and Emma Spry were here this evening. I have made baby a little linen duster like Mary Peebles, cut it from a 36 inch pattern. 8 more button holes 145.

Friday, June 7, 1872

The condition of my nose settled the question to a certainty about our going to Jackson this morning and after a day's faithful doctoring it seems rather worse than better and I suppose we will have to disappoint the folks tomorrow after all. I am disappointed too for Jimmie was going with me and he cannot go next week. Mary put up strawberries and made jelly today, Ma and I helped her prepare them in the forenoon. Miss Hamilton, the sewing girl finished my grenadine overskirt this fore noon and yesterday she finished my gingham suit so I am two dresses better off than I was

and my work basket is very much reduced since they have been taken out. I have not been out nor seen any one who came in today on account of my nose. My cold served me very badly but it might have been worse. Aunt Mary and Mrs. Gunn from Olney were here. Jimmie deposited \$125.00 in the bank this afternoon, the sum baby and I had gathered up from time to time. Baby just began to move around the room by herself today.

Saturday, June 8, 1872

As I could not go to Jackson today Jimmie brought me seventeen quarts of very fine strawberries to preserve. I put up seven bottles of berries and 14 glasses of jelly. It made a day's work for me. We were out riding in the evening.

Jimmie brought me half a dozen pairs of very fine stockings.

Sunday, June 9, 1872

I could not go to Sabbath school or church today on account of my nose. Mr. Gibson of Jackson preached for Dr. Pratt who has gone to Hamdin to dedicate a church. The day seemed very long to me when I had to spend it at home.

Monday, June 10, 1872

Fannie Moore is twelve years old today I think. I have been busy at various things today making preparations for our trip to Jackson.

I cut out some aprons for baby and cut off one of her new, long flannel skirts and put a waist on it. In the afternoon I went up to Mr. Connolley's and paid him \$4.00 and then went to get Mrs. Nickell to change and retrim my hat. Jimmie, baby and I were out riding. Left baby with Ella Greene awhile.

The Portsmouth reading club met here this evening and had a very pleasant time judging from the hour of their adjournment 12 M.

Tuesday, June 11, 1872

Mrs. Gunn and Fannie came and spent the day with us and Fannie is staying all night. I finished my preparations and am all ready now to go.

Aunt Mary, Therza and Emma Spry were here in the evening. After tea Jimmie took me in the buggy to get my hat and then up to call on Mrs. Silcox, Anna Jones and afterwards to take a farewell look at the Peebles family in their home previous to their departure tomorrow.

Wednesday, June 12, 1872

Aunt Jennie Ricker had another boy, the eighth, this morning. Nothing having occurred to prevent, we finished our preparations this morning and went to the train on our way to Jackson. Mr. Peebles and his family were there and ever so many friends were there to bid them good bye. The Gaylords, Johnsons, our folks and quite a number of others. It was quite a tearful scene. The time came for starting and they had to give and receive the last kiss and then we were off. I enjoyed the trip to Jackson very much as it afforded opportunity for a good quiet visit with the girls. They wiped away the tears and seemed quite like themselves when we were finally and fairly started. We bade them good bye at Jackson and were soon after introduced to Mrs. Messenger's family. We found Pa suffering a great deal from a large blister which was put on to relieve a severe attack of pleurisy. Jimmie returned on the evening train and I felt very lonely when he left me. Mr. Gibson the new minister was to have been ordained and installed pastor of the Jackson church but Dr. Pratt having failed to come and they had to wait until they could send for another preacher. Maggie Peebles held baby on her lap nearly all the way.

Thursday, June 13, 1872

Jimmie went yesterday evening with Mr. Roads and obtained a promise from the German Pres. Minister to come up this forenoon and the Presbytery was convened with Mr. Bierce as moderater. Rev. Mr. Gibson father of the candidate delivered the charge to the pastor and Rev. Mr. Sowers, Methodist, delivered the charge to the people. There were only about thirty five people in the house but it was a very solemn and

impressive scene, many could not keep back the tears. There were a great many visitors in during the day to see Pa Ricker, among them was Mr. Bierce. He left after the services were over for Portsmouth where he will probably have to remain over night. Miss Ann Brotheridge who used to live in Portsmouth called to see me this afternoon. I have attended all the services of the past two days except one. Baby's first upper tooth came through today.

J. King Gibson is the name of the new minister.

Friday, June 14, 1872

This is a very cool, quiet, pleasant place to visit and I am enjoying it as much as it is possible to do when Pa is so sick. He is much better than he was but is so perfectly helpless between the broken limb and blistered side that he can't enjoy anything very much. There are visitors in nearly all the time. I like Mr. Gibson very much and so does baby, he seems to be very fond of her and likes to take her to the table and feed her.

I wrote to Aunt Betsy and having accidentally noticed Rev. King's address in the Herald, I wrote to Clare. Wrote to Jimmie both yesterday and today.

Saturday, June 15, 1872

We go through about the same routine each day. I did not get a letter from Jimmie today noon and so inferred that he was coming up. In the afternoon he came to stay until Tuesday evening when we will go home with him. Hannah James niece Carrie was here this afternoon to see me and was very sorry she had not sent for Mary to come and stay with her while I was visiting Grandpa. Jimmie told us that Mary went home with Mr. Bierce yesterday morning. After tea Jimmie and I went to take a walk and see something of the town. We went down to Star Furnace and saw them cast. Stopped at Hannah James' on our round.

Sunday, June 16, 1872

Jimmie had to get up and go after the doctor about 2 o'clock this morning for Pa who was very sick again with the pleurisy. He has suffered a great deal all day. I went to church with Mrs. Messenger and Asa, her little boy, in the morning and after dinner would have gone to the meeting for singing if we all could have gone. Jimmie went to church in the evening and I took care of baby. Fannie Messenger looks like Emma Jones and I frequently call her Emma.

Monday, June 17, 1872

We have to be up bright and early here or we keep the breakfast table waiting. Mrs. Messenger and her mother Mrs. Isham do their own work and they do it very quickly too. After breakfast Miss Brotheridge came to ask me to let baby go and see her mother so I put on my hat and took her myself. She is quite a feeble old lady and seemed quite glad to see me and talk about Portsmouth. Miss Ann gave baby a doll which she delights in tossing about over the floor. In the evening after tea Mr. Gibson, Jimmie and I went to the top of the Court House and had a fine view of the town and surrounding country and then went down to Star Furnace again. Minnie Nutt was here again this after noon to play with Maggie.

Tuesday, June 18, 1872

Lizzie our youngest sister, on earth, is sixteen years old today. I packed up my trunk this forenoon ready to start and then spent the rest of the day on the baby's flannel skirt which I have scalloped and braided once round since I have been here. I have to go over the pattern once more before it is finished. Pa seems better today and has enjoyed baby very much today. The afternoon train is due at Jackson at 4 o'clock so we bade every body good bye and Mr. Gibson went to the depot with us. We then heard that the train was two hours behind time so we went back and had supper with them once more before leaving. Baby was wide awake and just as good as she could

be all the way down and seemed to be as much delighted at getting home as any body else.

Wednesday, June 19, 1872

Before I was dressed this morning Mary had come up from the boat and was waiting to see us. It took me the whole fore noon to put my drawers and trunk in order again. I made one of the baby's aprons. After tea Jimmie, baby, and I went out to Uncle Drew's to see the new baby. Came in and I was going to church but there was no service, so we went on and had a delightful drive. Baby's other upper tooth came through today and now she has four teeth. Mary came home from Ripley today. She brought a little gold ring from Edith to Maggie.

Thursday, June 20, 1872

The event of this day has been the Commencement Exercises of the P. H. School. The class consisted of four girls and two boys. Emily Ball, Jimmie Moore, Kate Reilly, Jennie Whitney, Bev Bentley and Chas Chrichton. Emily had the valedictory and Jennie Moore the Latin Salutatory. The contest for the valedictory was between Emily and Jennie and Emily had the advantage over Jennie by 2/5%. A very close contest.

In the afternoon I took baby down to the hotel to call on Alice Higgins and Mrs. Dennis. Lizzie went with me. I paid Mrs. Nickells \$2.00 for my hat.

Friday, June 21, 1872

This has been the longest day of summer. I have spent it in the usual way, a little house cleaning, a little sewing and so on. In the evening Mary and I went over to Mrs. Connolley's to call on Gussie's friend Miss Smith of Cleveland, sister of Anna Smith who has visited here. Jimmie, Ma and the boys went to the farm this afternoon and picked a basket full of currants and raspberries. The Alumni of the High School met at the School House this evening. John Cole took Mary and Jennie and I persuaded Jimmie to go with me. There was a resolution passed to the effect that in writing invitations in

future, the card should be addressed to both husband and wife. The President R. R. Peebles being absent J. Cole presided.

Saturday, June 22, 1872

Today at 2 o'clock P. M. was the time set for the vessel to leave New York for Liverpool, having on board our friends the Peebles family. The City of Brussels is the name of the vessel. It was 11 ½ o'clock last evening when we returned from the meeting of the Alumni at the High School and I felt decidedly worse for my dissipation. I was up and dressed to go to the table with Pa and Jimmie but did not taste any thing and left before they were through. I slept nearly all the forenoon and after dinner I put my room in order and dressed myself. I feel much better than I did. In the evening Jimmie brought the buggy and we took a ride. About seven o'clock there was a very large crowd collected on Court and 4th street to see a man walk a rope stretched across Court Street from the Opera House. We watched him a few minutes and then left. Just before tea Mary, baby, and I went to see Em Voorhies who has at last got to housekeeping on 4th street. Maggie is beginning to creep.

Sunday, June 23, 1872

I went to Sabbath School again this morning after an absence of two weeks. I had no substitute either time but I could not help it as I had tried both times. Rev. Mr. Fullerton preached for us both morning and evening, Dr. Pratt is away again. I don't know what has come over him, he has been absent four Sabbaths out of the last five. Jimmie and I went to church both morning and evening and were very much pleased with Mr. Fullerton. In the morning he preached from Heb. 11-14 in the evening from Gen. 3rd 6th.

Monday, June 24, 1872

Having no one but Mary Buzer we all have a good deal to do. Ma is so much better now than she has been for months that she is able to help with the dishes and superintend generally. It seems so good to have her feeling so much better. I made

two aprons for baby today all but the fastenings. After I had put away my sewing I went to see why Hattie Sterett and Nettie Row were not at Sabbath school yesterday. Mrs. Jones told me that the Dr. wanted Hattie to go to the German Sabbath School on account of her German. Nettie had the head ache which was the reason she did not come.

Tuesday, June 25, 1872

Mary Buzer is sick in bed today so we had everything to do. I had a box of raspberries to put up and I was very busy all day. In the evening when supper time came there was no one around to get supper so I finished up my berries and thought I would have supper all ready before any one thought about it but it was half past five when I began and I had to stop in the midst of things and attend to baby. Mrs. Draper was here but I did not see her. Ella Greene came after a pattern and dress of baby's for her cousin's baby and I gave them to her myself.

Wednesday, June 26, 1872

Mrs. Capt. Jno Lodwick is forty eight years old today if I remember correctly. This morning I took baby and the dress I had bought for Mrs. Lodwick's birthday present and started down to see her. She was just starting down street and I followed as fast as I could with the baby carriage but did not catch up with her until she got to Mr. Elden's store. After giving her the dress I did one or two other errands and then came home. Mary had raspberries and currants to put up and we were all in the sitting room preparing them when Misses Kate Robinson and Addie Dunlap called to see Mary. After tea Jimmie baby and I went out to Mr. Stewarts to see about some fruit and we made a little call.

Thursday, June 27, 1872

It has been very warm today, we expected to have a busy day of it with fruit but were disappointed in not getting the currants. I was going to make jelly and when I found the currants did not come I went down and asked Jimmie to get me some cherries but

I was just too late. A man had just left there a little while before with some very nice ones. Mary was expecting currants too but they did not come. In the afternoon I did a little washing and ironing for the baby. Miss Emma Bell was here and when she left I went up to see if Aunt Mary had come home. She took the horse to the country this morning and we wanted him to go and see after a girl. The P. T. S. held their Commencement exercises this evening at the Opera House. Mary, Jimmie, Jennie and Lizzie went but baby was not very well and I did not like to leave her so I stayed at home.

Friday, June 28, 1872

We were riding this evening and this morning too as I had nearly forgotten. Jimmie brought the buggy and took me out in the back part of town to hunt a woman to iron today. When we came back my peck of currants had come, of which I made jelly when I had cooked them. Mary had half a bushel and a few raspberries besides, so we had a very busy day. There was no church in the evening so we went riding.

Saturday, June 29, 1872

At noon today Jimmie told me that he could get some very nice red raspberries for me so I told him to send them up as soon as he went down. They did not come until about 2 o'clock and there were 36 quart baskets full when they did come. They were the nicest ones I ever saw so perfectly clean as to require very little looking over so I soon got a kettle full on and after putting up twenty-four of the baskets I let Mary put up the rest. I had eighteen quart bottles full.

I was very tired when I got through but not too tired to take a ride. We went to call on Mrs. Isham at Mrs. Cropper's and then Jimmie called for us and we drove out through Lover's Lane, a drive we used to take frequently but have not been out there since we were married I believe. Mr. Tewksbury with part of his family were just in front of us all the way. When we returned to town we went to see Sallie and the baby a few minutes.

Sunday, June 30, 1872

We went to Sabbath School and morning service as usual this forenoon. Rev. Mr. Ketchum preached, he is a candidate for the place of assistant to Dr. Pratt. It was such a warm and trying day that it was hardly a fair test for a man but he had preached here before though I never heard him. I did not go in the evening.

Monday, July 1, 1872

Wash day or blue Monday seems to come oftener than any other day, having but one girl we are all busy on that day. I do not do much cooking but have a hand in every thing nearly. It takes one person all the time to watch Maggie now that she can move independently. Maria Jackson now Maria Parker came according to promise today and got my clothes to wash. I thought I had better put them out again because the washing are large here without mine. I spent the forenoon mending. In the afternoon Mr. Gunn called. In the evening Jimmie baby and I took a good long ride up the Gallipolis pike. We enjoy our rides very much. Miss Emma Bell was here again this evening to tell about her troubles and trials in procuring a substitute for her S. S. class and I helped her out by offering to take it for her if she would get a sub for me which she promised to do.

