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## [Diary written for Lona Elizabeth Voelker by her mother, July 22-October 27, 1899]. Vol. VIII 1899

Voelker, Lillie, 1867-1908

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VOL. VIII.  
1899.

Soua Elizabeth Voelker



-Saturday July 22 - 1899-

This has been a busy day for all of us and your two my own little girls. This noon we were surprised with company to stay over Sunday with us and you enjoyed it as only a little one like you could.

This whole forenoon you spent under a tree near the door with a number of little ones and this afternoon you were busy at home and away from home part of the time. Aunt-Ida came down and stayed until quite late and you and she had a very happy afternoon together.

- Sunday July 23 - 1899 -

Today we were even busier than last Sunday as we invited all of our folks and Uncle and Aunt Carrie and the babies down to take dinner with us.

We had a very good time together though it has been most-terribly warm and all suffered with the heat but you and Cousin Helen seemed almost unconcerned of it all because you were too happy together. Grandma seemed quite well and enjoyed seeing your babies having a good time.

- Monday July 24 -

Today has been rather  
much quieter but you  
and Mamma and Russell  
went across the way  
to see the little new  
baby there. We are not  
contented unless we  
see it about once a  
week any way. This  
evening we were all quite  
stirred up over a hard  
rain storm that came  
up very suddenly. You  
seemed very frightened  
for a short time;

You soon fell asleep  
and forgot all your  
troubles -

- Tuesday July 25 -

This morning we were surprised with a box of fish from the north where Uncle Harry and Aunt Bassie are on their wedding trip. You seemed almost afraid of the large white fish and trout as your Papa held them up.

This afternoon Grandpa and Grandma carried down for a few minutes and you sat on the pony's back for the first time in all your life that you were ever on a pony's back. You were happy as well as frightened.



- Wednesday July 26 -

Today you have been a very good little girl giving almost no care at all and this morning Mamma heard from Uncle Harry saying they will return tomorrow evening that will be very much fun for Louisa.

This evening we went up to Aunt Carrie and you seemed very happy over listening to the barrel playing and you always do when you can hear how our very tired little mind and Mamma hurried her little girl off to bed as soon as she possibly could.

- Thursday July 27 -

Today we have been  
back and forth from  
Ypsich and have done  
quite a little toward  
preparing for their home  
coming and you were just  
happy over it all then  
this evening you went  
with us to the train to  
meet them and helped  
celebrate at their home  
untill long after bed time.

When you reached home  
you were both a tired <sup>and</sup>  
kattered across little  
girl for you had had  
almost too much fun  
I think for so

- Friday July 28 -

I think the most - you  
and Mamma too - has done  
today has been running  
back and forth to Aunt  
Bessie and I think my  
little girl has enjoyed  
it much too. You seem  
to enjoy most - playing with  
their new kitchen things.

They seem so bright  
and just - the things for  
little girls like you.

Then you have enjoyed  
having Uncle and Aunt  
take their meals with  
us so much. Tomorrow  
at tea time they will  
be in their own house.

- Saturday July 29 -

Today I have been out  
more or less and this  
afternoon I took Aunt  
Ida down to her bath <sup>and</sup>  
they tell me you spent  
most of your time  
while Mamma was gone  
at Aunt-Bessie's. You  
are beginning to feel very  
much at-home over  
there and Mamma is  
glad that you love her  
so much. We are  
preparing to spend the  
day at Grandpa's townon  
with Aunt-Bessie <sup>and</sup>  
all the rest.

- Sunday July 30 -

Today was another  
very happy one for  
my little loud girl as  
she went to church this  
morning and then your  
Uncle Fred came down  
and took Mamma and  
little brother over to  
Grandpa's and your Aunt  
Bessie and Uncle Harry  
took you over with them.

