[Diary written for Lona Elizabeth Voelker by her mother, November 15, 1896-April 8, 1897]. Vol. I 1896-1897

Voelker, Lillie, 1867-1908; Soule, Belle M. [s.l.]: [s.n.], 1896-1897

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LONA ELIZABETH VOELKER.
Born, to Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Voelker, Sunday noon, a 9 pound daughter.
Lona Elizabeth Voorster
Born Nov. 15th 1896 Sunday 12th P.M.
Dr. J. R. Allen — Physician
Mrs. Belle M. Stute — Nurse
Mrs. Voorster having asked me to start this diary for little Lona
I do so with much pleasure. The
Fifteenth of Nov. was a beautiful sun-
shiny day almost as warm as sum-
mer. It seemed to me that the good
old atmosphere nature adjusted with
after our little black-eyed, black-haired
maiden was welcomed into the
world. May her life be as bright-
ed sunny as was the day.
She is truly welcome. I
washed, dressed and tucked her
into her little nest in a cradle
at (One Thirty) P.M. — towards 80
ning his grandson Cutler called and boarded at the station for his first grand daughter. He was delighted. Happy grandfather! And as it is, the old renew their youth in their children's children. "Uncle Ted" called later Sunday evening.

Monday - 16th
But yo papa wrote her uncle Geo. Cutler in N.Y. City. Received telegram in answer containing congratulations from both uncles Geo. and Henry. Uncle Ted called in the afternoon. Later we came and came to the Defender. Both were delighted with the children. Mrs. Defender helped me with her - she tipped the scales at seven and one half pounds.

Tuesday - 17th
Lucy has been very good today.
had plenty of nourishment—Uncle Fred & Aunt Came called—They tell each time they come about how happy the Grandmo— is & how much she wishes to see the child—She has been unable to come. Ding ill at

Mrs. Defendorfs.

Wed. 18th

Mrs. Ray B. Miller with a beautiful bouquet of Euphorbiums— missed Retha (Auntie) came. Both seemed to think the little one a wonderfully constructed affair. They held her & wanted to know when she would "Take the fluid" first wondered what she "had no teeth."

Thursday 19th

Received letter from Uncle Fred containing check from Ten Dollars for baby. The Rathbone Sisters sent bouquet of carnations.

Friday 20th

Today her Uncle Brennan called & was
The same day. "He just yelled with wonderful delight."

Sat. 21 -

Mrs. Ide and Bertha came from Long to the kitchen. I tried to keep her quiet while I was busy with Miss X.

Sunday 22 -

Mrs. and Mrs. Tolrand today saw baby take her first. Uncle Henry, who arrived from N.Y. City, came with grandpapa. Aunt Ida. To see her. Her name. One thought came in a little gold ring. She is a "slinger" her papa didn't care of it. While I was away.

Tuesday 24 -

Yesterday was a very uneventful day. Rained. Rained. Ed fanned. Today has been clear. A package by express came from Lansing containing flowers from Mrs. Thompson. Hermie called.
Thursday - 26

Thanksgiving Day. Mrs. Telford brought taffy a box of gold pins and a little jewel case. Birth of little Fred and all the grandpas called. Report that Grandma Cutter is feeling better.

Friday - 27

Mr. Yorkever and T. wished the taffy. Eight and three pounds. Grandma called. Taffy was awake.

Saturday - 28

Mrs. Yorkever was delighted as was T. when I assisted her in getting from the bed to the couch. This P.M. Mrs. Rutney and Mrs. Mozartayr called. Taffy was awake.

Sunday - 29 - Monday - 30 - Tuesday - 1

Sunday I met for a ride on my bicycle. Mrs. Yorkever and T. wished the taffy. Nearly all the time I was gone Miss Dora cried with the colic. Mrs.
Today Ed Florence Cornell called Monday. Mrs Y. sat up and held little Linda. 
Miss Lewis called Tuesday. And Carrie D called just while I had Lona in the room calling her. In the P.M. I dressed her in her prettiest little duds. Mr Y. sent the bus down. 
Fred Cutler and I drove the taty to "Merills" where Mr Y. met us. He and taty had three settings for photographs. I sat with her once. Then we took her to Mr Defendorf's to see her grandmother. The clear woman was sitting up at the foot of pure delight, and motherly love that crept into her face as she took her first grandchild in her arms. Praising her beauty (for they are indeed a fair child) calling her by many endearing names: so quickly, so earnestly.
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generally was worthy of an artist's approach.

Told to Mrs. T. Mrs. Simpson's Ed. I went there to see her. Ed. it was a sight big to
be remembered. The in her helplessness
and the little helpless, innocent baby
made a definitely pretty picture. Lora
was good all day. Ed. reto will now
at night — Ethel Culler built some a
little remembrance Ed. Mr. Franklin called

Thursday 3 — Friday 4 — Sat. 5
Mrs. Fuller eats up and talks about
is feeling very good and is so happy
with the baby. This I took those forgo down
to Mrs. Simpson's for 'Grandma Culler' to see
— While there the T. bought in a pair of
shoes that had just come by express for
3 months — Mrs. Simpson's baby is 10
have a party and Lora is invited to
come and 'bring her mamma.' Of course
they cannot go -- today. Too sick.

feel so well and my three weeks
are up, so she is going to try and
get along without me. So I will so
have this evening.