Tuesday, July 2, 1872

I have spent the whole of this warm day in the kitchen putting up cherries. Jimmie went to market and got five gallons and I bought four more of Mr. Little but I only got fifteen quart bottles full out of them but I strained the juice off so what I have is cherries with out the seeds and just enough juice to cover them. I made 4 glasses of jelly from some of the juice and gave the rest to Mary. Jimmie borrowed a seeder from Mr. McGinly and seeded all the cherries for me. Mr. John Gunn is here from Olney, came for his wife and daughter Fannie. So Ma invited them with Aunt Mary Moore the Misses Caroline and Mary J. Gunn and Carrie Gunn, Mr. and Mrs. Thad Cook and Anna to take tea with us. They all came. Baby and I together only weigh 125 lbs. She weighs 17 ½ and I 107 ½.

Wednesday, July 3, 1872

This has been an intensely hot day, the thermometer stood at 97 and 98 degrees in the shade at the store which about as cool as any place in town. John was taken sick in the night and Jimmie had to go for the doctor, Ma, Mary and I were up and we had quite a stirring time for awhile, he was pretty sick all the fore noon but by night was very much better. Jimmie and I have been awake with Maggie a good deal the last three nights and are feeling the effects of it so I tried to take a nap this afternoon but did not succeed. I shortened my green dress this afternoon and after trying to rest awhile I dressed myself and baby and after tea walked sown to Mr. Tollner's with Jimmie and then went up to see how Mattie Peebles was. She is better, she had two ivory rings tied together and John gave one of them to Maggie. Maggie Jones was here a few minutes when I came back. I did intend going to church but concluded it was my duty to stay with Ma as she was not able to take care of Maggie and John too. Gussie, Miss Fannie Smith and Davy Jones were here. Davy followed the ladies here not finding them at home. Paid Mary B. \$5.00.

Thursday, July 4, 1872

We all spent the day at home together with no one outside of the family present. The cook even was out picnicking and we asserted our independence by doing our own work. The dinner was the result of the combined efforts of the family with the exceptions of Grandpa and baby who alone had no share in its preparation. The day was delightfully cool and pleasant and as nearly every body else had gone to the country it was remarkably quiet. In the morning Jimmie sent Mr. Johnson's crutches to Pa Ricker who hopes to use them in a few days. About 5 o'clock Jimmie brought the horse up and took Jennie riding while baby and I were getting ready and then we went. If we had not missed last 4th this would have made the fifth 4th of July in succession that Jimmie and I have gone riding together. Late in the evening Jimmie and I walked out to Mrs. Luther's with Jennie and Vernitia Ramsey who are going to sit up with Hattie tonight, she is very low with consumption. Prof. Brown was here when we left.

Friday, July 5, 1872

Today I labeled my fruit and find that I have quite a quantity for a small family and I have as yet no place or prospect of a place to keep it. I have seven quart jars of strawberries five of black raspberries and then store jars holding two or three quarts each. Fifteen of cherries, twelve of red raspberries, 4 of black raspberries and currants and two of red raspberries and currants mixed besides thirty pounds of maple sugar and one jar of pickles and I forget how many glasses of jelly, twenty-two I believe.

Saturday, July 6, 1872

Mary was making jelly again today. I am through for the present. Mary was to have spent this afternoon with Em Voorhies but she did not get off until nearly tea time. After early tea Jimmie and I went down to the farm after chickens for the picnic. I've not been there before for years, not since Grandpa died I believe. I strolled out into the garden, now almost like a jungle though the tenant manages to get vegetables out of it, the trees are all very much larger than when I last saw them and the house and yard look smaller. It has an air of desolation and desertion about it and doesn't seem at all pleasant.

Sunday, July 7, 1872

I have been dreading this morning all the week on account of having charge of the restless little creatures present and we had a very noisy warm time of it. It was an exceedingly warm day at the close of the exercises. I felt more like going to bed than church. As there was no one staying at home I stayed to take care of baby myself, and went to Missionary Prayer meeting in the evening.

Monday, July 8, 1872

The event of this morning was the departure of the boys for Buena Vista where they will remain until Wednesday and then go to Cincinnati to return Friday. It will be quite a tour for them to make alone and they feel very much elated at the prospect. Ma, Lizzie and I made a light coat for each of them before they left. At tea time Jimmie told us that the Hempstead family were up at Mr. Gaylord's taking tea previous to their departure for the Springs so after we had finished our supper he took us, baby and me

up to see them, Jennie and Lizzie walked up. Sallie and John came up before I left. I received an answer to the letter I wrote Clara King.

Tuesday, July 9, 1872

We were up early and completed our preparations for the picnic to which Dave McFarland invited us last Friday. Pa unfortunately had to go to Jackson on business and was much disappointed. The boys were gone so we got the six seated baronche for our party, Ma and the three girls, Jimmie baby and myself. The picnic was a very pleasant affair. We were the last to leave the ground and just when we got out on the pike from Turkey Creek, a few drops of rain fell which were soon followed by a hard shower. We hastily fixed the curtains but in doing so my arms were wet to the elbows. Just as we reached home the rain came down in torrents.

Wednesday, July 10, 1872

Ma, Jennie and Lizzie went to the city this morning and when the boys get on at Buena Vista there will be five of our family on board. The house seems quite deserted. Flo McConnell and the girls have been planning the trip for some time and they are finally gone.

After they were gone we straightened things around a little for every thing was left in confusion. Baby did not seem very well and I did not like to leave her with Mary B. so I had to stay with her my self so Mary did not go either. Jimmie is not very well. Miss Hamilton, the sewing girl that Ma engaged came this evening. Jimmie gave me twenty dollars

Thursday, July 11, 1872

It rained last night and was cloudy and pleasant all this forenoon so I took baby out and spent the morning doing some errands and making a call or two. We went to Mr. Connolley's and paid a small bill there and then went to see Sallie and Mattie Peebles. Then I went to Mrs. Nichols to see about a hat but did not get one. At Mr. Elden's I got

two pretty light blue percale dresses for baby. Before I came home I went to see Lucy Rifenberick who is house keeping now on 3rd street. In the evening Jimmie, baby and I went to ride. Baby was not very well and I thought it would do her good but she was sick again when we came back. Miss Weir came to sit with Mary while we were gone.

Friday, July 12, 1872

Ma was home this morning before we were up but she did not bring any of the children with her. The boys will not be home before Wednesday and the girls will probably be home Sunday morning. Notwithstanding the excessive heat I made an apron for baby this afternoon. Just before supper I went up to Maggie Lloyd's and got a new black cactus hat which I ordered yesterday. After tea Jimmie and I went down the river pike nearly to Turkey creek. It was a delightful evening no dust and not too warm to be pleasant. We turned back when we did because we did not know that any one else from town was on the road but on our way up we met four couples.

Saturday, July 13, 1872

This is the 9th anniversary of the day the Union gun boats made their appearance at Yazoo, the fleet with which we left that country for this. It has been excessively warm all day and I feel it very much as I write now, having just returned from a pleasant little drive with Pa as Jimmie could not go this evening. When he came home he proposed going to get some ice-cream, I was not ready but I soon made myself ready and Mary volunteered to keep baby as she was awake so we went and brought a cup ful home for Mary.

Sunday, July 14, 1872

I hope with experience to improve in my management of Miss Emma's host of infants. Today I believe I did get along a little more smoothly although there is still great room for improvement.

Little Bruce Glidden is a comical genius, last Sabbath it was only after repeated efforts that his mother could prevail upon him to stay in the room but today he came more readily, he had brought some candy for little Maggie Ricker "for she is so sweet" he told his mother. Mr. Chester addressed the school for a few minutes but not a word and scarcely a tone reached the sweltering children in the infant room. I was at church in the fore noon when Dr. Pratt preached and was all ready to go in the evening when I found I would have to remain with baby. It rained this evening.

Monday, July 15, 1872

Jimmie is thirty-one years old today, last year I had a present for the occasion but today I have none, much to my regret. I was at home nearly all day sewing on a new dress for my baby. She has but one dress which is not white so I got two percales with a tiny blue figure in them. After tea I walked down with Jimmie to 3rd street and then up to the dyers. While there it rained again so I ran on up to see Sallie a few minutes. Mattie is sick again. While I was there John came in with the mail and brought letters form Mr. Peebles, Mary and Maggie. I could not stay to hear them read. I wanted to see Mrs. Bonswell and inquire about her house but she has concluded not to sell. Mrs. Collins brought her work down and sat awhile this afternoon. It rained very hard while she was here. When Jimmie came home in the evening he brought me some delicious pears. Jimmie wrote a long letter to Pa Ricker this morning.

Tuesday, July 16, 1872

Yesterday the Railroad question was settled by an overwhelming affirmative vote and some men, whose reason must have been dethroned by the result, made an immense bonfire down on Market street and had every fire bell in the city ringing, some of the hand engines out and a band of music playing driving sleep far from those who wanted to sleep in peace. It has rained in showers all day, it is very singular weather for this season of the year. It has rained ever since Sunday with short intermissions.

Wednesday, July 17, 1872

The boys came home from their trip this morning they have been gone ten days, quite a long time for them. It rained nearly all day and in the evening about church time it was so stormy looking and raining so that no body went to church. I was up to Lucy Rifenberick's a few minutes and then called to inquire about Mattie Peebles and then stopped to see Maggie Jones a few minutes. I've not been there for a long time before.

Thursday, July 18, 1872

We were to have spent this day with Mary Glidden but it was too wet to play croquet and as Lucy Rifenberick have been planning a game for months I thought we had better not go until it was dry enough for that.

It rained very hard in the afternoon. This morning I thought I had better go and tell Lucy that I could not take the baby out and I then went to Mrs. Thos Brown's to call on Mrs. Joseph Peebles but she was not in. I did one or two errands and then came home and went over to Mrs. Carrie's to see Hannah James.

Friday, July 19, 1872

This is the first clear day we have had this week, it turned a little cooler and I suppose the rain is over for the present. I have not sewed as much as I had intended. In the forenoon I gave my room a pretty thorough cleaning and then worked a few button holes in one of baby's dresses. After dinner I helped Mary pare some pears which Pa got for her to preserve. Baby is more fretful than usual on account of hives, heat, teeth any one of which would be sufficient excuse for fretfulness on the part of grown persons. After tea Jimmie baby and I had a delightful drive, the first since Saturday.

Saturday, July 20, 1872

The rain is over for the present and everything seems much benefitted by it. I have managed by perseverance amidst difficulties in finishing the two little dresses for Maggie. Mary has been preserving pears and the rest of the family have been busy at

other things so I have been left alone the greater part of the day. My mind is so occupied with thoughts of the future and what disposition we will finally make of ourselves that I'm not much company for any one. In the evening we took out riding before the rest of the family had supper. Ma, Jennie, John and Enos went down below Turkey Creek this forenoon and got back just as we had finished our dinner.

Sunday, July 21, 1872

Another Sunday counted off my contract for the summer. The children were more restless than last Sunday. I did not go to church in the morning but did in the evening.

Monday, July 22, 1872

Today noon Pa told Ma that the partnership was to be broken at the shop. He and Mr. Murray have at last decided to separate. I commenced two skirts for baby but only got the ruffles hemmed. After supper I got fourteen quarts of very nice blackberries and as Mary offered to help me look them over I put them up before bed time. Jennie and Lizzie went riding in my place.

Tuesday, July 23, 1872

We all spend a good deal of time in watching the workmen on the wash house. They make very rapid progress. I worked very hard today to finish two little muslin skirts for baby and succeeded all but the fastenings. We are studying plans for our new house as we have about decided to build on the 5th street lot.

Wednesday, July 24, 1872

I have been helping a little with Jennie's bindings today. This afternoon I answered the door bell and found Aunt Wood from the "Rock" ringing. I was almost too much surprised to speak to her. She only made a short call as she had promised Sallie that

she would be there to tea. Jimmie and I went up with her and then came home to our supper. We went to prayer meeting in the evening. Rev. Mr. Podd conducted the services. This forenoon I wrote to Maggie Peebles.

The brick masons finished their work on the stable and wash house this evening.

Thursday, July 25, 1872

We talked again today of going out to Mary Glidden's but after breakfast I began to rain again. The rains have been unprecedented during this month. It scarcely misses a day. In the after noon it fairly poured. Pa had gone to Vinton and was in it all of course. I was busy at various things all the forenoon and in the afternoon I worked at my carpet rags. In the evening Jimmie brought Charlie in a little livery buggy and we took a very pleasant ride but it was not so comfortable as Pa Ricker's buggy. This is the season for balloons, scarcely a day passes that we do not see one or more. Baby got a hard bump this afternoon, fell and cut her upper lip on her tooth.

Friday, July 26, 1872

This morning after breakfast we were much surprised to hear of the death of Mrs. Joseph Vincent, Florance's mother. She has long been delicate but died very suddenly about half an hour after the birth of a fine large child which is also dead. She leaves five children of whom Florance is the oldest. I went up to see them a few minutes. I was also at Uncle Sam's and Maggie Jones'. Last night we had a very hard thunder storm. I don't think I ever heard louder thunder.

Saturday, July 27, 1872

We had not heard the hour for the funeral but while I was mending this forenoon I heard our church bell ring so I knew what it was for. Mary came in and asked if I was going and we hastily dressed and went. It was 10 o'clock and although I did not go to the cemetery it took up nearly all the rest of the forenoon. After dinner I worked awhile

on my carpet rags. We heard that Aunt Jennie's baby was very sick so we drove out there after tea and found it very sick indeed. The doctor was there, Mrs. Tewksbury had been there nearly all day and Mrs. Bannon and Mrs. Gliddin came in before we left. Jimmie drove down to town twice on errands for them and I stayed as long as I could. I was up to Mrs. Tewksbury's this afternoon with baby and Russell told me that his mother was out to Uncle Drew's. I also called at Mrs. McGinly's and stopped to inquire about Ella Bonsall.

Sunday, July 28, 1872

I was late getting off to Sabbath school this morning, a person with a baby is not just the one to be teacher of an infant class because there are so many times when the baby demands the mother's care. I have been there every Sunday so far though and hope I shall be until Miss Emma returns. Ella Bonsall has a dear little girl born today at 11 a. m.

After tea Uncle Enos and Jimmie went out to the cemetery and to Uncle Drew's. The baby is no better but rather worse. None of them think it will get well. We had no service this morning.