You were the first of  
our family to take a  
ride with them in  
their new carriage in  
fact - you took the first  
ride in the carriage -

- Monday July 31 -

This has been a busy day for Mamma and it always is, but - my little Lona when you see Mamma busy you seem to rush around and find something to do too. This afternoon we simply sat in the hammock and rested for it was so very warm.

You seemed to enjoy it too almost as much as though you were older grown.

You and Mamma seem to take lots of comfort together already now.

Tuesday Aug 1 -

This forenoon you have  
been very busy for a  
little over like you for  
you have spent-part-  
of the time over in the  
next-yard with a little  
friend and then Aunt-  
Bessie was over on an  
around-and you went-  
back with her and  
took your first-meal  
with them this noon.  
You seemed very content  
there when Maria  
came to take you home.  
You took a good long  
nap and then felt much  
refreshed.

- Wednesday Aug 2 -

This morning you were playing outside very happily when your Uncle Gorman came to spend a little time with you then after he had been here a short time you wanted to go home with him and so Mamma was obliged to let you go.

You had a most lovely day and returned about seven o'clock fast asleep and tired out most completely. You slept sound and well.



Thursday Aug 3-

Well I am glad you have done quite well at entertaining your own self today. This forenoon you spent most of your time at Auntie's Reeds and this afternoon you took a long nap and then you spent a little time in the hauck with Mamma. This evening you and Mamma spent very pleasantly together riding. Uncle Fred told us we might take his horse and see what we were very happy together. You love to ride for a short time and soon tire so it thought.

- Friday Aug 4 -

This morning my little  
Maid you were outside by  
yourself the most of the  
time and this afternoon  
Mamma left you for a  
short time to go and take  
Aunt Ida to her bath then  
this evening you had a  
good time with Aunt-  
Ida and then you and  
Mamma went up town  
to hear the band play  
in the open air. You  
always do enjoy that  
so much and have  
missed but very few  
in your lifetime.

- Saturday Aug 5 -

Today Mamma has been quite busy all day and you have been a dear good little girl all day. This forenoon you were out with your little friend Hattie all day then after your nap this afternoon you had a good time with Mamma and little brother out in the hammock under the two cut-leaf maples.

You, Russell and Mamma have had some very pleasant afternoons out under the trees together this summer.

- Sunday - Aug 4 -

Today we have had a very pleasant and happy day together. This morning after we were dressed and ready Papa took Auntie's Hatcher pony and took us for a ride. We went to visit the cemetery, and then took dinner with Aunt Bessie and Uncle Harry. Then this afternoon we drove over to Grandmas and took her out for a drive. Then this evening Aunt Bessie and Uncle Harry came to luncheon with us.

- Monday - Aug 7 -

Today my little one has kept her self quite busy.

This forenoon playing outside and this afternoon Aunt-Bertie came down from Potoshey where she has been spending some few weeks. She brought you several things to remember the place and her visit-by. Your Papa also brought you another cart-for a toy which you enjoyed and had a good time with. You did have a good time and you also have so many play things.

- Tuesday Aug 8 -

Today you have had another big day. Early this morning after Mamma had you all dressed and ready we went down street to see Sella's horse and Adam's foreigner show parade. Then Papa took you and Marina to the Circus in the afternoon and we did enjoy seeing you remark about the different animals. You did love to feed the elephant peanuts. It pleased Mamma that you were not afraid of them.

-Wednesday Aug 7-

Today you have had a most-delightful time & know you just-as-do about-that-my little girl for you spent-the whole forenoon at your Aunt-Bessie and fell asleep on her parlor floor. Aunt-Bertie was there too <sup>and</sup> that-made you all the more happy. Then when you returned you found your little cousins Morris and Helen here and you did improve the time most-lovely together.