Baths uncle and

includes staring for N.Y. this today.

(To end the first three months)

Laura Distance. (written by
Laura's nurse. Belle M. Soule-

Toria - Michigan

Sunday - Dec. 6-

Iomas Mama took up the
Diary this morning with a
funereal prayer that nothing
nenecessary may occur to
prevent my keeping up this
pleasant-duty for my little
daughter until she herself
can hold a pen. I have
always wished I had a Diary
myself and long before
bully came I had planned she
should have begun for her. This is the first day her Papa and I have cared for the dear little baby alone as Mrs. Coule as Mrs. Coule returned to her home last evening after spending three weeks with us. She leaves a warm place in all our hearts for her. I gave the baby a bath for the first time this morning and she seemed to enjoy it as much as ever.

The proud and happy feeling that came over me as I put her in her little co clean and fresh and fast asleep I can never tell.

Monday - 4 -

The baby did not sleep well during the night. Consequently she and I are not feeling as well today. This evening Miss Maud Underwood from Chicago called. She thought the baby very sweet and rushing me
to make not-of-it use the baby's diary that Sona might never forget that she had held her in her arms. Miss Hazel Cotton also held the baby for the first hour today.

Thursday Dec 8

Baby has not felt very well this morning. For the first time Sona and our Auntie and Uncle Schenker saw her. Auntie held our dear baby long and lovingly and with tears in her eyes I hoped our Sona might grow up to be a devoted, useful Christian girl and that her Papa and I might see many happy years with our little daugther. They drove eighteen miles in the cold winter weather to see the baby and Grandma Culter.

Christine Winterling called and said we ought to be the happiest parents with such a
sweet-plump baby, and with so many lovely things for the baby.

**Wednesday, Dec. 9**

Grandpa Cotton happened to be here this morning just as I was giving baby her bath. He laughed aloud and clapped his hands while Elizabeth almost smiled. She has as yet never cried while bathing. She seems to love the water. Mrs. Cotton (the Grandmaw) called this afternoon for the first time. Sonu was asleep but Grandma loved and kissed her just like a doll.

**Thursday, Dec. 10**

Dr. Barnes, M.E. Pastor called on Sonu and myself this morning. Found me giving the baby her bottle. He thought he knew she would make our most good Methodist. Aunt Carrie came and spent most of the forenoon and brought baby a
pair of little booties that she had knitted all herself.

Uncle Fred did not go east-last Saturday as he expected, and he took his last clothes before going with us today. The baby has been so quiet and quiet today while I am suffering terribly. Since the day that Grandma Cutter had her bunt removed she has been at Aunt-Cutters until this afternoon she was taken home.

Friday Dec. 11

The baby's first pictures were brought home by her Papa today. They were taken when she was just two weeks, and her days old with her Papa. Willie Rine saw the baby for the first time today. He exclaimed, "My what a flimsy little girl." He seemed fairly delighted.

I appeared on the scene again last Friday P.M. was in Simpson and Berd store selling dry goods (for a change) when a message came to me over the phone for me to come to Voelker at once. I came and found Mrs. V. quite ill, had had a very hard chill - how concluded that it is an attack of bilious fever. Fred Cletter came shortly after I came to say good by as he was to start for N.Y. City that night. Mrs. Gair, Mrs. Dr nell and Miss Whipple called but I did not let them see her her because of Mrs. V. fever. Grandpa Cletter and Aunt Carrie came this afternoon. Mrs. Deffendorf, Enna and I carried her in from the carriage. She and Mrs. Voelker were so delighted to see one another. Mrs. V. gave a photo of Sonja and her Papa to Dev Allen.
Sunday Mrs. V. was better. Grandpa Cutter called also Hugh and Ida. Sonja had quite a
sicky spell I thought I never was going to get her quiet - but
after she settled down she slept the balance of the night only
making once to be nursed. Today finds Mrs. V. better and
Sonja gorged.

**Tuesday Dec 15**

Mrs. Doule has again given the Diary over to her. Sonja
is a month old today and is a good girl for her Mama buy
as sick as she has been.

**Wednesday - 14**

Dr. Allen says I can sit up tomorrow for the first time
since Friday afternoon. Josie Kelsey called decreed very surpised
to find me in bed again. Stayed to see the baby how she both,
21 was the first time she had
seen any baby as young as Lorea put right into the litter and was very much pleased.

Mrs. Teumier, Mrs. Sue Cutler and Mrs. Phoebe Teumier called on the baby and myself. Phoebe gav the baby a very handsome mist-chair and ring and though the baby such a dead little thing.

Thursday Dec. 16

Dr. Allen seemed very pleased to find me sitting up this morning. I am very much delighted and myself. Mrs. Herb Bailey and Mr. Roy B. Miller and the baby called. ISSIE's baby is now three months old.

Friday Dec. 17

Mrs. Soule had a friend visit her from Grand Rapids and it left me alone today to test my strength. I took care of the baby and feel quite strong today. Baby has been very good too.
Miss Kate Eckhart was here to see baby and I. She seemed so pleased to hold our Sona and hoped I might return to enjoy her more. Wanted me to promise I would bring the baby and stay a long time when I could.