Monday, July 29, 1872

Jennie is nineteen years old today. Pa, Ma, Jimmie and I each wrote a short letter to the folks today. I have been helping Lizzie with her dress today, sewed the binding on about fifty yards of trimming the first time. After that I sewed a little on my carpet rags. I am anxious to get that into the weaver's hands so as to have it ready to put down when the house is ready. After tea we went out to take a little ride and see how the baby was, it was late and I could do no good any way so we only stopped to inquire. I couldn't bear to see the little darling suffer unless I could do some good.

Tuesday, July 30, 1872

The weather is excessively warm, I have very little to write about, I put in all my spare moments on my carpet without any very telling results. After dinner Mary and I took baby and went to call on Mrs. D. P. Pratt. Went to inquire about Neal Duke who has been very sick since losing her baby about a week ago. She is doing very well but is not able to receive company. We found Ella Bonsall and her baby doing nicely. I don't know of any thing that I feel a deeper interest in than a young mother with her first baby. I haven't forgotten my own experience of a year ago. There were five of us married with in two or three weeks each other and Sallie and I are the only ones who have our babies left to us and Sallie is deprived of the pleasure of nursing hers so that I am really the only one of the five who has all the comfort that can be derived from a good healthy baby. I am the only one of the five who has no house but I wouldn't exchange with any of them. Aunt Jennie's baby died about 11 a. m. today.

Wednesday, July 31, 1872

I was very busy all the forenoon and as there was nothing I could do for Aunt Jennie I did not go out there until time for the funeral. Jimmie brought a large baronche for those of us who could to go in. Pa and Ma, Jimmie and I and the two boys who were to act as pallbearers with Russell Tewksbury and Willie Pond. There were quite a number out there, the friends of the family, but no others. We all walked from the house to the grave, reminding me of a description of a village funeral by Irving, I believe. It seemed very solemn, more so I thought than riding as we usually do. The dear little sufferer is at rest and we should be thankful while it makes us sad to think of the mother's loss. Uncle Alex and Aunt Add came down from Ironton in a buggy and left for home this evening at 7 o'clock.

Thursday, August 1, 1872

This is the colored people's high holiday and they are making the most of it. This evening when Jimmie and I were out riding we met several buggies and carriages returning from their picnic. The girls were riding horseback this morning and in the evening Jimmie got a horse at the stable and we went. I have not been on a horse before for about four years. I enjoyed it very much but a short ride was enough for the first time. When I came back I wrote to the folks.

I made some blackberry cordial today but put too much brandy in it and will have to make more blackberry syrup to put with it.

Friday, August 2, 1872

I have spent nearly all of this day on my carpet rags. I only sewed one ball but cut the rags for some more. Emma Jones was here in the afternoon, she looks as though she might be a second edition of Maggie at her age. Miss Switzer was in a few minutes today noon. She is rustivating at Monroe Furnace with her sister Fannie in Mr. Brown's family. She only came down to Portsmouth for a day, and will return tomorrow. In the evening I went down to the store and Jimmie went with me to look at some shoes and as we were passing a handsome store we went to look at mantels. After tea we took a little drive.

Saturday, August 3, 1872

Twenty-one months today since I was married. I got a few more berries this morning and finished the cordial. Jimmie brought me some nice little brown glass jugs that have been there at the store for years with out ever being taken out of the box in which they were packed.

We took a ride in the evening.

Services preparatory to Communion tomorrow were held in the lecture room this afternoon. I went down street early to attend to some errands. Jimmie and I went to Eberhart's to look at inn mantels and after church we went to Gerlach's and Buskirk's. We are very anxious to get into our house by November so we can celebrate our second anniversary at home but the prospect is not very cheering now. Joe and Ella Murray had their baby baptized Isabella this after noon.

Sunday, August 4, 1872

The fifth Sabbath of my substitute service has come and gone and I can hardly realize that I have been there so long. I get along very well but shall be glad when Miss Emma

comes back. Rev. Ketchum Dr. Pratt's assistant came last week and entered upon his duties today, Communion service was held in the afternoon and four persons received into the church from other churches. Mrs. Sherman Johnson, Mrs. Anna Silcox and Dr. Meyer and wife from Madison Ind.

Monday, August 5, 1872

Jimmie brought me \$37.00 today all of which we owe Mary Buzer, except one dollar she did not want it today so I have it yet. This forenoon Mary and I took Maggie down to get a picture and after several attempts got two negatives to try from. One is large and her mouth is wide open, laughing, the other is small and frowning, neither very pretty.

She behaved very amusingly through out. When Mr. Sillman said she must have her mouth shut she immediately put up her hand and pinched her lips together. She understands nearly everything that is said to her. After dinner we went to call on Mrs. Ketchum at Sallie Peebles' and Mrs. Nelson at Mrs. Ed Draper's. Were going to call on Callie Newton but met her just starting to the drug store. Took a short ride in the evening.

Tuesday, August 6, 1872

Our baby Maggie is one year old today, it scarcely seems possible and yet it is so. She has only four teeth, can creep and almost but not quite walk alone and can only say Ma, da for Grandma and such things. She only weighs nineteen pounds and is a very wee little thing but very sweet for all that. We had a silver spoon to match Maggie Peebles' made for her with the date changed to 1872 and want to give her one each year. Grandpa and Grandma Ricker each sent her \$5.00, she now has nearly if not quite \$50. I engaged a woman to help me take up the carpet in our room today and when we were ready at 2 ½ o'clock to put it down again we had to stop altogether until after supper because we couldn't get straw. Jimmie stayed after tea and helped me or

rather I helped him a little, he is always ready and willing to help me when he can. When he came home after going to the store, he brought a little bucket of ice-cream.

Wednesday, August 7, 1872

It took me nearly all the forenoon to finish my room and then I went down and helped Mary put up a bushel of tomatoes which she had bought for me. At noon Jimmie brought me a few huckleberries and that took the afternoon, I also sealed up my bottles of cordial, ten, the eleventh I left open to take to Sallie and there is one other half full. I did not go to church as there was no one at home to keep baby. I wrote a letter of eight pages to Pa and Ma Ricker and finished Grace and Philip Wharton's Queens of Society which I have read in snatches while nursing baby.

Thursday, August 8, 1872

After tea this evening Mary, baby and I went up to Sallie Peebles' to take her a little brown jug of black berry cordial. The folks were all out riding so we walked in up to see Ella Bonsall and her baby. After a short visit then we went to Sallie but she had not returned so we went on down to see Mrs. Jones and Maggie and after visiting them a while we went up to Sallie's again and sat on the steps until she did come. Jimmie was to come up for us but he passed the house three times and finding it all dark he did not think we were there so he did not find us at all. After 9 o'clock John came home with us as far as 4th when he happened to see Jimmie crossing the street having been nearly all the evening with Mr. Tracy.

Friday, August 9, 1872

We went to ride this evening, the second time only this week. I have been busy and various things have prevented. May, Venitia Ramsey and Gen Watkins went out to sit up with Hattie Luther. She died today about 11 o'clock.

Saturday, August 10, 1872

My principal business now is sewing carpet rags. I want to have about fifty yards ready by the time the house is ready and it is such slow work that I do not expect to more than accomplish it. Charley and Jakie Ricker were here to spend the afternoon. We had a very hard thunder storm. Ma and Mary and Jimmie were at the church at the time attending Hattie Luther's funeral. She has lingered a long time but is released at last, gone to rest we hope.

Sunday, August 11, 1872

Pa and Ma Ricker have been married 25 years today. They have six of their seven children and a son-in-law and one grand –child besides, with them. I was tired rather more than usual in Sabbath school this morning. It was very warm, the children restless, had to remain to hear an extra long lesson from one and attend to the enrollment of another and in the midst of perplexities was informed that my own class were at the point of leaving school because of neglect. The substitute provided in my place only having been present twice in six weeks. Mr. Ketchum preached his regular opening sermon this morning and it was a very good one.

Monday, August 12, 1872

I finished and sent a letter to the folks eight pages long this morning, the second one of the kind within a week. Mrs. Messenger sent to me for some trimmings which I have been trying to get but did not succeed in getting just what she sent for. I must not forget to mention that the old houses on the N. W. corner of 6th and Court have been more off, all but one which will soon follow the other. We used to want that lot or one of the lots very much but they have changed hands several times and have increased in

price so much that we don't think of getting one. I should be thankful if we ever get our house built on 5th street.

Tuesday, August 13, 1872

Ma helped me all and Jennie part of the day to try to get as much done as possible before taking my rags to Mrs. Hamilton. About 5 o'clock I quit work and got ready to go. We did not get started until six o'clock. It rained very hard in the afternoon and looked very threatening all the way down but it did not rain. Even if it had we were well prepared with rubber coat and cloak, short buggy aprons and umbrella. We had a little over 28 lbs. of rags and 24 lbs. of chain. Coming back the moon shone beautifully except occasionally when a cloud would float between it and the earth and darken it for a few moments. The drive home was delightful. We went to the store for the mail and then left the horse at the stable and stopped to get some ice-cream on our way home. When we got here we found Grandma holding baby who was just recovering from a terrible blow on her little head, the heavy slop-jar lid had fallen from the waste stand on to her head and just missed striking her temple. We looked for the comet this evening but did not see it.

Wednesday, August 14, 1872

14th of August and I have not written a line in my book since the 8th, I often have to write up for several days but seldom get quite so far behind.

I worked at my carpet rags until 5 o'clock and then laid them aside to dress for supper and church. When I went down stairs supper was not quite ready so I took baby in her buggy and started down to meet Jimmie, met him near 4th and he went with me to return the pillow Dell Ramsey loaned Lizzie the other evening. After tea I took baby over to Mr. Gibben's a few minutes and then came home and put my hat on to go to church but when I came down stairs found Gussie and Miss Smith talking with Mary so I was detained until too late. I excused myself the last time Gussie was in and thought I ought not do so this time. Mary is suffering a good deal with a kind of sty on her eye.

Thursday, August 15, 1872

Lizzie told me this morning that Maggie Bell was at church last night. I want very much to see her. I spent this day sewing carpet rags as usual. Therza Spry was here this morning and would have stayed to spend the day only she had started up to Tangin's and thought she must go.

Friday, August 16, 1872

Therza Spry came up early this morning to spend the day and help us on the carpet rags. Ma, Jennie, Therza and I put in the whole day and accomplished a good deal. Miss Hancock came this forenoon to tell me that Mrs. Burwell had changed her mind in regard to selling her house and wanted to see me. After tea Jimmie drove up there but we could not afford to pay the price she asks for her property. We took a little drive and then came home. Pa took Therza, Jennie and Lizzie to the Peak Family Bell Ringers. They do not compare very favorably with the Berger Family.

Saturday, August 17, 1872

We worked very busily at the rags today for I wanted to get as much done as possible to take down in the evening. I had to stop about four o'clock and dress to go up to Mrs. Collins'. I wanted to see her and Clara Newton and try to get a substitute for Mary's class tomorrow as she is unable to go. She has suffered a good deal with her eye. The doctor said today it was a carbuncle on the upper lid. After a call at Mrs. Collins' I went to Connolley's store and to Miss Baron's to get a new pin for baby. Stopped at Sallie's but she was not in, met her on the street afterwards. After tea Jimmie and I drove down to Mrs. Hamilton's again and took her 16 lbs. of rags which makes 44 in all. We had a delightful drive. We had a letter from Pa Ricker saying they would be down Monday evening.

Sunday, August 18, 1872

Mr. Bell was back at Sabbath School this morning after an absence of six weeks and we were all glad to see him, I was particularly glad because of my troubles. Mrs. McCace was there to take charge of any class and I hope Miss Emma will soon be back to relieve me of hers. I saw Maggie Bell, she has been here since last Wednesday but I have not had a chance of seeing her before. I was at church in the forenoon but did not like to leave Maggie in the evening as she was unusually fretful from the heat.

Monday, August 19, 1872

This being the day for Grandpa and Grandma Ricker to come I took a little extra pains with my room and this with getting the clothes ready for wash took nearly all the forenoon. After dinner I went down to Mr. Nichols' for Ma and while I was out I stopped to inquire how Emma Voorhies and her little daughter were doing. She was doing so well that I was allowed to see her. The baby is a black haired, fat little dumpling and I hope she will be spared to them for I know they will enjoy her. It was born yesterday, the day Mattie Peebles was ten months old. I was up to see Mr. Jones about the pears and took a bushel which Enos brought home for me. Soon after I came back Maggie Jones came to see Mary and then Mattie Gaylord called a few minutes then took Maggie away with her. While waiting for the train I stood at Mrs. Gilbert's gate a while and then took Maggie to see Mrs. Connolley a little while. At last the train came and we were all out to meet Grandpa and Grandma Ricker. He walked up from the depot with only a cane. We all think he has done remarkably well with his accident.

Tuesday, August 20, 1872

Enos, our baby is twelve years old today. Grandpa and Grandma were here all day. Last Night after supper we had a regular reception first came Uncle Drew and Aunt Jamie then Mrs. Tewksbury, Sallie Peebles, Russell and Willie Pond, and then Mr. Ward and lastly Mr. Henry Prescott. He brought a letter for Mary from Ella Greene inviting Jennie and Lizzie to go out to Keystone and spend a few days. Grandma got at the carpet rags this morning and I think there is now some prospect of our getting through with them. I was busy nearly all day with my pears. The folks helped me pare them in

the forenoon and after dinner I put up about three pecks of them leaving one peck for sweet pickles. Jimmie and I took quite a ride after tea.

Wednesday, August 21, 1872

This forenoon I put away my sweet pickles and now have twenty great jars full altogether. After dinner Jimmie took Ma Ricker out to Aunt Jennie's and I took baby and went with them to Mr. Bell's to see Maggie. I seemed to have chosen an unfavorable time for my visit for the house is full of company and nearly all of them had to be excused from seeing me. Mrs. Robt Bell came to the door and let me in. Maggie is quite sick and was unable to see anybody. Mrs. Newton was dressing her little boy and herself and did not get through. Mrs. White was in the kitchen helping Mary Glidden. Miss Emma Olds was in town after Mr. Bell and Grandma Bell is confined to her chair by a paralytic stroke. I went to her room and made her a visit and Clara Newton came in there and sat. I saw Miss Olds just before I left. I went over to Aunt Jennie R.'s and stayed until after tea. I have taken a very severe cold which is not very pleasant. There was a very enthusiastic torchlight procession and speech this evening by the Reps.