This evening you played hours for the first-time with your little neighbor boy Merl Cull. And you <sup>kept</sup> <sup>hours</sup> <sup>laughing</sup> long long for an

- Thursday Aug 10 -

This forenoon my little  
Sona was not with  
Mamma much of the time  
as she skipped over to  
Hattie's and there had a  
good play with the little  
ones over there then after  
your sleep this noon we  
did as usual spent the  
most of the time in  
the hammock. Papa brought  
a sick gentleman home  
to dinner and you soon  
was his friend and talk  
about him nearly all  
the afternoon. This evening  
you were nearly asleep  
when Papa came home  
but you were out again <sup>soon</sup>.



Friday Aug 11 -

This has been another  
day nearly as warm  
as it was yesterday <sup>and</sup>  
& fear my little ones  
suffered quite a little  
with the heat. This

morning you were at Hatter  
again and part of this  
afternoon too. Then your  
little cousins Helen and  
Morris were here and  
you had another good  
time with them. You  
always do harm and  
if you are together only  
a while you seem to  
make the very most  
of it. Tonight you are  
tired and warm.

- Saturday Aug 12 -

This forenoon Mamma had quite a little to do around the house so you very little once skipped over to your little friend Hattie and spent the very most of your forenoon and then this afternoon you went over to your Aunt Bessie with us and you as always you had a most lovely time there. Then this evening your Uncle Herman and Aunt Eda and Bertie came down and you were their delight and did your best to entertain them.

- Sunday Aug 13 -

This has been another  
most pleasant of days.

We spent a very happy  
forenoon here and at

Aunt Bessie's, and then

this afternoon we were  
out driving in Uncle

Henry's new carriage.

It was kind of Uncle  
to tell us to use it and

we enjoyed it immensely.

You played until you

were very tired in only

the very short-times

that we were there.

Sundays we look  
forward to because we  
have Papa to enjoy.

- Monday Aug 14 -

Today it has been rather cool. Much more so than it has been for some time back.

You were out all the morning playing in the yard. Then this afternoon Auntie Hulch took us for a little drive and then up street. You are delighted to think you could go and play with your little friend Doris and Mamma was so for she loves to have you go there. The little folks are well behaved and it will do you much good.

- Tuesday Aug 13 -

Today has been an almost-perfect-day for you my little girl for you were at Grandpa's this afternoon. Auntie Hatch has gone away for sort-of a vacation and she wanted Mamma to take her horse Allie wherever I choosed. You were delighted to have the ride and also to go over to Grandpa's.

We found them all quite well and glad to see us and you are always most-welcome there.

- Wednesday Aug 8 -

Today has been almost another perfect-day for you. This morning very early you went - over to Aunt-Bessie and stayed until after dinner and then this afternoon we took Aunt-Carrin, Helen and little Morris baby and called at-Mrs. Emily Tompkins out in the country. You found these chair swings there and you and Helen made the very most of it all. You dangled and swung as high as you could. I love to see my little new bump

- Thursday Aug 17 -

Today has been a remarkable happy day for you my little girl for Papa decided early this morning that we would go to the lake and we all went - including Uncle Hamner. Such a good time as you and we all did have. You did eat more than you have at home for months back. You enjoyed the water more than ever before -

Mamma loves to see you as happy as you were today. You cannot help being healthy my little maid.

Friday Aug 18 -

This forenoon you spent part of the time at Aunt Bessie's and then your little friend Ethel came down to see you and had such a happy time all of this day. This afternoon Mamma took Allie <sup>and</sup> me down over home and brought Aunt Ida and Bertha down to spend the day of forenoon and stay to tea. We all had a happy time together and then we took a most lovely moonlight drive together, my taking the Aunties over home after seven o'clock. You were very tired



Saturday Aug-19-

Your little friend Ethel stayed with you the most of this day. We had planned to take a ride together and we should have done so had not Ethel been called for to go home.

You did have so much fun playing outside together at your own house and our way this afternoon. Mamma loves

so much to have your little friend Ethel come.

You went to bed a very tired little girl and so did your Mamma and can tell you.