Saturday Dec. 18

This has been rather a quiet day. It is our wedding day. Henry gave me a set of put-locks as a little remembrance of the happy two years. Sona has been well all day. Mrs. Corneil and baby Helen came to call on the baby and myself. I am feeling quite a little better.

Sunday, Dec. 20

Grandpa called this morning and held Sona for a long time. He saw her smile for the first time today. He kissed her often and fondly too.

Mrs. Soul left this afternoon.
again to let me try my strength and care for myself if possible. I am feeling so much better than I did when she left before and hope I may gain strength daily.

Mondat Dec-21

S. Elizabeth was sick all last night and cried most of the day.

Tuesday - Dec-22

The baby is some better today. She is feeling sick because I took too strong a dose of medicine Sunday. Dr. Allen gave her some medicine last night to make her happy as he said.

Wednesday - Dec-23

This has been a quiet day, she kept down as much as possible. She is feeling much better. Her picture taken with the nurse came. She was just four weeks old when taken.

Thursday - Dec-24
The babies Uncle Noah and Aunt Ida sent the baby one dollar for her Xmas today.

Hazel and Soko Cotton gave the baby a glass cup for her Xmas. Roy Miller gave the baby a bath for the first time today. He enjoyed it very much. This is the baby's first Xmas ever. She feels much better than she has for a whole week before.

Her Papa bought her her first bath tub tonight.

Friday Dec 25
Christmas Day

Sonia Elizabeth woke up early this morning for her about seven o'clock. As happy as any little bird chirped and crowed and then went back to sleep.

I gave her her first bath in her new tub. She enjoyed it very much. Grandma
and Grandpa came down to see the baby as she could not be at home on account of my not being stronger. Her Uncle Fred sent her from N. Y. City a gold necklace for her Xmas. Her Uncle George gave her her first rubber doll (just for fun) be-mort. Her Uncle Herman sent her a candy cane. Emma Crittenden sent her a little rattle for her Xmas. Emma Johnson our girl lives our home so much and to show her love gave her a pair of white silk mittens. Grandma and Grandpa gave the baby a dollar for her Xmas. In the afternoon Aunt Carrie came down to see Louis and to show us her Xmas presents. In the evening Aunt Ida and Bertha called and so uncle our first Xmas with baby among us.

Saturday Dec 26
Sora has felt good today.
Has been much quieter since her Grandma called her up
day and suggested giving her something enjoyable once in a while
Sora Wrenchel called and was surprised at my being able to
welcome her at the door.
She thought the baby a very
sweet little girl.

Sunday Dec. 27

S. Elizabeth's Grandpa called
this morning to see the baby. He
has been here every Sunday, reg
since the baby came. He seems
so much delighted and taken up with the baby. Mr. & Mrs.
Franks Fuller called this afternoon
to see the baby. They thought her
so much sweeter and larger
than they had ever expected
to find her. Mr. Fuller reminded
me to make note of it in her
Diary that he had for the first
time seen her eat her dinner.
He thought it would be
quite a job on little Suzy when
she could once read her diary.
I promised her I would.

Monday Dec 28
Her Aunt Currie came here this
afternoon for a long time and
held the baby. The baby and I
made our first call this
afternoon on Mrs. Cotton. We only
stayed a few moments.

Tuesday Dec 29
The baby has been unusually
good today. Mrs. Morganthaler called
and says she loves our little Son
more then leaves she comes.
She pronounced her a very
pretty baby, to my great-surprise
and delight.

Wednesday Dec 30
Some has slept nearly all day
a sure sign that she feels better.
Mrs. Graff and Dr. Barnes were
here to see her.

Thursday Dec 31
Aunt Currie and Miss Defender
We were here this afternoon. Miss Defender engaged the boys and all its chums so much.

Friday Jan 1, 1897

This is New Year's morning. Some is sleeping so soundly this morning. He slept still all night after her hard day yesterday. We are getting ready this morning to spend our first day at Grandma's after several months' absence. It will be the first time she has ever been at her Grandma's house.

We spent our first New Year's day at Grandma's house. Some was very good all day. The day passed all together too rapidly. Grandma enjoyed it so much that she was in tears most of the time. The roads were very muddy and Sonja slept both going and coming. It was the first time her Uncle John Defender saw the baby and he pronounced...
her a very nice baby.

Saturday - Jan - 2 -

We received a very nice New Year's letter from Uncle Fred from N. Y. C. in which he especially remembered Louis as he always does. Also from Louis Aunt Bertha and Uncle Willie and Staff. Her Grandma Voelker made the baby a very nice white dress all herself and sent it for Louis New Year's present with an invitation to come and visit them as soon as Mama and baby could.

Sunday - Jan - 3 -

This is a very rainy Sunday. Uncle Henry wanted us to take the baby and come over to Grand's again the day but we could not do so again.

Elizabeth is seven weeks old today. She seems bright and happy today. We have started a little tack for Louis today into which we are going to try
and put her cents each day. The weather has been freezing and the roads so muddy that for the first time since Laura came her grandmother could not call on her today. She has been so good all day.