Thursday, August 22, 1872

I have spent this day in absolute idleness. I can scarcely call it idleness either when my nose has demanded constant attention and the baby occupied nearly all the intermediate moments. It is very warm but in the evening it cooled down a very little after a thunder storm, the heaviest of it passed around but the clouds looked very black and clouds of dust shut out everything else from view. The prospect for my going to Mr. Mullins' is rather discouraging. The folks stayed out at Uncle Drew's all night but came in this evening. Uncle Enos did not go down last trip and has been here several times today.

Friday, August 23, 1872

Early this morning Ma Ricker went up to Mr. Tewksbury's to spend the day. I did not see Pa Ricker after breakfast and as I was not feeling well in the evening and did not sit up late I did not see him, until breakfast the next day I was going to say but I think I went down again after having come up to retire. We all about decided to give up the Mt. Mullins picnic tomorrow the girls are at Keystone, Mary's eye is not well enough for her to go. Ma is not very well, I am nearly sick from my cold and circumstances seem rather unfavorable.

The difficulty at the machine shop and foundry was at last settled this forenoon by a private auction at which Pa and Uncle Enos bought Mr. Murray out and now they have it all to themselves. The property is valued at about \$138,000 I believe.

Saturday, August 24, 1872

The usual annual picnic at Mr. Geo. Johnson's farm, Mt. Mullins, today celebrated their Silver wedding, 25th Anniversary. There were a great many persons present and every thing that could contribute to the pleasure of the guests was provided. The day was very warm in spite of fans and ice water. Pa and Jimmie could not consent to give it up so we all went with the exception of the three girls. We took Ella the house girl to help take care of baby. Pa and Ma Ricker went also. Some of Mr. and Mrs. Johnson's friends presented them with a handsome Silver water service, several goblets and a cake stand. When we came home in the evening we found Jennie and Lizzie here, they were delighted with their trip to Keystone Furnace as I knew they would be. This is the 300th anniversary of the massacre of St. Bartholomew.

Sunday, August 25, 1872

I was in a poor condition to take charge of an infant class this morning but duty was imperative and I made my appearance there as usual and was so hoarse that it was with difficulty that I could speak at all. I read a letter from Miss Emma last week and expect her home before another Sabbath. I was at church in the forenoon but not in the evening.

Monday, August 26, 1872

The boys being out of reach this morning I offered to take the place of one of them and take a note down to the office for Mary. I went to the store to see Jimmie and he was not there. I waited until he came and then took the letter to the office and afterwards went to Mr. Stillman's and got the picture I had taken of Maggie when she was a year old. Mary got some very nice plums today and made a nice lot of jelly.

I was in to see Lucy Rifenberick a few minutes this forenoon and also went to see about a girl I want to engage for when I go to house -keeping, I am in good time I hope for the ground is not yet surveyed upon which we are to build.

Tuesday, August 27, 1872

The ground was surveyed this morning and there are several piles of lumber hauled ready to begin and I hope I shall soon hear the music of saw and hammer. Mary went to Hanging Rock today to visit Maggie and Mary Hempstead. Her eye is better and I hope it will soon be entirely well. We have been working at carpet rags today, this basket full did not get along as fast as the last one did Jimmie and I had a nice ride this evening. My cold is getting better but it is far from cured yet.

Wednesday, August 28, 1872

It has not rained I believe since I last set a time to go and spend the day with Mary Glidden but today when all things were ready to begin digging the cellar to our house, a rain has set in which looks very much like a fall rain, one that had course to stay. We heard today noon that old father, Jones as he is called in our church died this morning so I went over this evening just before supper. Hattie Sterett a grand daughter of Mr. Jones' seems to feel his loss very deeply.

Thursday, August 29, 1872

This morning at 9 o'clock I went over to Dr. Jones' to attend the funeral of his father. The old gentleman was 82 years of age and leaves a wife who has shared his joys and sorrows for the past 62 years. A very long time for two persons to journey together in this life where our days are so uncertain. At the time of their marriage he was twenty and she sixteen. They have been truly favored of God whom they both delighted to serve. Mr. Ketchum preached the funeral discourse. Pa was one of the pall-bearers. In the evening Mr. and Mrs. Ketchum called with their little boys to see us. I think we shall all like him very much as a man as well as minister.

Friday, August 30, 1872

The weather has turned so much cooler that we actually feel the need of fires. Ella Murray and Sallie Peebles were here this afternoon and Ella said she had fire at home this forenoon. We have been sitting around on the sunny side of the house with our rag cutting. Have finally moved into the formal dining room because there is no carpet to take the lint and ravelings from our work. There was a party at Mrs. McClain's this evening for Mary McClain and Carrie Donham. Jennie went with Wes Lodwick as an escort.

Saturday, August 31, 1872

Between the carpet rags and watching the progress of digging the cellar of our new house our time is pretty well occupied. Ma Ricker is a valuable acquisition to our force, she is so persevering and industrious. This morning first move after breakfast was to take a walk over to see whether or not an old elm tree would have to be cut down and it was decided by Jimmie and the carpenter that it must be sacrificed for the good of the foundation. Baby slept nearly all the forenoon and just as I was going to dress her Emma and Katie Johnson called. Katie is going home to Steubenville Monday. There is a large and enthusiastic republican meeting over in the Court yard this evening. There was a long torchlight procession. Prof Brown called this evening but as Mary was not at home he did not stay very long.

Sunday, September 1, 1872

To my great relief Miss Bell has returned and I am once more with my own class or what remains of it. I only had three scholars today but hope to do a little recruiting through the week. I was at church both morning and evening. Dr. Pratt has not returned yet but the children are all here except Libbie, or Julie I should say. Libbie has been here a week or two. It is a year today since Mary Buzer began work here.

Monday, September 2, 1872

We, Ma Ricker, Ma and I finished up all the carpet rags we had about the house today and got a bundle which Uncle Enos sent but did not cut any of them because we thought we would not need them, having prepared 65 pounds. After dinner Pa Ricker and I took the last installment, twenty-one pounds, down to Mrs. Hamilton and got back before supper. We had a very pleasant drive. Baby has a boil on her forehead which I know makes her little head ache. Still she is not very fretful. This evening Miss Zeigler, a seamstress came down from Capt. Hempstead's and brought a note of introduction from Mary who asked her to bring some of her work here for us to see. It is the most beautiful machine work I ever saw and it was really a treat to look at it. She was not very well and as it was late in the evening she accepted Ma's invitation to remain all night. John Miller was here to bid the girls to good bye previous to his second departure for Princeton. I had letters from Maggie Peebles and Clara King this evening.

Tuesday, September 3, 1872

Miss Ziegler left this morning and tomorrow she returns to the Rock where she expects to remain as seamstress in Capt. Hempstead's family. They are to give a large party next Friday, the 6th and our girls have been honored with cards. Only four other girls from here are invited Maggie Jones, Essie Towell, Mattie Gaylord and Allie Buskirk. There are also seven gentlemen. Maggie and Mattie are away, our girls are going. I washed and Ma Ricker wiped the dinner dishes and while I was paring the peaches for tea, Mrs. Tewksbury came in. Ma Ricker went with her when she left and did not come back until after supper. In the evening Jimmie and I went out to see Margaret Adderly about making a dress for me and then up to Mrs. Greene's a few minutes. When I came back I wrote to Laura DeMar.

Wednesday, September 4, 1872

The weather has been rather uncomfortably cool in the mornings and nearly all day in fact for a few days past and brings to our minds the fact that we must be getting warmer clothing ready for use. This afternoon Ma and Ma Ricker went down to Mrs. Hamilton's to get some witch hazel leaves and crab apples. They brought half a bushel of apples which I must make into jelly this week. I wrote a long letter to Maggie Peebles tonight. They expect to be in Paris before long. I did not go to church this evening, I had to get Maggie ready for bed and dress her boils on her forehead so I could not leave.

Thursday, September 5, 1872

Ma called Jimmie to go to market this morning and after that I could not go to sleep any more however I did not get up until the bell rang. Since the rising of the sun I have done a little of various kinds of work. Put my room in order, washed, cooked, sewed, ironed and tended the baby and am now writing having read at odd times while nursing the baby. Maggie and Geo Bell called just before supper. They leave next Wednesday, which makes their visit here rather short. Mary Buzer's wedding dress came home tonight and Sunday she expects to be married. She is not taking much time for preparation for such an event. I thought six weeks hard work was rather limited but I don't believe she has reserved six hours. The foundation of our house is nearly done and I hope there will be something resembling a house on the spot soon.

Friday, September 6, 1872

This date recalls my old friend Clara Swain as it is her birthday, there only being the difference between the 6th and 8th in our ages. She is today twenty-four years old. I wonder where she is and what she is doing. I sent a letter to Maggie Peebles today and addressed several newspapers for the mail. Papers contained an extended account of Portsmouth business houses, Ricker and Jones among others. Jennie and Lizzie went up to the Rock today to attend a party at Capt Hempstead's. We miss the other girls very much. Baby is 13 months old today and is beginning to walk very well but lacks confidence in herself. She tries to talk a little, the longest conversation

consisting of three words, Ma, Ma, tittly, up, up and suiting the action to the word she tries to climb up.

Saturday, September 7, 1872

It is just nine years today since a family of refugees might have been seen entering the city of Portsmouth where they settled and have remained to the present time. These people were from the "Sunny South" and their name was Moore and is yet with a single exception. The exception being the undersigned, L. M. Ricker. I have been very busy all day finishing up some crab apple jelly which I began some three days ago. I made twenty two and a half glasses which is to be divided between Mary and myself. I am about through for this season. Just before tea I went down street. Maggie and George Bell called this evening to see us.

Sunday, September 8, 1872

I am twenty-four years old today, well and happy though not looking very well. I'm but a shadow of my former self. The surplus taking the form of one of the dearest little girls ever was. I was at Sabbath School, and church twice today.

Mary Buzer was married in a very quiet way this evening. She got breakfast and a late dinner for us and then dressed and walked alone up to her future husband's brother's where the wedding was to take place. She has been one of the best, most agreeable girls we have ever had and sorry enough we are to part with her.

Monday, September 9, 1872

I was up by daylight this morning and slipped down to the kitchen and made a fire preparatory to getting breakfast. Every thing seemed to be lost or out of order as it

usually does when none of us have been in the kitchen for a while and when I was getting about half through, there was a call for me to come to baby. Ma and the girls finished. During the forenoon, while I was getting dinner ready, Mary Rienhardt the bride came back and signified her willingness to stay awhile until we could get some body else. After dinner Pa Ricker and I went over to Dry Run to see after a girl. After we had gone some distance we noticed a storm coming up but thought we would be just as likely to get caught going back so on we went to Mr. Williamson's. Found the girl was in town so we started back and had to stop by the way until the storm was over. We got home safely though after it was over. Maggie Bell was here a long time this forenoon. Allie Riggs came just before dinner to spend a few days with Jennie.

Tuesday, September 9, 1872

I continued my hunt this morning by going up to Mrs. D. Coates' to see her girl about her sister but Mrs. C. thought it was of no use to see her and did not seem willing that I should, so I could do nothing but come away. I did some errands for Ma and Ma Ricker who were going up to the Rock and then met them on the street and walked down to the store where they were to meet Jimmie. Came home and spent what time I could get through the day in writing a letter to Mary Peebles. I began before dinner and finished at night. Allie Riggs has grown very much since she left here three years ago and is now a very pretty young lady. She and Jennie were to go with Mrs. Lodwick to call on Carrie Donham this evening but it rained very hard and they spent the evening here.

Wednesday, September 10, 1872

I dressed baby this morning and let Allie take her with herself and Jennie Robinson in the carriage while I sewed the skirt on her clean bonnet and got ready myself. When that desirable end was accomplished I started out to meet Allie with baby's carriage and bonnet and while I was putting her in I dropped the clean bonnet in the gutter and had to send it home by Allie. I went first to Aunt Mary's but she was not at home then I went to see Lizzie Cochran and then to return Emma Spry's parasol, to Brunner's to see after a dress and then to Tracy's to get baby a new pair of shoes. The first pair we ever bought her. Mrs. G. gave her the first pair and her Aunt Jennie the second. I was in to

see Lucy a few minutes and then came home, no I went first to Connolley's and Miss Adderly's and then home tired enough. In the afternoon I was out again and made almost the same round. I have been trying to get something to wear or somebody to do something, cook, wash and iron or sew and am heartily sick of the attempt. Maggie Ricker received her first letter, from Aunt Mary this evening. After church Allie Riggs went home with Mrs. Robinson again.

Thursday, September 12, 1872

This forenoon I was down street again, partly to do an errand for Lucy Riffinberrick and partly to attend to my own business. I took baby with me. I have not accomplished anything this week but a good deal of running which does me no harm I suppose. Sallie Peebles was here a few minutes to tell me that Mrs. Duckworth is to be here soon and she wants me to call on her. I had hoped to go to the Exposition but have about given it up. I can't get any body to make a dress for me and have none ready so I guess I had better stay at home. Jimmie brought the buggy up about an hour before supper and we had a delightful ride.

Friday, September 13, 1872

I heard this morning that Ella Overturf has a daughter, it is quite a surprise to many as she has been married nearly six years and this is her first. This seems to be a remarkable year for such things, there are several others expected who have been quite as long or even longer on the way. We had a delightful ride by moonlight this evening.

Saturday, September 14, 1872

We all rushed around quite lively this forenoon getting things in order for the return of Ma Ricker, Ma and Mary. They did not get here until after dinner was over and the folks gone. They had a delightful visit, all of them and I am real glad they went. Mary has been gone nearly three weeks.

Maggie is learning to walk very fast, but gets a good many bumps. After dinner Jimmie took the boys and me down the river road after paw paws and we had quite a good time. After tea Mary and I walked up to see Ella Bonsall and her baby which she has named Jennie Johnson for her sister Jennie and Emma Johnson. Jimmie came up for us when he was through at the store.

Mary Buzer Reinhardt left this evening.

Sunday, September 15, 1872

Ma is forty-six and Mary is twenty-two today. We are with out help of any kind, however those of us who attend Sabbath School managed to get there but Ma did not get away from the house at all. Ma Ricker had a severe sick head-ache and so she was not out either. Dr. Pratt was back and preached in the forenoon. Mr. Ketchum preached in the evening.

Heard today that Carrie Swim has a daughter.