- Sunday Aug 20 -

This has been another very happy day for you, soon as your dear Papa took you early this morning down to the Fair grounds to see the adventists grounds where they hold their gospel meetings. You enjoyed seeing the little village of tents and most of all being with Papa out for a drive, always pleased you most. As you are growing older you are becoming more attached to your Papa and he to you.

- Monday Aug 21 -

This forenoon my little  
one has spent - mostly  
in the yard all at once  
you came in with  
wet feet, hands, and  
all your clothing damp.  
Mamma found that one  
of your little gentlemen  
friends had turned the  
water over you and you  
and he were playing in  
a little lake you had  
made. Mamma was  
obliged to punish you by  
undressing you and  
putting you to bed. This  
roke your heart completely  
as it was the first  
time you were ever punished  
in that way.

Tuesday Aug 22-

Today has been rather a cool day and yet the direct-rays of the sun were very warm indeed.

But-Mama took you and little brother out for a drive this afternoon just-the same with the old white Allin horse.

We stopped at Aunt-Carrins and you had a good visit with Helen for a little time. You did seem to enjoy it so much to. Then you took your little friend Hattie out-for a short-ride, it made her quite happy.

Wednesday Aug 23 -

Today Mamma has been very busy preparing a lunch to take to Grand Sedge tomorrow with you my little girl.

This forenoon you were very good and this helped Mamma very much too. Then this

afternoon Mamma took one of her little friends and two little babies out for a ride. We drove over to the old farmer's house to show one of the little children boys. She had never seen any before and she was quite delighted -

- Thursday Aug 24 -

Bright and early  
this morning you and  
Mamma started for the  
depot to take the train  
for Grand Sledge. You  
had never ridden on  
the train before that -  
you could remember  
and you were very much  
taken up with every-  
thing you saw and  
just a little frightened  
too as you started out.  
You enjoyed your steam  
ride and your boat-ride  
and lunch and all  
the little ones and  
also seemed glad to  
get home and have a  
restful ride with Albin.

- Friday Aug 25 -

Today my little girl  
seemed almost - more  
than anxious to visit  
with her little neighbor  
friends and you did  
most - all of the favor  
then this afternoon  
Mama took you and  
little brother and you  
had a most - lovely  
ride. You and brother  
always seem so happy  
and better natured  
when you are doing  
something of the kind.  
You were both very  
tired and sleepy -

Saturday Aug 28-

This famous Mamma  
had her hands just  
simply full to overflowing  
and she could scarcely  
find time to entertain  
her little ones but-

You were very good  
then this afternoon  
Mamma left you alone  
again with the girl  
You were very good  
in every way and  
Mamma felt very proud  
of you. And you were  
so glad to have Mamma  
get back to love and  
kiss just the same.



Sunday Aug 27 -

This has been a very  
pleasant-day and  
very different-  
from any you have  
ever spent-before. You  
and Mamma and brother  
and Papa, Aunt-Bessie  
and Mochi Hurry all  
went-over into a  
grove and took our  
lunch and spent-the  
whole day. We simply  
slept, read, and ate &  
had a most-delightful  
time I can tell you.

You then asked to  
go to Grandpa's and  
see did and had a  
good time there too.

Monday Aug 28-

Today has been a most-exceptional hot-day and you little ones had to stay inside most-of the time. But Mamma gave you both a ride in your buggy and you had a big turn, bare headed and all. You are a very tired little girl: too <sup>and</sup>. I feel very sorry for tired girls for they always get a little sick cross before they get through-

- Tuesday Aug 29 -

Today has been a very warm day and Mamma has been very careful that you little ones did not overheat yourselves. You both took an exceptional long nap and then this afternoon a Mamma and her little daughter called which made you very little girl very happy. Then this evening Mamma took you out for a long drive and Mamma and little brother went along too. We did enjoy it so much <sup>and</sup> you both slept so well it made Mamma happy.