Monday Jan-4-
The weather has grown colder and we have had some snow. Snow has been quite good today. Phoebe Yemenus, Belle Yates, Mrs. Putney, and Florence Putney have been here to day to see the baby.

Tuesday Jan-5-
In some way little Laura took a terrible cold yesterday and her first one too. She has been quite sick all day. But she seems better again tonight.

Wednesday Jan-6-
The baby's cold is much better and it is a cold drizzling rainy day. Took my account and I walked over to Mrs. Black's and
back today.

Thursday - Jun - 7 -

Was in bed again today with what the Dr calls grip. But Susan is much better. Mrs. Cotton kindly came over and gave the baby her bath this morning and also got her ready for bed tonight. Miss Hattie and Mr. Miller called on baby and myself today.

Friday - Jun - 8 -

Susan's cold is much better today and I think she is going much better all the time. Mrs. Cotton and the children will be here this evening.

Friday - 9 -

Some more of feeling very good this morning. Aunt Cam and Mrs. Bull called this morning and also Mrs. Steele. This afternoon Mrs. Mig. Mr. Haight. Mr. Klenbrock. Mrs. Cotton called and also Mrs.
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Saturday - Jan-10

Allie Culley. I have been so poorly that Mrs. Soule came back tonight to undress the baby, she is also coming in the morning to give the baby her bath.

Saturday - Jan-10

Little Dora slept well all night after Mrs. Soule dressed her for the night. Her Grandma Culley had a very bad fall yesterday. She had a sort of fainting spell, fell and cut her cheeks just under her eye quite badly and also struck her arm hip.

The dear good soul seems to have no end to misfortune and yet seems so patient and cheerful. Mrs. Morgan thaler under neath Saturday afternoon call on Dora and myself. Mr. Fuller also called on Dora and myself. Mrs. Soule dressed Dora only for the night again on account of my weak condition.

Sunday - Jan-10
Baby Elizabeth has been especially good today. Slept on her Papa’s arm from half past ten this morning untill after two o’clock and then untill after four on her bed. Her Uncle George wrote me a very lovely letter yesterday from N.Y. City, in which he so kindly remembered the baby. Soon and he always does. Her Papa and I gave her her bath this morning. The first I have been able to ever help give for our whole week.

I walked to the barn this afternoon for the first time since I have been sick, and Papa V. weighed me. I was much surprised to find I weighed just over one hundred and thirteen pounds.

Baby is eight months old this month. Mrs. Bell and Mrs. Beul called on baby and myself this morning.

Monday Jan. 11—

An old soldier’s a friend of
Sonnis Papa heard that she had come and wanted to remember her in some little way so he sent her a pound of candy and an orange. Of course she meant it for her little daughter this time. Grandma Cutler feels some better but not much.

Mrs. F. Heinrich came to call on Soni and myself, and Aunt Carrie spent the afternoon and stayed to tea. She loved the dear little baby so much and so often. Said she could not live to see that baby any more. But she does not as yet know the love of a mother's heart.

Tuesday - June 12

This has been rather a quiet day, while I am feeling quite a little better. Little baby feels very poorly, caused from an infected ear and cold. Curcuru. Mildred married called this evening.
she did love our baby and said she should think she would love her almost to death. She loved her in her quiet way so much. Aunt Bertha and Christ of Christleton called to see the baby but forced her fast asleep.

Wednesday - Jan. 13 -

Little Nora has been so good all day and feels much better. I took my first ride since my last sickness with Papa just after dinner. It has made me feel like a new person. Papa, Aunt Jenny, and Sophia called this afternoon to see little Nora. Their first exclamation was that she is a little Voelker. Her Aunt Jenny said she would not be thought of as lovely. Her little cousin Janet loved her often and hard and begged to hold her just for a moment.

Thursday - Jan. 14 -

Our baby has been very good...
again today. She is getting over her cold very nicely. This little Aunt Carrie gave me a ride the first time since I came up again. We had a very lively time and dinner.

Aunt Cutter, Mrs. Dophman and Mrs. Maxwell were here this afternoon to see the baby. They all thought she is most remarkable fleshy baby. Little Katherine Burke almost a baby herself, enjoyed the baby so much this afternoon. They told me Grandma Cutter is not quite so well this afternoon.

Friday, Jan 15

Today our little Sonya is just two months old. She has been so good and slept so much that Aunt Ida, who has come to spend the day said, "She must sleep all day and will she?" Mrs. Just come this afternoon to see how she liked our baby, she said. She thought if we did not like her she could take her and love her as her own. She kissed her very tenderly. She also said she did not care to kiss babies generally but she did love
to kiss Dona as she looked so fresh and sweet. Mrs. Blaeks also came over and she thinks Dona is growing so fast and fleshy.

Saturday Jan. 16

This noon Papa came home with his mustache removed. He thinks he can kiss his little daughter oftener and with much more pleasure to himself and he. Dona has been a little noisy than yesterday.

Sunday Jan 17

Baby is now 12 weeks old today. This is our very inscusable day. We had planned to take little Dona over hour to see Grandpa and Grandmama but the day turned out so bad we had to stay at home quiet.