Monday, September 16, 1872

This has been a busy day for us all. I had intended gong to Cincinnati today to attend the Exposition but could not get ready so I deferred it until Wednesday. I wanted to take my clothes out to my wash woman so as to get them sooner than usual and Pa Ricker promised to take me in the buggy. Before he came I had to go down street to get some candy to send Aunt Hamilton and when I came back Pa was here so I got the clothes and started. When I came back Ma had found a trace of a girl so off I went again to follow it up and as usual I was just too late to get her. I was busy at work all the rest of the day and so no prospect of a chance to even go and call on Mrs. Duckworth to say nothing of taking a pleasure trip any where. This is Uncle Saw and Aunt Mary's 9th Anniversary.

Ma and Pa Ricker went out to Uncle Drew's to spend the day and did not come back in the evening. I got a black mohair dress today but can not make it for some time yet.

Tuesday, September 17, 1872

We have been very busy all day but have succeeded in getting things into better order and hope to have an easier time after this. I have swept and put my room in order, cooked, baked bread, washed, ironed and ginned around generally. Aunt Jennie was here a few minutes this afternoon. I have given up all idea of going to Cincinnati or any where else for the present and do not know when I shall ever attempt to start any where again. Paid Mary Buzer \$11.00 today which is all that I owe her.

Wednesday, September 18, 1872

I was busy all the forenoon, tending bread, tending baby and sewing a very little. There is a premium of a barrel of flour offered for the best loaf of salt rising bread exhibited at the county fair next week and I am going to try for it. When I was twelve or fourteen years old I used to make excellent bread but I have not had any practice for the last nine years. I had intended going to Cincinnati today but have finally given the trip up altogether, it's of no use for me to try to go any where. After dinner I made up my bread and got it ready to bake and then dressed baby and myself to go with Mary up to Mr. Gaylord's to see Aunt Wood, Aunt Hamilton, Mrs. Hempstead and Hattie Norton. Just as we were going out the gate Aunt Wood came walking down so we waited for her and then we all stopped at Sallie's but she was not in and Mrs. Duckworth was sick so we did not stay. Went on up to Mrs. Gaylord's and saw all the folks but Aunt Hempstead who is very sick. This morning I went in the buggy to see the wash woman for Ma and after I got back Mary and I went out to see Carrie Swim and her mite of a baby which only weighs 3 ½ pounds.

Thursday, September 19, 1872

It seems scarcely possible that at the close of as busy a day as this has been, I should sit down to write but I am really doing it. Ma went up to Mr. Gaylord's this morning in hopes of getting a cook that Mrs. Hempstead had but instead of getting a cook she got a visitor. Aunt Hamilton concluded to come and make up a visit while the "girls" are doing the cooking, she thinks it would be so much nicer than any other time. I hope she will think so when her visit is over. Jennie moved a bed and wash stand down into the parlor and fixed it up for a bed room so as to save her going up and

down stairs, she is very feeble now. In the afternoon I was making pies and Mrs. Tracy and Clara Norris called, I went into the parlor just as I was.

Friday, September 20, 1872

Everything goes on smoothly but it keeps the available force hopping to get through. Lizzie is in school and can't do much. Jennie is not very quick but does her share well, Mary really ought not to be in the kitchen and with the baby too so she has to take care of her self, while Ma visits with her company. I'm glad she is out of the kitchen any way. Jimmie received a box of very fine grapes this evening, they are about the last of the season.

Saturday, September 21, 1872

Aunt Hamilton came down to the kitchen this morning to see me set my rising for bread and when that was finally accomplished, she made a ginger cake which would have been very nice only she put in a cup of salt instead of sugar however she was gone to Dr. Caton's to dinner when the mistake was discovered and she will never be any the wiser for it. We work very hard to accomplish what we do. Maggie was sick last night and is still sick today so I have been obliged to denote a little more time to her.

The annual S. S. picnic came off today but none of us went. We could not.

Sunday, September 22, 1872

My darling little baby is still sick, so sick that I could not leave her at all and consequently left my class with out a teacher because I had expected to go my self.

Monday, September 23, 1872

Ma and Aunt Hamilton went to Cin. this morning on the Andes. Before they left Therza and Em Spry, Mrs. Helphenstein and Grace came in to make a morning call. Mary would not let Em go and so she stayed until late in the afternoon. Sallie Peebles and

Mrs. Lou Duckworth called but I did not see them. Baby is better but not well by any means. Alice Watkins was married this evening to Mr. L. York brother of Mollie York's husband. Our girls and Miss Switzer went up to the church to see the wedding.

Tuesday, September 24, 1872

Miss Lou Hamilton who is to sew for me the next two weeks came last evening and began my work today. I would like to help her but can not get time from my other work. Sallie Peebles was here this afternoon and took Mary, baby and me out to see Ella Overturf and her baby.

Wednesday, September 25, 1872

I have worked all day on salt-rising bread for the fair. I would like to get one or more of the premiums offered if possible, if I can't I can swell the show of loans in that department any way.

I spent nearly all day on the four loaves of bread. They proved to be very good but rather too light if such could be the case. Ma was away, Mary and I stayed at home so there were only the two girls and boys to go to church.

Thursday, September 26, 1872

This morning baby and I went with Jimmie to take three of the loaves of bread out to the fair. There were not a very great many things there and knowing that I had some finer work at home than any I saw there, I came back and fixed up four boxes of articles to take out. Baby's christening robe, an embroidered night dress and chemise, pin cushion and set of pillow covers and sheet. I did not do all the work myself and could not have entered them all for myself but would have entered some of them for Ma. I stayed at home in the afternoon.

Friday, September 27, 1872

This is the last day of the fair and I have spent nearly all of it at the Fair ground. Jimmie took baby and me with my boxes out to the Fair this morning but A. D. Miller ruled the things all out because they were not entered yesterday. They laid on the table awhile and the ladies told me I would have had at least three premiums on them if they had been there earlier. I was very sorry about it but it could not be helped.

Just as we were starting out after dinner Ma and Aunt Hamilton returned from Cin. We spent the after noon at the fair and after tea Mr. Bierce and Mr. Gibson came and stayed all night. Aunt Hamilton had gone to Mr. Gaylord's so they occupied her room and Jimmie and his father took Mary's room and she slept with me.

Saturday, September 28, 1872

After breakfast Mr. Bierce went up to Ironton and Mr. Gibson went home to Jackson. We were all busy as usual all the forenoon. I had to go out to attend to some errands and only got back in time to get a hasty dinner for Pa Ricker so he could go home on the afternoon train.

Ma was to send for Aunt Hamilton this evening but Jimmie came home early with the sick headache and went to bed. When I came up stairs and found him I began to work with him and he was a little easier before I went to bed. Dell and Venitia Ramsey brought Carrie Swim's baby down here tonight for Ma to do what she could for the poor little thing. It had a chill today and it scarcely seems possible for it to live it is so small.

Sunday, September 29, 1872

I went to Sunday School this morning and left Jimmie in bed taking care of Maggie who was as frisky as a lamb. When I came back he was up and dressed and better prepared to take care of her while I went to church. Lizzie stayed at home and finished doing up the work.

Monday, September 30, 1872

Aunt Hamilton was to have come back here Saturday evening but Jimmie had sick headache and could not go after her so she came this forenoon.

After dinner she concluded she ought to make Sallie a visit and she went up there. Carrie's baby had another chill this morning and as the doctor did not think it would survive it Ma took it home after dinner. Mrs. Merrill was here quite a long time this afternoon while Ma was out with Aunt Hamilton.

Tuesday, October 1, 1872

Yesterday evening Jimmie told us that Mr. Kirk the new foreman at the shop arrived on the train and brought two daughters with him, so Jennie and I thought we would go to the hotel and see them. As soon after dinner as we could get ready we went and found them very pleasant girls of about fifteen and seventeen years old. They came from Pittsburgh where their home has been. They have just lost their mother who was very sick when Pa began his correspondences with Mr. Kirk. After the call Jimmie took baby and me to ride, it was quite cool and windy but still we enjoyed it. I had three errands to do in different parts of town and found it quite convenient to go in the buggy.

Jimmie and I received invitations to Sarah Chester's wedding this evening. The wedding takes place next Tuesday evening at their home in Cin.

Aunt Hamilton came back today to stay until she gets a chance of going home.

Carrie Swim's baby died this forenoon.

Wednesday, October 2, 1872

The river is so nearly dry now that boats do not make pretensions to running on time, the Andes did not come until night. Aunt Hamilton went to the Daniel Boone about the middle of the forenoon in hopes of getting up to Hanging Rock today but the boat did not get off until noon and it is doubtful whether she reached home before dark. I was up to the store and saw Mrs. Gaylord and Hattie H. Norton there. I believe I never met Mrs. Gaylord in a store before. I did not go to church this evening because baby

was fretful and as Ma was not able to go I did not think her able to take care of the baby. I wrote three letters, one to Ma Ricker, one to Laura DeMar and the other to Clara King.

Thursday, October 3, 1872

As I look at this date I remember that Will and Ella Bonsall have just been married on year today. With my other work I have done some errands necessary to be done for Miss Hamilton, she is at work on my velvet cloak which promises to look quite as well as a new one when retrimmed with new lace and gimp.

Friday, October 4, 1872

This evening's mail brought us the cards to Nettie McCullough's wedding which takes place at her home in Delaware next Wednesday evening at 9 o'clock. She marries Mr. Geo H. Thompson, a gentleman whom I have never seen. I have been busy as usual today and so have all the rest. I wonder at Ma's powers of endurance when she has been so feeble for so long. This after noon Jimmie brought the buggy up and took baby and me to ride. We went over the Scioto and up the canal about five miles and had a delightful drive. The latter part of the road was through dense woods or rather a kind of thicket where we saw chestnuts, walnuts, hickory nuts, wild grapes, ect in great abundances. The leaves are just beginning to change color and are beautiful. Instead of seeing Mary home today, Ma received word that she would be here next Wednesday with Mrs. Bierce, Everett, Edith and Clifford with a nurse I suppose. This is encouraging. There was an arrival of a boy weighing 10 lbs. at Lucy Rifenberick's this afternoon.

Saturday, October 5, 1872

Saturday night finds me one week behind with my writing and tired, too tired to write up as I should however I must do my best as I have no prospect of any better chance

next week. I was downstairs to help get breakfast and have been down forty times since, without exaggeration, I believe. Miss Hamilton finished my suit today and made me a red flannel skirt to wear as a balmoral. She has made a shirt waist and made over my velvet cloak besides since she came. I have had no chance to help her at all. The two Misses Kirk called today and I was the only one who could see them, I was sorry that Ma could not see them, I am very favorably impressed with their appearance.

Rebecca Stephenson was buried here today, she died very suddenly day before yesterday in Jackson, her home. They formerly lived here.

Sunday, October 6, 1872

Maggie is fourteen months old today within a day or two she has cut three new teeth and now has seven through. I was at Sabbath School and church this forenoon but did not go in the evening. I got tea ready and waited more than an hour for Pa and Jimmie and as they did not come we had to eat without them. Jimmie reported in time for church and had been to the hotel with Mr. Patton.

Monday, October 7, 1872

Our new "help" came this forenoon very much to our satisfaction. Barbara Bassler is her name and as she was very faithful to her last employer there is hope that she will be to us. This was Miss Hamilton's last day to work for me so I tried to make the most of it. We began on some chemises that I want for ordinary wear and she finished of the second one just before tea. I had worked on it some and also another one which I finished before I went to bed. It was late when I finally got off as I had to write regrets to Mrs. McCullouch and Mr. and Mrs. Chester who had sent us invitations to their daughter's weddings.

Paid Miss Hamilton \$9.00.

Monday, October 8, 1872

This is Pa's birthday.

The event of today was the marriage of William Pursell and Clara Morris, finally consummated after an engagement of ten or eleven years. They have been lovers ever since they were children together and now they are not very old. Will is very little older than I am and Clara two or three years younger. The ceremony was performed in Christ Church by Rev J. T. Franklin. Jimmie and I, John and Sallie had seats just in front of the organ where we could see all that was to be seen. The attendants came in and took their places as follows S. B. Jennings and Emma Johnson, C. S. Cadot and Dollie Pursell, Davy L. Jones and Miss Rachel Smith, the gentlemen all to the right and ladies to the left. The ladies wore white.

The bride wore blue silk with white illusion over dress and trimmings. After the marriage there was a reception at Mr. C. P. Tracy's to which we all went. I wore my wedding dress, the only time I've worn it since my own and Sallie's wedding. Jimmie and I gave them a very handsome little call bell and spoon holder combined.

Wednesday, October 9, 1872

Of course the boat was not up this morning, I did not expect it and so I had time to make all my preparations. Packed, got a new herd ready for baby and did all I wanted to do but it was eight when I was through and I was almost out of the notion of going. It makes me fairly sick to get ready. I had to move Jimmie's things to another room and let Mrs. Bierce have our room which occasioned a complete over turning of every thing in the room. One good result of it all was getting a great many things put away which we do not need for present use.

Thursday, October 10, 1872

The boat was here at break fast time this morning instead of yesterday morning as she should have been. Mrs. Bierce, Everett, Edith and Clifford with a nurse came with Mary this morning and I was all ready to go and having sent word to Laura to expect me, I went. I was sorry to leave just as Mrs. Bierce came but we were expecting her to spend two or three weeks and I intended to be home before she left. I've not seen her before for nearly three years. The boat was to leave at 10 o'clock so I had to hurry to be ready in time.

Jennie went with me and she was the only passenger on the boat whom I have ever seen before except one man who lives near us on Court Street. When we went to bed we were not far from Rome which was only twenty-five or thirty miles from home.

Friday, October 11, 1872

We did not reach the city until after dinner and then when I was ready Uncle Sam went with me up to Mr. De Mar's office to notify him of our arrival and see when we were to leave for Madeira. I had never met him, but we soon found him and introduced ourselves. He said we would leave at 5 o'clock so Uncle and I went to get baby some merino stocking and I wanted to see the Davidson Fountain which had been erected in the city since I was down. When we got through we went back to the boat and waited until time to go to the depot and then Uncle Sam went with and waited until Mr. De Mar came. Madeira is eighteen miles from Cin on the M and C. R. R. and we were an hour going out, by the time we reached the station it was moonlight and we still had quite a walk from the station to the house. I had to carry Maggie and entertain her all the way because she was so hungry and sleepy that she did not know how to wait any longer. We finally reached the house and were warmly received by Laura and Mr. Fuller who was there. George and Mr. De Mar went after the trunk and, a girl who promised to report next morning.