- Wednesday Aug 30

My little Soda thinks she had a most-delightful time today and Mamma thinks you did too. You enjoyed playing in the yard with Mamma this afternoon and you saw your first fire this aft. too. A house near by wholly burned. When Mamma told you it had burned and everything inside you asked whether the ladies dolls did too. Then tonight Mamma took you and one of your little friends out for a ride and you were both very happy.

- Thursday Aug 31 -

Today has been a good day for your little girls to play outside and you made the most of it as the sun did not shine most of the time.

This noon one of your little boy friends came and took you by the hand and led you over to his house to dinner and then tonight one of your little girls came and wanted you to go with her to tea and you had a good time both times I can tell you. Mamma almost dreads to see you leave her so much so young.

Friday Sept-1-1899.

Today you have been here at home with Mamma much more than you were yesterday for Mamma was afraid you were growing and delighted to be away from home than at home and so she thought best to teach you to remain here immediately. You have been very good all of this day however.

This evening you had your grand frolic with the rest of the little folks around here - you were a very tired little one when bed time came.

- Saturday Sept - 9 -

This morning after you had your bath you went over to visit - with some of your little friends while Mamma did her morning's work and you seemed to have a good time and came home just in time for dinner. This afternoon Auntie Hatch took us out for a drive and then we were invited over to Aunt-Bessie's to supper and then we took you and little brother down town to see the lights and hear the band music. I just corrected you for leaving up postage stamps and you remarked that Papa liked you you know he did -

- Sunday Sept-3.-

This morning Grandpa came down and took you, little brother and Mamma over home to spend the day. We had a very warm drive but were glad we went as it did us good to see them all. It turned very cold this evening and we were not prepared for it either.

You had a most-happy time playing with Helen and Morris <sup>and</sup> with the chickens <sup>and</sup> every other living thing. You are so glad to be over there -



Monday Sept-4-

This forenoon you spent most of your time out in your sand box. You just did have a good time and then this afternoon Mamma and Papa had a good time with you for today was labor day and Papa was with us this afternoon. We spent the evening at Aunt Bessies and played quite a little of the time at minis pins and had such a lovely time with us untill about nine o'clock.

- Tuesday Sept 5 -

Your little curls were  
damp the most of the  
day for it has been  
warm and you have  
perspired most terribly.

It has made you look  
all the sweeter in Mamma's  
eyes. This afternoon

Helen and Morris  
came down a little  
while to play with  
you and you just  
had a big time as  
usual. This evening

friends you most  
terribly tired and  
Mamma is very  
sorry her little girl  
dreads going to bed so  
much.

Wednesday Sept 6 -

This forenoon Mamma  
was quite busy sweeping  
and you were nearly as  
busy as we were. You  
took your little broom  
and helped just as well  
as our could older than  
you. This afternoon you  
were delighted to think  
Aunt-Carrie and Helen  
were coming down to  
spend the afternoon. Helen  
did not come so you  
went over to Margerys  
and stayed some little  
time. You came home  
and found Papa had  
brought some peaches and  
you ate your first peach  
tonight. You thought it fine

- Thursday Sept 7 -

This morning it rained and seemed so damp that Mamma almost feared you would not spend much time outside, but it cleared off quite a little and you were outside more or less with Hattie this afternoon. You have had a most lovely time. This evening while saying your prayers you asked Mamma if I thought the Angels had your to Jesus and told him that you had said your prayers and been a good girl.

- Friday Sept. 8 -

You were delighted this morning to have Papa home with you it rained quite a little so Mamma got on a good chawl and had out rubbers and let you play out in the rain for the first time in all your life. Then this afternoon Mamma took you and Russell out for a ride in your cab to hear the De Plunkard band.

You were simply delighted with it all and had a most lovely time <sup>and</sup> came home very tired.