Monday Jan 18

Had a lovely letter from Uncle George in which he tells of his engagement to Miss Grace Hildebrant and of his coming home in July and also reads.
Tuesday Jan. 19th

Little Sara has been very good today, has not slept much, but been very quiet. Aunt Carrie came this afternoon and held her most of the time. I walked down to Aunt Carrie's tonight and surprised her for the first time.

Wednesday, Jan. 20th

Thursday Jan. 21st

Both rather quiet days for Sara and I as they were having a story outside. Friday Jan. 22nd

Grandpa Culler came down this afternoon for the purpose of seeing Sara. Said he could not wait another day and came right along. He seemed just delighted to see the dear little thing.

Mr. S. P. Brock was also in. She thought he was such a big baby for his age. Papa and I went to
the baby tonight. She weighed just fourteen pounds exactly.

Saturday - 23 -

And Carrie came down to spend the afternoon with dome and I. She did enjoy it so much and so did we. She loves the baby so much, even when she comes. Grandpa ran down again today to see the baby.

We are preparing to take the baby over to Grandpa's tomorrow.

Sunday - Jan 24 -

We were all prepared to go with Grandpa when he called for us this morning. He told us to keep little dome in very warm for it was a very cold day. We never dreamed if it being as cold as it was for it was below zero. But it took us a very short time and dome was as warm and comfortable when we reached our other house. She simply was delighted all day, she never cared to sleep, eat or play. She seemed so contented. I think she liked Grandma quite a little too. Poor Grandma could only sit up part of the time.
But she loved to watch her little
granddaughter as much as any
one could imagine.

Monday Jan 26

Little Lora used her nursery
chair the second time today.
She does not dread to ride it
nor doe she appear at all frighted.
Allie Culter called and held the
baby for some little while in her
arms.

Tuesday Jan 26

Grandma Voelker sent the
baby a pair of little black
clothes that she had knitted
herself. Grandma Voelker must
love the baby and think of her
more than we know. We know
nothing about it; to make her look
lovely things frominema to

Wednesday Jan 27

I have taken several sleigh
rides in the afternoon and
they seem to do Lora as
much good as they do me.

Uncle Frank Voelker came
and rocked the baby to sleep
tonight.
Thursday Jun 25

Some slept all the whole night without waking once. She slept until her Papa got up to breakfast this morning. Mrs. Montgomery came to look some while after. The baby she has grown most wonderfully since she saw her last.

Friday Jun 26

Baby Sona does not feel very well today. Aunt-Came our down this morning and brought Aunt-Broth to spend the day with baby and I. Mrs. C. W. Parsons called this morning to see baby and I. Mrs. Geo. & Sundrum called this afternoon to see baby and I. She thought the baby lonely and bright.

Saturday Jun 27

Last night she was the first time ever slept upstairs and she fell the first time she was ever up there. She seemed a little frightened but slept well. George Scott and cousin...
Charley Scurtes took dinner with us and gave some for the first time. They seemed to enjoy this very much. I dine the afternoon Uncle Henry took Sonza and I over to grandmother's to see her. She slept both going and coming. The second time, Sonza has been at grandmother's.

Saturday Jan. 30th

For the first time I have left little Elizabeth all the afternoon. She was very good all the time I was gone. I spent the afternoon at Mr. W. H. Clutter. George Scott kindly sent the only a pair of white satin booties for a gift. It was certainly very thoughtful and kind of him to do such a thing.

Sunday Jan. 31st 1897

We took dinner the first time since only Eunice, Little Sonza stayed at home in charge of our Emma. This afternoon we drove home and surprised grandmother, grandmother is to
have her head lowered again.
Baby does not feel very well, has
quite a bad cold.
(Monday was the first time)

**Monday Feb. 1**­

Some neighbors just fifteen pounds.
Mr. Frank Fuller and Miss West
called to see little Sonja and myself.

**Tuesday - Feb. 2**­

I took a drive nearly every afternoon
for the good of Sonja and myself.
Today the baby and I spent the
afternoon at Aunt Carrie's. Jessie
Miller had her baby there also.
The two babies seemed to enjoy
themselves so much together.

**Wednesday Feb. 3**­

B aby Sonja is terribly sick with
a cold and cough. I am doing
all I can for her.
Belle Yule and Laura Cooper
called to see Baby and myself.
Today I took my ride as usual.
Baby Sonja for the first time
that I have noticed his feet
and that she has his little
hands. She will look best.
at one and then at the office. She has also for the first time laughed aloud.

Thursday Feb 4 - Friday Feb 5 -

They were both rather stormy quiet days. Snow cold is very much better.

Saturday Feb 6 -

Grandpa called this morning to see and kiss little Sonds. Aunt Carrie came and took me out for a lovely drive. Little Sondra seems real good while I was out.

Sunday Feb 7 -

Sondra slept quite well last night. Her cold seems to be coming better. We are going to spend this day at Grandpa's. We have sent another very pleasant and clay at Grandma's. Aunt Carrie and Uncle John D. were there and it was pleasant all around. But Sondra took more cold however. She coughs quite a little today.