Saturday, October 12, 1872

Mr. De Mar went to the city on the early train as usual and I did not see him until night. Laura and I are alone all day and have an excellent opportunity to visit. Jennie and I divide our time between our fancy work and the baby. Laura's baby is very good and sits in her little high chair by the hour. Maggie, running here and there and every where requires a good deal of following, which even then, does not save her from many falls and bumps. Clemmie the girl, who is only sixteen, very pretty, pleasant, and quite efficient was on the ground quite early as per promise much to my relief. I did not want to stay if Laura had no help.

Sunday, October 13, 1872

This is Libbie Lloyd Field's anniversary, fifth I believe. I was one of her brides maids and now one of my brides maids is, in all probability spending this day at or near her home in Switzerland. Such are the great changes which are constantly taking place. This has been a long, weary home sick day. I always enjoy my Sabbaths more when I am at home and attend to my regular duties. I feel that this day has been mis spent and suppose that is the reason I feel so discontented and homesick. Lillie and Win came over this after noon and Jennie went home with them, Laura and I expecting to go tomorrow.

Monday, October 14, 1872

We intended going over to Mr. Fuller's this morning but it was so cold and windy and Laura's baby was so hoarse and sick with cold that we concluded to wait until tomorrow. Laura was busy, but out and in the room all day. It seems so strange that Laura and I should be visiting together with our babies. The last time we were together we were discussing engagements, rings, etc, that was three years ago or nearly that long.

Tuesday, October 15, 1872

I sent a third letter home today and as yet have received no answer. We had intended going over to Mr. Fuller's today but Mr. De Mar's sister sent word that she was coming up to see Laura so we had to defer our visit again. All the forenoon we looked for her in vain but while I was waiting, I was also working on my embroidery and have accomplished a good deal since I left home.

After dinner both Mrs. Edwards, the sister and Mrs. Lach De Mar came and made quite a little visit. They left before tea time and as they were starting we went out to see them off and Maggie seemed so anxious to take a ride in the buggy that Laura insisted upon her riding down to the gate and so she had a little ride which entirely satisfied her.

Wednesday, October 16, 1872

The weather has moderated and is quite pleasant. We are now very glad that we did not get started sooner on our visit to Plainville as the wind was too cold for the babies. We set out early in the morning, I going first in order to stop at the telegraph office and send a message home in hopes of hearing from them. Laura and her baby came in the buggy with frisky "Bet" soon after and we went on our way in high spirits. It was rather a tiresome business, each of us with a baby in our arms, driving a horse we had never driven before and although she was 27 years old, her owner said she was quite frisky and so she was. We reached Mr. Fuller's alive and well and had a very pleasant visit but rather a short one as we had to leave very soon after dinner. Jennie could not go home with us because there was no room so she promised to come next day. On our way back we called on Mrs. De Mar and young Mrs. De Mar. I did not get an answer to my telegram but received a letter from Jimmie to Miss Louis M Ricker.

Thursday, October 17, 1872

We opened our eyes on a rainy day and from the indication of the clouds it looked as though it would rain steadily for a week at least. Jennie had not arrived from Plainville and it did not seem probable that she could come but I was all ready to start home and Mr. De Mar had remained for the late train to help me with my baby and baggage. I thought I'd better go to Mr. Peebles and send Jennie word to meet me there but just as the express came for me, Jennie and Win came walking in looking like half drowned rats and as the train was nearly due she had no time to change and had to go just as she was. We reached the city a little after 10 o'clock and as the Andes had not come in, we went to Mr. Peebles' where we saw Mrs. Gaylord and had our dinner. Met a Miss Sturgeon, relative of the family. I had to go and get Jennie a pair of shoes before we could go to the boat. About 3 ½ o'clock we left Mrs. Peebles and went to the boat. I was very glad to get safely on board once more. There was no one whom we cared to talk with so we, or rather I, went to bed before 7 o'clock.

Friday, October 18, 1872

Mattie Peebles is one year old today. The boat did not get off until 9 ½ o'clock last evening and at the present stage of the river it kept us all day on the way. There were no ladies on board whom we knew so we depended on our baby and work for entertainment. I had forgotten that Mr. and Mrs. Jas Stephenson were on board but

she kept her room all day. It was a long day and the nearer home we became, the more impatient I was to get there. I am a brave body to go away from home, I'm not gone three days until I am homesick. We finally reached the wharf about 8 o'clock P.M. and there was a great rush to the boat and among them came Jimmie who was glad enough to see us though he did not know that we were coming. When we got home Maggie was as delighted as any of us and could show it quite as well.

Saturday, October 19, 1872

\$3.00 washing. My short trip has made me very glad to get home and I feel doubly prepared to appreciate my surroundings. After breakfast this morning I could scarcely get at any work for talking. Each one had some thing to tell and besides wanting to hear all they had to say, I had a great deal to say my self. I am finally settled once more, and moved from trunk to bureau and visa versa, as I always have to do when going any place. Oh I am so glad to get home and so is Maggie, she can manifest as much delight as any one. This afternoon Jimmie, Maggie and I went in the buggy to get a part of our rag carpet but it was not cut out of the loom so we had to come home without it. However we had a pleasant though very dusty ride. John, Enos and Ralph had gone down the road after nuts and we overtook John on the road home, sick so we took him into the buggy and brought him home.

Sunday, October 20, 1872

How glad I am to be at home on Sabbath again. I went to Sabbath School and church in the morning and to the Sabbath School prayer meeting before evening service and again to evening service. Today and tomorrow has been appointed as days of prayer for S. Schools and children all over the land.

Sunday, October 21, 1872

I made a general move this forenoon when I was cleaning my room and put the bed on the other side of the room so we could have more room around the fire. Jimmie pronounces it a decided improvement which amply repays me for my trouble. John is quite sick and as our home forces are rather crippled, Ma said I could do better services girl hunting than in any other way so after dinner I went. I went first to call on Laura Southard but she was not in and I probably will not see her as she returns home Wednesday. Grandma came home today so I went to see her and then proceeded on business to Mrs. Tewksbury's to try and find trace of a girl she could only direct me how to write to one whom I could probably get. As Ella Murray is going to move away to Jackson Furnace Wed I wanted to see and tell her good bye, so I stopped at Sallie Peebles' and made them a call. Went one or two more places to see about girls, to church to the S. S. Teachers Prayer meeting and then to the store to walk home with Jimmie.

Tuesday, October 22, 1872

John was so very sick last night that Ma and I were up until midnight or after and then I had to send Jimmie after the doctor again. After that I had to go to bed with Maggie she was so restless, Mary was called up to take my place. He is better this morning and we hope he will continue to improve.

Wednesday, October 23, 1872

I was up to see Julia this after noon, the first time in a long while I am sorry to say. My time seems to be about as fully occupied as it can be now, when I get to housekeeping I suppose I'll never find time to go anywhere. I did not go to church as I had intended doing. Maggie was fretful and Ma had her hands full enough without her.

Thursday, October 24, 1872

This evening at the supper table Jimmie told Enos if he wanted the job of keeping coal and kindling in our room he would give him 15cents a week for it.

I was over to see the house today and like it very well but the closet in my room which is much too small to contain the quantity of things which I shall want to put into it.

Friday, October 25, 1872

This forenoon I devoted to the closet business. I did not like the closet in my room and Jimmie said I could have it changed but he did not like to bother about it so I went and hunted up Mr. Shellig and got him to order it changed to my fancy. I went down to Mr. Towell's afterwards and got a dozen towels. Mary Buzer Reinhardt came down in the after noon, the first time she has been here since she left us I believe. I spent nearly all the afternoon doing errands for Ma and Mary and they worked for me in my absence. John is much better. Maggie is getting her teeth and learning to talk very fast. She can say a good many words. She has learned to bend the joints of her first fingers just as Enos does. It looks so funny to see her bend it at the fist joint at her will. I have been taking cold all day.

Saturday, October 26, 1872

Saturday night usually finds me several days behind with my writing and this is no exception to the general rule. Maggie has been unusually fretful today, her teeth seem to be coming through on an average of one a day and she has tooth ache all the time I guess. I have done nothing but take care of her and work and work on the pillow cover which I am chain stitching with red. Mary is working on the mate to it. Mrs. Hamilton brought our new rag carpet, or half of it home today and I paid her \$4.00 for it \$2.50 for the weaving and \$1.50 for coloring part of the filling. I was over to see the house after dinner and the men are lathing it very rapidly.

Sunday, October 27, 1872

I was at Sabbath School but did not go to church, Ma went and there was no one to stay with baby and she was not well. We both took a long nap while the others were gone. John did not go to church or S. S. either. I went in the evening and Jimmie stayed with Maggie.

Monday, October 28, 1872

I wrote three letters tonight, one to Ma Ricker one to Helen Ricker and one to Laura DeMar. I was all the forenoon mending one or two articles before sending them to be washed. In the afternoon Ma wanted me to go with Mary down street so that she might be excused from fulfilling a promise as she finished my mending and I went with Mary. We had a good time as we always do when we go out together.

Tuesday, October 29, 1872

I believe I put in a good day's work on my pillow cover except the time that the baby demanded my attention. The men began the plastering today, I wish they would hurry and get it done.

Wednesday, October 30, 1872

I went to church this evening, something I very rarely do now as I am always just about ready to put Maggie to bed when the bell rings. I have been working on my pillow covers today. Ma has given me her two large oleanders and I have been trying in vain to get some boxes for them. The Bostona did not get here until late today, it seems very good to have the large boats running once more, there is plenty of water now but too much fog. Venitia Ramsey went to Kansas today and I thought Carrie Swim would feel lonely so I took my baby and work and went out there to sit with her. Stopped to see Emma Newton and her mother on my way home.

Thursday, October 31, 1872

It was so pleasant this morning and baby seemed so opposed to my doing any thing that I washed and dressed her and my self to go out and before I had finished we were

surprised by a call from Lille Johnson and her cousin Miss Sheldon of Cleveland. They had come up from the city to see Mrs. Sherman Johnson and as she was not at home Jimmie insisted upon their coming in to see baby and they did so. After they left I went to see Clara Pursell but she was not in and then I went to see Maggie Jones a few minutes. After dinner Ma and I went to Mrs. Trotter's opening but I did not see a hat or bonnet there that I wanted. From there I went to pay the bills for Jimmie. It seemed quite as familiar to me as though it had only been two months instead of two years since I had done it before.

Friday, November 1, 1872

Mrs. Stroube, John Overturf's father and Miss Belle Kendall died within the last twelve hours. The first two were patients of Dr. McDonel and he has had the care of them for some time. It did not go out this afternoon as I had intended but did what I had intended to do before dinner, cleaned the silver which I expect to need for our anniversary supper. I tried the indexical silver soap with very good success. I had letters from Ma Ricker and Helen Ricker this evening regretting that they could not be here to the anniversary supper.

Saturday, November 2, 1872

It was foggy and cloudy this morning early but soon cleared off and was very bright until after 4 o'clock. Ma and I cut out and nearly made a calico dress for her before dinner, she finished it while I was gone to church in the afternoon. The hired girl has the chills and can not do much so one girl has the work to do. Mrs. Stroube was buried this afternoon from 6th street Methodist Church. None of us went as there was preparatory service in our church and we went there. After that I went as far as the store with Jimmie on my way to the hotel to see the Kirk girls and invite them to our church and Sabbath school as there is none of their own denomination in town. As I was going down front street I saw a flash of lightning which was followed by several others and just as I was leaving the hotel it began to rain. I hurried up to the store and waited there with Jimmie until the rain was about over and then we came home. Stopped on the way to see Clara Pursell and ask her to come down with Will to take tea with us Monday evening.

Sunday, November 3, 1872

This is the second anniversary of our marriage and has been a very pleasant one. It was also Communion day and I thought we had an unusually solemn and impressive service. There was a large congregation, both Dr. Pratt and Mr. Ketchum officiated, Dr. Pratt remarked that since our last communion three deaths had occurred among the members. I believe I've never missed a season since I united with the church about eight years ago. Ella Luther, sister of Hattie one of those referred to by Dr. Pratt united today, also two of Mary Peebles S. S. scholars. Eunice Edmonds and Mary Beatty and others by certificate.

Monday, November 4, 1872

As we could not celebrate our anniversary yesterday we undertook to have a meeting of our attendants this evening instead. Helen Ricker sent word she could not be here, Maggie Peebles is in Europe, Henry Tracy at Adams County Springs and Mr. Jennings was unavoidably detained by business so he could not come. John and Sallie Peebles had one or two reasons for not coming so our tea party consisted of Maggie and Davy Jones and Will and Clara Pursell. Clara has married into the ring, and will hence forth be considered one of the party. I began trying to wean Maggie today, did not nurse her until after she was asleep in the night. She had her last drop yesterday that she knows anything about.

Tuesday, November 5, 1872

Jimmie and I were to have gone after the remainders of our carpet today but it rained all day. I found enough other work to take up my time though. I put away my silver and then finished chainstitching the last pillow cover of the red pair. They are now ready to make up. This is the great election day when the contest is to be decided between Grant and Greeley. It has been remarkably quiet no one would imagine from the looks of the streets that any thing unusual was going on.

Wednesday, November 6, 1872

I was down street this morning in the mud doing a few errands and after I came home I brought out my comfort calico and cut out six, four large ones one for Maggie's bed and one for a girl's bed. They are very pretty, the calico is all so pretty. After dinner I seamed them all up with some help from Mary, she nearly made two large ones. Pa Ricker came down on the noon train but they had an accident on the way and did not reach here until about 3 PM. Maggie is fifteen months old today and is being weaned and has ten teeth, walks and tries to talk and weighs 21 ½ lbs.

The election is over and Grant is re-elected by an over whelming majority. It's wonderful, Greeley did not carry more than five small states. Grant carried Penn, the banner state of the union by 125,000 votes.

Thursday, November 7, 1872

The rain was over this morning and after the wind had swept over the roads for half a day, they were in very good condition so Mr. Little reported when he came up this forenoon. I was just putting the oleander which Ma gave me into small kegs so I could keep them in the cellar when he came and offered to finish for me and I gladly accepted his offer. After dinner Jimmie and I went down to Mrs. Hamilton's and got the last of our carpet. There was only 47 yards in it all together, I wanted fifty but think I have enough. We had a delightful ride and stopped by the way and got some persimmons, the first I've had for a long time. It was about our last ride behind Charley as Pa Ricker intended taking him home Saturday.