- Saturday Sept - 7 -

You had a very lovely day my little Soda. Early this morning before my little Soda was out of her bath tub, your little cousins Helen<sup>and</sup> Morris came to stay with you a little while. Then a little later your little friend Hattie came<sup>and</sup> spent the whole day with you and we all went up town together and did a little shopping then this evening Mamma bought you your first little boy dollie - You were delighted with it and took it to bed with you.

Sunday Sept - 10 -

It has not been such a pleasant day as I once and Mamma love to have come to us on the day we have Papa all to our very own selves.

This forenoon Papa has been busy taking care of the sick and this afternoon you, Russell, Papa and Mamma took a walk to the prison and on our way back it began to rain a little. So Papa put you both into the cab and ran as fast as he could and reached home in time so you did not get wet. You had a happy day and Mamma was glad.

- Monday Sept 11 -

Today Mamma has been exceptionally busy as we are looking for Uncle Fay and Aunt Genie to come to us and stay over whole week. We are hoping to have a most-delightful time together.

You and Mamma were in at Aunt Bessie's today for a short-time and as we were there the bus drove by in a hurry and there we found our company to stay with us.

We reached home about-as soon as they did after leaving the carriage -

You were just-delighted to think they had come and made them all believe it too.



- Tuesday Sept-12 -

Mamma and Aunt Gena spent this forenoon together and we had a most-happy time visiting. Then this afternoon we took you little ones down street and you were very happy.

You were not well though.

We called at Aunt Carrie's but did not find her in so spent the most of the time on the street looking at all the lovely things I saw found to attract our attention. Then in return and put you little ones into your little beds to sleep untill morning time as soon as called.

- Wednesday Sept-13 -

This morning Mamma had a most-horrible fright-as she learned that-Grandpa had cut-a terrible gash in his leg. We drove over together with Aunt-Carrie and Helen and found that-things were in a very bad condition. Grandpa may always be a cripple but-this life has been saved any way. He had suffered terribly and lost-much blood.

When you came into the room to see him he broke completely down and shook from sleeping. He is a very weak man. But-our Grandpa is a dear good-soul. And our hopes the worst is over for you long

Thursday Sept-14-

You and Mamma drove  
over to visit Grandpa  
again this morning and  
we found him quite  
comfortable and feeling  
much better than we  
could have hoped he could.

He seemed so glad to  
see you my little Sona.  
You are always a great  
comfort to him. This evening  
you were as good as a  
cure for after you had  
your robe for the night-  
about you you began your  
little prayers for the week.  
You are happy over having  
Aunt-Lena with you

- Friday Sept-15 -

This forenoon Aunt-Sarah took my little Serris out for a visit to the Church. You did think it quite fine and Auntie said you were very good most of the time. You seem of late as though you were better than you have been for some time. I left you in care of Aunt-Sarah and attended a supper given in honor of the Albion College. It was very well attended and you were a good little girl while Maria was away. It made Maria quite happy to learn of your true position -

- Saturday Sept-16 -

Today it has become almost suddenly warmer and Mamma feels very sorry that her little girl has been dressed so very warm.

You have had a happy train today however as we drove over to the farm and saw Grandpa and Grandma. We were not there very long but we are always so glad of a little train to spend at home and always dread coming away. You will sleep well I know after your lovely drive in the open air as you did today.  
Your Mamma's own love -

- Sunday Sept. - 17 -

Today has been another great-day for you my little lady girl for early this morning Papa promised to take you over to see Grandpa and make him happy if possible and help him to forget his suffering for a little time if possible -

Then this afternoon he took you and little brother out for a ride in your little wagon together you were very happy over that - I can tell

you. Mamma went to church for the first time in a long while, and you were contented with Papa.