Monday Feb 8 -
Elizabeth has been quite sick all day but feels much better tonight. Mr. Ellis, Sign Nicholas, Mr. Putney, Mrs. Putney, Mrs. Reynolds, Andie Dolphin and Mrs. Hemwood were here this afternoon to call on the baby and myself. Mr. Ellis thought I had a very lovely baby and ought to feel very proud of her and she thought so too. She smiled for him. I think she takes more time than usual anyway. They all thought her such a fleshly healthy looking baby.

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Tuesday, Feb 9th

Grandma Cutter came to help the day with us for the first time. Since her husband has been revived and such a good time as we did here— She seemed so happy and simply delighted with the baby all day. It seemed so good to have her here.
Mrs. Cotton, Mrs. Medebrook, Mrs. Will Bursletar and little
F Lea came to call on us this afternoon. Uncle Noiel Lander
took dinner with us today for the first time since the baby
was born. He thought her a very nice good baby. Seemed very
much surprised at the way she handled her rattle. She has
satted it very nicely for a whole week.

Wednesday Feb 10

Aunt Carrie came to spend the day and we had a most
pleasant time. Uncle John and I came to take supper with
some aunts to laugh more tonight. Thursday Feb 11

Uncle Noiel Lander took
dinner with us again today and
also Uncle Frank. They both enjoyed
the baby so much.

Friday Feb 12

Rather a quiet day. Grandpa
called to see the baby a few
moments. Saturday -18-
Little Sona had a very hard night. Her cold seemed so serious. It will hang on. Aunt Currie called to see her this afternoon.

Little Sona had a valentine hung on the front-door last night. I think by Hazel and Sula Cotton.

**Sunday Feb 14th**

I kept Little Sona down by the stove all last night and cared for her very carefully and she is feeling much better this morning. Papa took town out for a long drive this morning and it makes me feel lots better.

**Monday Feb 15th**

Sona slept very well last night and feels much better this morning. Grandma called a moment and said she was coming tomorrow to spend the day with us.

**Tuesday Feb 16th**

Grandma came to spend the day and Aunt-Carrie came to spend the afternoon, Allie...
Culter came in a few moments. She said she could not get little ones by much or stopping to see the baby. We spent a few pleasant days together. Grandpa also came in a little while this evening and called our little one an angel many times.

Wednesday Feb 17.

The baby is getting much better every day. Aunt Carrie spent the forenoon with us. We had a good time as usual. She loved some of tea and coffee. Mrs. Max Chute called to see the baby. She thought her such a big baby.

It seems to me that her Papa loves her more and more every day of his life.

Thursday Feb 18.

Little Sona seems better today. Papa took me out for another lovely drive this morning. This afternoon I took the baby down to Grandpa as Grandpa is there.
We had a lovely thaw - Friday Feb. 19 -

It did not hurt the baby very bad to take her out yesterday. Harold is gradually getting better.

Dave Schlueter and his sister, Julia and Hannah came to spend the day. They saw the baby for the first time. Mrs. Dunham called and thought the baby so large and bright for her age.

Saturday Feb. 20 -

Aunt Carrie spent the day with us. It has been very pleasant. The baby seems to feel very much better today. Uncle Frank and little Eva Kleinburg called to see the baby this afternoon. As usual she fell asleep in her Uncle arms.

Sunday Feb. 21 -

For the first time since I have been sick, we went to our Church together and Grandpa was there and told me he had come down prepared to take us all home to spend the day.
We went to church and all and we had a most delightful time.

I went to church again tonight.

**Monday Feb 22**

Sonda seems to feel as well as ever. She did not take the least cold yesterday. Papa has been home with her all the afternoon. It being Washington's birthday he closed the shop this afternoon. Mrs. Morganthaler spent the afternoon with us and bought little Sonda another blue dress already made. It was certainly more than kind of her. She seems always delighted to see the baby and shows she loves her dearly.

**Wednesday Feb 24**

We were out looking for a carriage for our little Sonda this afternoon and while out Mrs. Floter and Mrs. Susiea Connell called.

**Thursday Feb 25**

Grandma came to spend the day and we had a good time.
as we always do. Grandpa came down in the morning and helped our give Lord a bath. He enjoyed it so much until she began to cry hard and then he had an excuse to leave immediately. He didn't tell her very fast he left her so. Aunt Carrie came down in the afternoon and everybody were all so happy together. Some cub came today. She cut-in it the first time this morning. She never laughed so long or hard as she did for Uncle Herman this afternoon as he drew her around in her cub. Mrs. Fadd called to see the baby. She seemed to enjoy the baby so much. She gave her a kiss before she went away.

Friday Feb. 26th

Some does not feel as well today as yesterday. Must have taken a little cold again. Mrs. Will Wright called to see some this afternoon. She thinks some is as big as her baby and her baby is one year old. I weighed
Saw this afternoon and found she weighed seventeen pounds.

Saturday Feb-27-

Aunt Carrie and Aunt Bertha were down to spend the day. We had a quiet good time. We were disturbed by callers and our little Sona was good and well.

Sunday Feb. 26-

Papa and Sona and I were alone all day. We did not go over to Grandpa. We all enjoyed the day together so much. In the evening I went to our church again and met and saw quite a number of my friends. Sona was more than good all the day.

March 1-

March does not cover us like a lamb but rather like a lion. Our baby seems so well since her last cold. Miss Chebe Gouze was in again this afternoon to see the baby. She thinks she is getting so cute and playful.