Friday, November 8, 1872

This is John and Sallie Peebles second anniversary and Milton's fourteenth birthday. It has been a beautiful day but I have not been out. I began to line and alter my waterproof cape yesterday and continued to work at it today when I had a chance. Mary was ironing all day, Jennie is not well, Lizzie is in school and ma is about sick and the girl Barbara has had the chills and neuralgia ever since she came so our available force is rather weak. I got dinner and then worked on my cloak the rest of the after noon.

Saturday, November 9, 1872

Emma Voorhies was up to see us and brought her baby. It is the first time she has been here since she went to housekeeping.

I have been trying to sew a little but do not accomplished much.

Sunday, November 10, 1872

I attended four services today S. S. and church in the fore noon, children's meeting in the after noon and church in the evening.

Monday, November 11, 1872

This morning I went to take my comforts out to Mrs. Scott to quilt and when I came back, found Ma digging up her tulip bed so I discharged her and did the work myself. I took up all the bulbs and then after preparing the bed replaced them and now they are all ready for spring. After dinner I under took to paint my fire place and fender and the paint held out so well that I had to paint every fire place up stairs before I could use it all up.

Tuesday, November 12, 1872

I finished my water proof today which is the most remarkable thing I know of. Mary had baby out visiting and it gave me a good opportunity to sew a little.

Wednesday, November 13, 1872

I did not begin any work today because I knew it would not be worth while as I was going to the reception and would have to get ready early. The reception in question was the one given to Mr. Charlie H. Green and his bride Miss Fannie Allen of Brooklyn, by his uncle Mr. C. S. Green. I got ready early and intended going to church but it

rained very hard and as I could ride up to Mr. Green's and could not to church, I went though I did not like to at all. It was a very pleasant party and though we went early we did not get away until about midnight. The bride was elegantly but plainly dressed in a kind of dark pearl silk made vest front, but very plain other wise. No ruffles, curls, frizzes or any such ornaments. I think she will be very much liked here.

Thursday, November 14, 1872

This is the fifth anniversary of the wedding of A. B. and Emma Voorhies. Miss Molly Donnelly a friend of Emma's who has visited her, celebrated the day by getting married herself. My first business this morning was to go up to school with John to see his teacher about his examination. While I was out I thought I would go on down street and get the muslin for the sheets. Jimmie went with me to Mr. Towell's and we bought a bolt of bleached and two pairs of unbleached sheets, ten pairs in all. Em Spry was here a long time this forenoon. While she was here our new house girl, Celia, came. After tea Miss Switzer came but as she had a headache she excused herself and sat in my room by the fire instead of going down to the parlor. Therza and Emma Spry and Miss Turner called and spent a part of the evening. I finished a letter to Maggie and Mary Peebles. Mary had a letter from Miss Catin telling of her mother being run away with in a buggy and almost losing her life. It will be very hard with her at her age.

Friday, November 15, 1872

The first snow fall of the season began this morning and still continues at this hour about nine P. M. I have been to prayer meeting and I think it has done me good. It is seldom that I have an opportunity now and I have felt the need of the meeting very much. When we get in our own house and have early suppers, I hope to go oftener. I tore off the sheets this forenoon and Mary hemmed a dozen for me and I hemmed one myself. As she would persist in doing it for me, I went into the sewing room and got work from Miss Hamilton to do for Ma.

We have just had another serious fright with one of those abominations, a carbon oil lamp. Miss Switzer was moving it along the mantel and it fell and broke spilling about

a quart of the oil on the fire and in front of it. Pa and Ma were in bed and Jimmie at the store. Mary, Lizzie and John were the only members of the family there at the time.

Saturday, November 16, 1872

Mrs. Chris Young was here this evening to invite us to her 5th anniversary next Tuesday. Miss Switzer said she had intended inviting us to their Social given by the young nun of their church on that evening but thought it was not necessary to do it so soon. Before I put my room in order this morning, Mary and I finished hemming my sheets, ten pairs and I marked them all ready to put away.

Sunday, November 17, 1872

I went to Sabbath School and church this forenoon and church in the evening. I thought I'd have to stay at home in the evening but Mary had a cold and Ma thought she had better not go out as it was quite cold, so she stayed with baby and I went.

Monday, November 18, 1872

The weather is very cold and some snow which fell three days ago is still lying in spots where the sun does not shine on it.

After my usual Monday work was done I sat down and braided some on a flannel skirt of Maggie's which I began last June and have not worked on it any since.

Jimmie brought his large books up this evening so I could help him look for a mistake in his trial balance sheet. We worked at it until after eleven o'clock but did not find a single error as far as we went. Miss Switzer went to the reading club this evening and wanted Mary to go with her but at the last moment, she gave it up and Miss Switzer had to go without her.

Tuesday, November 19, 1872

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Young celebrated their wooden wedding, (five years) this evening and five of our family were invited, Pa, Ma, Mary, Jimmie and I. We were very anxious

that Ma should go and as usual, she got much worse and could not go herself nor could any of the rest of us go. Mary and I could not leave her and Jimmie wouldn't go without me so Pa was the only one of the family there. Four of the young fellows clubbed together and sent a crib out for a present. I do not know who is responsible for the idea but Davy Jones, Will Pursell, Henry Tracy and Jimmie bought it. The question now agitating the mind of the American people is, what will they do with it. They have no baby to put in it. I went down immediately after breakfast to take Jimmie's books to him. They were too heavy for him to carry and as breakfast was late and Enos did not get ready soon enough, I thought I had better take them in Maggie's buggy than have him late to school.

Wednesday, November 20, 1872

Those who are able, have all gone to church and, as usual, I am at home. I fully intended going this evening and when the evening came Ma was not well enough to be left and, as I have baby to attend to any way, I was the best one to stay at home. Mrs. Jno Waller was here late this evening to see Ma. She and Ma were comparing notes and telling experiences. It is wonderful how much a person can suffer and live.

The weather is and has been, very cold and the prospect for our house getting finished is rather discouraging. I am so very anxious to get moved that I scarcely think of any thing else. We heard today that Mrs. Jno Elden who moved from across the street to Wayne Fce, died last Sunday morning. It's very sad to go so far away from home and friends to die.

Maggie has been more troublesome than usual today, she chatters continually without saying any thing and is very impatient when we do not understand what she tries to say. I found a little stocking of Maggie's in the rag bag today which was lost early last summer. Mrs. Scott brought three of my comforts home this morning for which I paid her \$3.00.

Thursday, November 21, 1872

This is the first evening this week that there was nothing to call any of the girls away from home. Lucy Rifenberrick came early this morning to ask Jimmie, baby and me to

take dinner with them at 3 o'clock this afternoon. It is the sixth anniversary of the marriages of Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Rifenberrick and Mr. And Mrs. Jno W. Overturf. She had invited Mr. and Mrs. Draper, Will and Ella Bonsall and us to celebrate the day with them. Aunt Maria McCall came shortly after Lucy left and as Ma was much more comfortable and had good company, she said we could go as well as not so we went. Ella had her baby Jennie there but Ella Overturf had to leave Bertha at home because she was not well enough to bring out. Mrs. Draper had just taken Etta Vincent home to live with her today and as she had a great many things to see about for her, she could not leave her so Ed had to come to dinner with out her and she came in after wards with Etta. Maggie enjoyed her afternoon and part of an evening very much.

Friday, November 22, 1872

It was raining this morning and as I had a few errands to do for myself I offered to do all the others that were to be done and all together it made a long trip through the cold and damp.

I could do more good at that than any thing else so I very cheer fully did what I could.

Saturday, November 23, 1872

I was all the forenoon sweeping, dusting and house cleaning generally. I prefaced my days work by an errand for Ma out to the sewing woman's seeing about the boys' clothes. After dinner I dressed Maggie and took her up t Sallie's to see how she and Mattie were. They were both sick but Mattie is better, poor baby, she has the ear ache in both ears, and she has had it before.

Sallie is just worn out nursing her and has a severe cold besides. After a little visit there I left Maggie and went to see Mrs. Ketchum at Mr. McGinly's. There I took the baby to the store and got Jimmie to go with me up to Em Voorhies' hoping to find Ella Overturf

and Lucy Rifenberrick there with their babies, but Em was over to her mothers and the others had gone so we only saw Em and her baby.

We, as a family, including Miss Switzer resolved ourselves with a home reading club and intended to devote every Saturday evening to this kind of entertainment. A piece was read by each member and when we got thoroughly organized we expect to derive much pleasure and profit from the meetings.

Sunday, November 24, 1872

The weather has moderated so much that it is quite pleasant today, almost like Indian summer. I was at church and Sabbath School in the forenoon but did not go out again as I have a cold and my throat is a little sore.

Monday, November 25, 1872

If the sun could only have pierced through the clouds, this would have been a delightful day. It was quite warm and pleasant.

Aunt Maria was here this forenoon to say good bye as she left on the Bostona for home and before she left I took her over to see our house. The carpenter has finally gone to work to put up the stairs and there is a gleam of hope in my mind once more that the house will be done some day. I may be disappointed when the time comes or some thing may occur to mar my happiness but if Providence wills it that nothing of the kind shall take place, I shall be very happy when I do get moved and settled.

Tuesday, November 26, 1872

The most notable event of today in our city was the marriage of Miss Fannie Dugan to Mr. Jas Adams both of this city. The event has been looked forward to for some time. She seems too young for such a step as that and in fact he does too. I did not go even to the church. Jennie, Lizzie and Miss Switzer went to see the ceremony and their report was very satisfactory. The bride wore white watered silk and the three brides maids, wore soft white goods of some kind. Jas Dugan and Miss Butler of Conn were

first. Frank Connolley and Em Davis second and Mrs. Cartee and Lide Adams third attendants. Pa went out to the house but only stayed a few minutes.

I had a letter from Maggie Peebles this evening. They are in Vienna Austria or were when the letter was written.

Wednesday, November 27, 1872

Yesterday, the brides day, was a very wet, rainy disagreeable day but the clouds dispersed and the sun came out beautifully this morning. It took all the forenoon for me to get my room in order and baby and myself ready for dinner. Miss Fannie Switzer came down from Monroe Fce to spend a few days with her sister. I could not go to church this evening and wanted to write but my lamp is acting very badly, I have stopped twice to try and fix it but all my efforts are unavailing, it seems determined to die out.

Thursday, November 28, 1872

This is the day appointed by President Grant as the national Thanksgiving day. It is quite cold but bright and sunny. Ma was not able to go to church and I was not well enough really and besides had Maggie and the dinner to look after so I did not go. Jimmie came home with the expectation of going but did not get ready in time so he could not go. I did the principal part of the cooking for dinner but after the meal was over I resigned my situation and spent the rest of the day sewing or trying to sew. Maggie does not allow me to do any thing long at a time. Jimmie brought me a dozen new handkerchiefs today.

Friday, November 29, 1872

The weather has turned very, very cold and we can scarcely keep warm when we devote our selves entirely to that work. Miss Switzer and Lizzie went back to school today and Miss Fannie and Jimmie were out nearly all day. Mary was out part of the forenoon or was intending to go and did not I believe after all.

Two more of my comforts were brought home.

Saturday, November 30, 1872

This is one of the snapping cold snaps which I trust will not last long. I have such a severe cold that I'm not fit to go out of doors and I can not keep comfortable when I stay in. This was the evening for our club and we had but just begun when Prof Brown called and interrupted us for a few minutes but as he was only on business he did not remain long. Our programme for the evening was as follows

John- The Giant from the Young Folks

Enos- The Butterfly from the Young Folks

Lizzie- Voices of the Walls and Corners Matthew H. Brown

Mary- Singing Leaves and First Snow fall by J. Russell Lowell

Miss Switzer- The Bell, by Schiller

Ma, Angel visits by Rev. March

L. M. R. Haunch of Venison by Goldsmith and afterwards, Our village by Thomas Hood.

We heard tonight that Mr. Horace Greeley died last night in on insane asylum.

Sunday, December 1, 1872

Upon looking out this morning I saw the outside world coated with ice and the sleet still falling. It was a dreary prospect and precluded the idea of my taking my cold out to Sabbath School. I was sorry to miss, but under the circumstances, it could not be helped. I spent the whole day within doors. I have been hoarse for more than a week and am worse now rather than better.

The funeral of Mrs. Jno Elden was held today at Washington street Methodist church. It was thought doubtful whether any horses could be had to take the friends to the grave but enough were found to take four carriages and the hearse. The epizootic has attacked the horses generally in this locality.

Monday, December 2, 1872

Miss Fannie Switzer went back to Monroe Furnace this morning, she has been a very pleasant addition to our family since she has been here and we will miss her. The weather has moderated very much today and it seems almost spring-like. The wind was very high though nearly all day. Mrs. Tewksbury was here to see us this afternoon. Mrs. Stone, one of the S. teachers was buried and the schools had a half holiday to allow the teachers to attend. The Reading club was to have met here this evening but was postponed on account of several adverse circumstances but Miss Therza Spry had not received her notification of the change, so she came and brought her two friends Miss Turner and Miss Anna Smith. They were quite disappointed but remained and spent a part of the evening with one girls, seven of them ought to have had a very good time together.

Tuesday, December 3, 1872

Mary and Mattie Gaylord were to have visited the 1st Sabbath School district together this week but Mattie's mother would not allow her to go so I offered to go with Mary and as this was a bright day, though cold, we went. It took all the forenoon and after dinner we dressed again and made calls. Went to the hotel and called on Mrs. C. H. Green, Mrs. Newman, Mrs. Dennis, Mrs. L. P. N. Smith and then went to Mrs. Reed's, Maggie Jones and Sallie Peebles. I then went home but Mary made one or two more calls and went to Teachers' meeting at Mr. Miller's in the evening.

Wednesday, December 4, 1872

This was such a lovely afternoon that I took Maggie out. We went first to call on Mr. Tracy at his office, with Jimmie and then I started up to see Em Johnson. Met her and

some others on the street but she was just going home so we went with her. Soon after Kate Crichtin and Clare Waller came in. We did not make a very long call as the afternoon was nearly gone and it was getting cold. While we were out we met Julia and Anna Young. I had not heard of Anna's arrival and was very much surprised to see her. After I brought Maggie home, I went with Jennie to make a short call at Julia's.

Thursday, December 5, 1872

Mary went up to Mr. Gaylord's yesterday morning and did not come home until late this afternoon. She then went to see Anna and invite the folks to spend tomorrow with us. We are looking for Dr. Dunlap every day now but do not know what moment he may come. Are afraid to put the folks off until Saturday for fear he should happen to be here then.