Tuesday March 2-
It is not a lovely day but I took Lona down to Aunt Margaret's house to spend the afternoon. The first time the baby was ever out in her own. 

Wednesday March 3 -

I took little Lona over house to spend the day. We played until eight o'clock at night. She did amuse her Grandparents and Uncles and Aunts so much.

Thursday March 4 -

Mrs. Pulney and Hattee Bates called this morning to see the baby. They were just delighted with her. 

We spent the afternoon with Mrs. Just Mr. Yeomans' sister. We had a most lovely visit. I enjoyed being with her so much. Her tastes and mine are so much alike. She loves the baby dearly. Mrs. Frank Miller called after our returned home. She kissed Lona's hands and face and loved her dearly.

Friday March 5 -

We played at home all day at least. Lona did. We were
going to Grandpa's but the weather was too stormy. It was rather a quiet day for Soma.

Saturday March 5

Little Ethel Fuller came down to spend the day with Soma but we are going out. Grandpa's they have sent for us. She thought the only so big and fat.

Sunday March 6

We spent the day at Grandpa's and Grandmas. Such a lovely time we had. It was the first time Soma has ever been away from home all night. Soma and I slept with Aunt Carrie in the fourth front bed room up stairs.

Monday March 7

Soma and I have not felt well today. I ate something yesterday that made all the trouble. Grandma surprised us this afternoon. We had Peace.

Tuesday March 8

Soma and I have been sick.
all the afternoon. We took medicine every half hour but we both feel better tonight. Mrs. Cotton very briefly came over and told me what to do and cared for the baby some little time.

Wednesday March 10

Sara is much better this morning and so am I. For the first time we called on Dr. Allen this afternoon. Both he and Mr. Allen were delighted with the baby. We were at Jessie Miller’s too. We stopped a few moments at May Stelburger’s and Mattie Rutledge. They were both made happy by the baby. This evening we called at Mrs. Cotton’s a few moments.

Thursday March 11

Elizabeth had a long ride in her car this morning. For the first time she met to meet her Papa for he was coming to his dinner. He was very much pleased to have his meet-
This afternoon I took her in my arms and carried on several sick ladies. She seemed to cheer the sick more than anything I could possibly have taken. This afternoon I left her and went out to lie at Mrs. Sueko in honor of Mrs. Susan Beatrice Horton. We had a most lovely time but soon grew a little sick but Emma bought her out all right.

Friday March 12th

It has been a very long day and Emma had to stay in town and be quite. Had it been nice we should have gone out calling. Aunt Carrie came down to spend the afternoon.

Saturday March 13th

There has not been much going on today that would be of much interest to Emma and I today as it has been stormy.

Saturday March 14th

I went to church with Emma.
it's money and we left Papa 
or alone with some. He cared 
for all her little wants as well 
as I could myself. She was very 
good all the time. Grandpa 
came in to see her for a few 
moments.

Monday March 15

I broke some up to Aunt Carrie 
and spend the day because Grandma 
was there. Papa came home to 
drive and we came home early 
in the afternoon. I take some 
out every day. It does not 
cut her to the least. After 
coming home I took her over to 
Mr. Cottone for a few moments.

Tuesday March 16

I took some in her carriage and 
we met her Papa that night. He 
seemed very much pleased. This 
afternoon I took her over to Mr. 
Mr. Mullens to spend the afternoon.

Wednesday March 17

Some came home with a 
very bad cold last night and I
Thursday March 18 -

Sona feels quite a little better but she has had a very hard cold this last week. We have been very quiet all day. Aunt Bertha called this afternoon a little while telling us that Grandma would be down to spend the day with Sona and I tomorrow.

Friday March 19 -

Sona is much better, she does not cough as much today. We had such lovely letters from both Uncle George and Fred today and they both sent pictures to little Sona and so does Aunt Grace to be. Grandma came down and so did Aunt Cora. Grandma is going to play all night. Papa never forgets to drop his little gift to little Sona in her back every day. How she will appreciate it when she gets older.

Saturday March 20 -
Sunday March 21 -

The baby feels much better. Papa has had a big day again with his little daughter. He has loved her almost to death. Uncle Henry and Grandma called to find out how Monica and Sara are feeling.

Monday March 22 -

Mrs. Soule called this afternoon to see Sara. She thought she had some wonderfully since she cracked and discolored her feet for the first time. Grandma Voellers sent the baby another pair of stockings that she made herself. Here is the second pair she has made and given her.

Tuesday March 23 -

The baby feels quite a little better again this morning and
and I think I shall both the in her lump. Mrs. Danforth and Mrs. John Dingley called this afternoon and they were surprised to find such a large flannel jack.

Wednesday March 24-

We looked for Grandmama down to send the clay out, but it was so closing she could not come. I took little Dona over to Mrs. Cotton a little while this evening. She was delighted to think I took her over again for the first time for a whole week. Thursday March 25-

A fire broke out in the evening this afternoon, and burned a part of the coal storage building and ruined the most of the other by it. We have telegraphed to the Upham's in New York and are looking for one of them to come over. Uncle Frank came in to spend the evening with us. He always rolls the tally to sleep.