Friday, December 6, 1872

Drs. McDowell and Dunlap called this morning and after quite a consultation the operation which we expected would be performed, was put off. Ma and I got to talking it over and decided that we had allowed a golden opportunity to pass and we had better send for him again. Julia and Anna Young and Aunt Mary were to have spent the day with us and came just at noon. After dinner the Drs. Came and just about that time Julia, Anna and I went to the foundry. Aunt Mary and Mary were with Ma and it was our object to keep the affair as secret as possible so I went with them to see a casting made. We knew there was no danger in the operation though it would be severe. We were up with her all night by turns. Aunt Mary is a most excellent nurse and I do not know what we should do without her at this time.

Saturday, December 7, 1872

Ma has suffered intensely all day. Aunt Mary has been here nearly all the time. Nothing we can give Ma relieves her in the least. I've scarcely seen Maggie all day as Ma can't bear to have me out of her sight. She did not sleep more than ten minutes all night long and has slept none today.

Sunday, December 8, 1872

I could not go out again today. Ma required my attention and there was no one to leave Maggie with so I had to take care of them. This is the second Sunday in succession that I have missed. Aunt Mary stayed all night and did not go home until nearly church time. We were agreeably surprised by Ma's sleeping very well last night.

Monday, December 9, 1872

I went down street this morning and got some things I needed for a new dress which I intend making for Maggie to wear to the fair tomorrow evening. I have a very handsome piece of embroidery which I bought some time ago but have never used. Frank Cunningham was here this afternoon, the first time she has been here in months.

The Reading Club met here in the evening and read the play, Hunchback, Mr. Elden taking the character of the Hunchback, Miss Switzer was Julia, Therza Spry, Helen Williams, Sir Thos Clifford, Mr. Ewing, Modus, Mr. Towell Lord Linsic and Stephen and Mr. Sherman Johnson some other characters.

Jimmie brought me a handsome black silk dress this evening which he had sent by Mr. Towell to get and when the mail came in, it brought me a letter from Pa Ricker containing a check for \$200.00. That dear good man is so overwhelming with his kindness that I do not know how to thank him for it all.

Tuesday, December 10, 1872

I have had my hands full today, I managed however to get Maggie's dress done all but the fastenings and Jennie and Ma together got her flannel skirt ready so by 8 o'clock we were ready to go. Ma is doing as well as she can. I am glad to say and hope the day is not far distant when she will be better than she has for years.

Mary, Jennie, Lizzie, Miss Switzer, Enos, Jimmie and I went to the fair and Pa was there for supper. There are several articles to be voted to persons, votes selling at different prices according to the article and among them a bonnet made by Emma Johnson to the "sweetest" baby. The voting on that will be very lively. Enos had Maggie's name

put on bulletin board and started her with five votes, but when we left the hall she was far behind all the others. I never saw Enos so excited about any thing as he is about this. Dr. Pratt and Mr. Ketchum were here this after noon.

Wednesday, December 11, 1872

Jimmie came up soon after breakfast and said the boat would go out on time so I made haste to get ready. Ma is doing as well as possible and baby is well and if we did not go today, we could not go for a long time.

I never have left Maggie before and do not like to now but know it will be far better for both of us. We found very few passengers venturing off on trips today, Mrs. J. P. Terry was going as far as Maysville and Anna Young was going home and there was one other lady passenger whom I did not know. The after noon was very long and I missed my baby very much.

Thursday, December 12, 1872

We reached the city soon after 9 o'clock this morning and had we been a little later the fog would have caught us and delayed us longer. The ice was very heavy and sharp. Just before we left the boat Chris Young brought me a telegram sent from Henry Tracy to Uncle Enos saying "the Ricker baby 245 and several townships not heard from." Referring to the contest going on at the Portsmouth fair voting for the sweetest baby. We went to Imers and Magill's first to meet Mr. C. S. Green and see about mantels. Then we went to the Crawford House to get a room. Spent the forenoon looking at mantels and carpets and after dinner Jimmie went to some drug houses and I went to attend to an errand for Mary and walked until I was tired. Did intend to go to the Bethel Fair in the evening but as we both had a headache, we concluded to get a good night's rest to fortify ourselves for tomorrow's work. I want to see my baby Maggie.

Friday, December 13, 1872

This morning I made myself ready to go out and then waited for Mrs. Brooks to call as her husband had told Jimmie that she would be up between 9 and 10 A. M. She came and I found her a very pleasant lady, she made quite a call and I was glad to accept her invitation to tea in the evening as affording an opportunity of improving our acquaintance. Jimmie and I went out and spent the day in selecting carpets and mantels and looking through stocks of stoves, ranges, furniture, gas fixtures and so forth. About 5:30 P. M. we went to Mr. Brooks', 139 Barr st. Enjoyed our selves very much while there.

About 8:30 we all four went up to the Bethel fair in the Exposition Hall. Met several whom we knew there, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Peebles, Mr. and Mrs. Chester and Sallie Evans, Anna MacNeale, Lillie Johnson was not at her table this evening. We returned to the Crawford House quite tired and glad to get a rest.

Saturday, December 14, 1872

Jimmie went out early to ascertain whether the Bostona would leave today, she did not go out last trip. If she was not going, we would take the cars. He soon came back to say the boat would leave on time so we went out to spend the forenoon looking around. We succeeded in seeing every thing we wanted to see and after I had bought an india rubber doll for my dear little Maggie at home, I was quite ready to go to the boat. Found Mr. and Mrs. Thos Lloyd and their niece on board, they have been out west and Mr. L. came very near dying while there. There was quite a large passenger trip up but no Portsmouth ladies besides Mrs. Lloyd and myself. The river is very full of ice and it is with great difficulty that the boat runs at all. I am growing very impatient to be at home.

Sunday, December 15, 1872

At break fast time we were more than thirty miles from home and making slow head way. I am sorry to be on the boat Sabbath but it seemed to be a case of necessity. This was our only chance to go and leaving Ma in the condition she is in, made our return absolutely necessary and travelling by cars always makes Jimmie sick so we could do no better. We reached home just in time to walk home with the

congregations from the churches. I was very much disappointed to find Ma still in bed. Baby has scarcely missed us but when she began to realize that we had been away she was delighted at our return and manifests her feeling by clinging most tenaciously to me. I missed_____

Monday, December 16, 1872

I think I have had the blues or some such thing today. I have felt so discouraged about Ma though she is doing very well. I'm all unstrung and not fit for any thing.

Pa and Ma Ricker surprised us by walking in at dinner time today. We had no idea of their intention of coming down. I did not get any thing done today but what little mending was necessary to the washing, I believe, not all of that. Miss Switzer went to the reading club at Mr. Murray's and Lizzie went to a club at Mr. Tewksbury's. This is a "clubby" winter I think there are at least a dozen if not more. I know of nearly that many myself.

Betty Dordy a girl we had a long time ago, came back today.

Tuesday, December 17, 1872

Ma Ricker went up to Mr. Tewksbury's this afternoon and when tea time came she did not, neither did Pa Ricker and as they have not been there for so long they will likely stay a day or two.

Wednesday, December 18, 1872

Mattie Peebles is 14 months old and is walking, just began this week, I've not seen her for some time but John told Jimmie.

Ma Ricker sent for her knitting this after noon, they are ice bound, since they went up to Mr. Tewksbury's it has rained sleeted and frozen until every thing is glazed with ice. Helen Ricker made us a short call this evening in spite of the weather. She came down

today on her way East and Jimmie heard she was at the river and went to see her. They went up to Mr. Tewksbury's and John Peebles' and then came here.

Thursday, December 19, 1872

The streets are still glazed and the rain still falls, Pa and Ma Ricker came back in the bus this evening after an absence of two days and nights. Ma seems to be improving a little but it is very slow, still we ought to be thankful for any improvement when she might be worse instead of better.

Friday, December 20, 1872

School closed for the holidays this after noon much to the children's delight. Betty the house girl went home for a visit and if she comes back we will be very fortunate for she is a valuable assistant about the house. Pa and Ma Ricker went home this morning, he expects to start for Missouri on Monday with two or three other gentlemen to look out a furnace site.

Saturday, December 21, 1872

This is the shortest day followed by the longest night in the year and it a fear fully cold one. I am glad of an opportunity to remain within doors but would be glad if it were not Ma's helpless condition which renders it necessary that I should do so. It was this morning instead of yesterday that Pa and Ma Ricker went home.

Sunday, December 22, 1872

I was not able to get off to either Sabbath school or morning service but in the evening went to church for the first time in four weeks. I have come to the conclusion very unwillingly that I must give up my class. I've been a member of S. S. ever since I can remember and I regret very much that I must leave it now but duty seems to say that I must take care of my mother and baby as there is no one else to do it.

Monday, December 23, 1872

I managed to get my mending done today and that was about all.

Ma has been feeling quite badly and needed a good deal of attention. The club, of which Jennie and Lizzie are members, met here in the evening and they seemed to have a very gay time during which I had to stay with Ma. I thought for a while it would be necessary to sit up all night but she became more comfortable about eleven o'clock and when Jennie was ready to go to bed with her, I left her in her care.

After dinner today I went up to Mr. C. S. Green's to look at a set of furniture which he offered to let Jimmie have cheap, it looks very well for cheap furniture but after looking at my own bed room set it looks very common but perhaps it is the best we can do for the price. I went down street before coming home and got two or three bottles of perfume and some collars of the boys.

Tuesday, December 24, 1872

I have been very busy all day trying to do as much work as possible and at odd minutes trying to get things in order for Christmas. Our S. School entertainment came off this evening but I could not attend, I could not leave my two babies, Ma and Maggie. Miss Switzer popping over while I finished making the bags, putting baby to sleep and doing sundry other things. Jimmie came home early and brought candy and oranges and he finally had to put Maggie to sleep for me. She seemed to share my excitement and her little eyes would not stay shut.

Wednesday, December 25, 1872

Today hardly seems like Christmas because there is no snow on the ground. It is very cold but dry and not unpleasant. Our Christmas table looks quite pretty this morning. We could not get a tree so I had Pa's library table taken with Ma's room because she could not leave her room and there prepared our Christmas gifts for exhibition. We did

not expect to have much of a Christmas because Ma has been sick so long but she is much better and when I gathered up all the little things and put them on the table it made quite a display. Miss Switzer contributed a present for each of the girls and boys. Jimmie gave me a handsome black silk a few days ago which was one of my presents. Pa gave me a beautiful wash stand set, a diary almanac illustrated and a silk book marker, he gave Jimmie a beautiful picture frame, Ma a wash stand set, the children and Miss S. each a book or two, jewel boxes, a box of combs for Jennie and Lizzie and one for me. Maggie had a little chair and bucket from the boys, pair of bracelets from Mary and red tin waiter for the table from her papa. There were a good many other things but I have no place to write about them.

Jimmie, baby and I and the boys were out to Uncle Drew Ricker's to dinner. The Tewksbury's John and Sallie and Mrs. Murfin were there also. Pa and Ma were asked but could not go of course, because Ma was not able.

Thursday, December 26, 1872

When we arose this morning we found the outside world wrapped in snow about two inches deep. The soft pure snow gives every thing a beautiful appearance while it remains untouched but the streets are soon marred by tracks and after the thaw commences nothing is much more disagreeable. I have been deprived of the use of one of my eyes all day and it has so interfered with the use of the other that I might almost as well have had both bound up. A stye the first one I ever had, is the cause. Jimmie brought one of his ledgers up today and I took the bandage off my eye after supper and managed to make out a few accounts for him.

Friday, December 27, 1872

I worked at Jimmie's book whenever I could today. My eye is a little better and as the sight is not affected I can do very well when the bandage is off. I wrote to Ma Ricker today, the first time this week. We had a letter from her in which she tells us that she has a new tin plate for Maggie.

Jennie made Maggie a present of a silver mug lined with gold, it is very handsome but the little puss does not appreciate the value of silver and takes more comfort with her wooden bucket and chair than she does with her silver and jewels. She is not

seventeen months old yet and has a silver mug, two silver spoons, a gold chain, bracelets, two rings and a pin all of which were given to her by her friends except one spoon which he Papa had made to match the one Maggie Peebles gave her.

Saturday, December 28, 1872

I spent the whole day writing for Jimmie at least, so much of it as I had to spare from other things. Ma is improving so much now that I begin to feel quite anxious to get to work on my carpets and house keeping goods. I ought not to omit some mention of the remarkable weather we have been having for some weeks past. The streets have been a sheet of ice for so long that people have become so accustomed to walking in the middle of the streets instead of on the side walks that it seems more natural to see them do so. I have been out very little during the past few weeks and have escaped a good many slips. The boats have been laid up some time. We have been having good sleighing for two or three days but I have had no ride. Never had a real good sleigh ride that I know of. Lizzie was out this afternoon, she is one of the fortunate ones who always has a share in every thing pleasant. Lucy Collins was here to play with Maggie this afternoon and they enjoyed themselves very much.

Sunday, December 29, 1872

Mary has been sick with a severe cold for two or three days past and this morning she remained at home and I went to Sabbath School, I had missed four Sabbaths in succession and Mr. Bell came to welcome me back the moment I was seated. I regret very much that I will be obliged to give up my class but now is the best time to do it as it is the beginning of a new year and the class needs reorganizing any way. Jimmie had to stay at home while I was gone to S. S. and as I did not have time before leaving to straighten up the room, he did it for me and when I came home the bed was spread up and the scattered clothing all put away. He is a jewel and I am learning to love and appreciate him more and more every day.

The snow suddenly left, that is, from the streets, while we were in church this morning.

Monday, December 30, 1872

The streets are coated with the remains of the fall of snow, a little ice and more water and a mist falling makes it about as disagreeable out of doors as it can be. After dinner Ma wanted me to go with Mary to get some handkerchiefs for the family so I went and attended to some of my own errands at the same time. I went to look at furniture and see after my girl.

Tuesday, December 31, 1872

The record of this day closes the book for this year and I feel that it has not been as well kept as it should have been. There are many things which I am sorry have been left out. Many times I have been obliged to defer writing for weeks and have forgotten things which I would gladly have remembered. Today I have to sew a little and take care of my baby who seems to require rather more than usual. She is troubled with her stomach teeth I think, she has all of her double and front teeth, a dozen in all. The best record I have to make for today is of Ma's improvement. She has seemed more like herself than for a long time and has hemmed eleven hand kerchiefs today by hand.