Friday March 26-
Little Lona is much better and we are in hope to be able to take her over to Grandpa’s Sunday. Mrs. Vowmms and her sister called this afternoon. They were delighted with the baby. They thought she looked just like her father. Said to tell him they had had a good visit with him. For they thought she was her father’s own girl.

Saturday March 24

We have had word from the field and Uncle Fred is coming home today. We are all more than delighted. I took little Lona in her car down to see Aunt Carrie this afternoon. We had a good time and I think she looked no more cold. Uncle Fred came on the eight-fifty-five train tonight. I went down to meet him with Uncle Henry. He did not come up to see us tonight and dashed his train until morning. We are all so glad to have him back.

Sunday March 25

Uncle Fred came in this morning
Dear little Son — He says there is a great change in the little thing. He thinks she does not look much as she did; she has grown much prettier. He seems to think too much of her. He forehead and little her to often. We took Son over to Grandnurse. She seemed as delighted as seen to be there. Cousin Field, Allie and Lorz came in a few moments before we are such. Son was quite sick with cold and fever but — Mrs. Cotton came and helped me out:

Monday March 24

Son seemed down better today. Aunt — Cami came down this afternoon also Aunt — Cee — Mrs. Putney and Florence. Uncle Franklin came in to see and to stay all night. He knew his little niece as much as we. We think Son very Pap and we are quite sure too. She seems so pleased over it herself. She almost laughs when she
Monday March 30th.

Sona seems brighter. Though she coughs quite a little yet I took her in her cab to meet her Uncle Fred this morning. He pushed the baby cab and the first cab he ever pushed for Aunt Carrie came and took me out for a drive this afternoon and I enjoyed it so much and I am sure she did too.

Wednesday March 31st.

Our baby had a very hard night. Her cough kept her up all night.
We applied cold water on her eyes and hands and called Mama for the first time. She seemed better this morning. Hazel Cotton called and cautioned her to take some rest in her cab but I could not let her go because of her cold.
Mrs. Ferguson was in to see the baby. She thought her such a
good bully. (And the last time she called before her death.)

Grandpa ran in just a moment.

He never can get by the hour without crying out to see Sam and giving both good kisses. Uncle Fred comes in every day and loves the baby.

**Thursday April 1**

This is Grandma's birthday and it is such a lovely day too. How we hope and pray that the many headaches spared us many more such lovely birthdays as this has been. We children all together gave her a set of dishes and one knew she will be more than pleased. One baby had another hard night last night, but I think she is better today. She still calls her Papa by name we are almost sure. She cannot help but love him very dearly for he makes so much of her. He plays with her so much of the time when home. He wastes himself nearly sick.
over her cold. Now I hope when she grows old enough to appreciate all that has been for her she will show it by growing up to be a true and good mother. Miss Mary Wilson & Belle Sibley called the afternoon but did not happen to be in so they could not see the baby. Uncle Field & Hargrove hung it up to dry today. They enjoyed it as much as we did.

Friday April 2

Our baby feels quite a little better today. It is a lovely day & I let Hazel Cotton take three pots in her cub this afternoon. It is the first time anyone has ever heard her but except Hazel. Mama, Papa, Aunt Carroll came down and invited baby & I to go down to Otis. Morganthaler with her. We went & had a most lovely time.

Miss Bertha Freyman called to see the baby but I person I was not in.

Saturday April 3

Gwendolyn called a few moments.
This morning and a few days later, the dog at Carver, Mrs. McLean, told me she had to see the baby this afternoon. She thought but not a good help. She seemed to fall in love with her big black eyes most of all.

Sunday, April 4

We did not go over to Lovelace's today as it rained and only boy not fully recovered from illness.

This morning as I came from her, her bath I let her play with her new line little clothes. She even put one of her toes in her mouth.

It is very interesting to see her cute little antics from day to day.

Yesterday I put a lock of the first hair in her locked. She is now four months and three weeks old this month. We took her out in her car this afternoon and for the first time let her drink in the June air without covering her face.

Monday, April 4

Sonns cold is much better. Her
Grandma Ed SENDPA came down to see her a few moments this morning. Grandma took two cents from her pocket and put it into Lena's bank. She very seldom comes wishes bringing something for Lena's bank.

Grandma took Lena out as she

married all day.

Tuesday April 5--

Grandma came down to spend the day. It was a great day in the belly. Mrs. Henrich brought her two babies with to see Lena. She was just as good as she could be and enjoyed the children very much. Aunt Carrie came down in the afternoon too.

Wednesday April 6--

Little Lena has been so good all day. I have been able to do quite a little toward housework.

Tonight at the supper table ouréric tried to tell her care to her first me but she turned her head and just her anus.
around my neck. She begins to let me know that she loves Papa and Mamaw the best of all.

Thursday April 7

Some Papas went to Grand-Rapids today. Last night when I had the baby asleep in her car and put her parents in her car to shade them, she suddenly woke up and saw it for the first time. She began to talk and laugh. She seemed quite happy.

Friday April 8

Papa brought me fine Grand-Rapids art cut glass wine dishes and a china cupboard. The baby was so well and happy all day. She put out her little arms now when she wants to be held.

Continued in the next column.