- Monday Sept-18 -

It has not been pleasant  
outside so you could not  
get-out-coming today. It has  
rained most of the day  
and has grown colder.  
But you and little brother  
have been very happy  
inside and Mamma has  
done what she could to  
make you happy. You  
were not very delighted  
when you learned that  
Aunt-Lena would return  
soon today. You have  
enjoyed their stay with  
us more than I can  
say. Tonight friends  
are quite tired as you  
have been inside all day

- Tuesday Sept 19 -

This morning early it looked very much as though my little Sona was not going to have so very much fun, so you helped the carpenter with the building of the porch to some extent. Then this afternoon you had a very good time for you were out in the yard until the time for your nap then you were ready again for fun so Emma took you up town and you heard the band play, for the first time you saw a false face and were so much frightened that you screamed.



- Wednesday Sept - 20 -

Today has been a big day  
for you my little maid  
for you have been outside  
enjoying the arranging of  
the street parade to be given  
for the Street Carnival. You  
were very happy about it  
for they went right by  
here then this afternoon  
you went up town with  
our Emma and you did  
enjoy it more than I can  
tell. You went in to Papa's  
store and told him that  
you loved him and of course  
that was a good way to  
work on Papa's feelings and  
he went out and bought  
you little red rubber balloon  
This pleased you more  
than Mamma can tell.

- Thursday Sept 21 -

You have been a very happy little girl all of this day again only you have been so busy with fun and play that you could not find the time to take your nap after dinner but finally as you told your Papa tonight, that you had to, you closed your eyes in sweet sleep. Then when you opened them Emma took you up to bed and you did have such a delightful time. You came in with your little fists full of candy and a happy child I can tell you.

- Friday Sept-22 -

This has been rather a rainy morning and my little lady low. Could not play outside as much as she usually does though she did some. You were very happy all day and especially when you heard that Aunt Bertha and Uncle Fred were to be here to tea. You were very bright and kept your little eyes open until the company broke up and Mamma was glad you proved to be such a lady all evening and Popa felt very proud of his little girl too I can tell you.

- Saturday Sept-28-

Early this morning my little girl went over to Hatter's Reeds and spent some little time. Then you came home and spent a little time with Mamma and then you went over to be entertained by one of your girl friends while Mamma went up to Aunt Carrie's to dinner. You and Russell were very glad to have Mamma get back.

I think you love Mamma a little better each day of your life and I think its the same with your Mamma too. You took a long ride this afternoon too.

-Sunday Sept. 24-

It has been anything but pleasant today but your my little son started out bright and early with your Papa over to the farm house. It was the first time that you ever were out in so hard a rain storm for so long a time.

You put on your rubber and rubber coat and had a good time.

Mamma sent a message by you over to Grandpa and Grandma. You told them too just what I said for they were so much pleased Papa said that he did not forget to tell Mamma all about it after reaching home.

- Monday Sept-25-

Today is much pleasanter  
The sun is shining bright-  
and you and little both  
and Mamma will all go  
over and spend the day  
with sick Grandpa. We  
all have longed so much  
to see him for the last-  
few days and now shall  
spend all the day with  
him. You had a happy  
time eating pears, grapes  
and apples, and then  
you helped Grandpa's  
dinner which always  
tastes so much better  
than any other to you.  
Aunt-Bertha took us  
home after a happy day  
together



CO  
14  
1907

Miss Lona Voelker,  
West Main St.,  
Ionia, Michigan

My Dear Lona:

I did not suppose that old Santa would get anything on the Christmas tree for me, so you see how surprised I was when I received your lovely gift. Sweetheart, I can not tell you how happy it made me - because I was sure that my little girl must love me. It made music in



my heart for love you know  
is so beautiful, and I think the  
love of little children is most  
beautiful of all for Jesus  
says that they are more like  
heaven than anything else in  
all this world. It is lovely  
to make music in the hearts  
of others, isn't it? When we do  
a sweet song is sure to come right  
into our own heart. So I am sure  
that my little girl had a  
Merry Christmas. May God bless  
you and keep you darling, and  
give you a happy, happy New  
Year. yours & loving friend,

Jennie B. Myers  
Ionia, December 26. 1907

W. H. B. URCH.  
IONIA,  
MICHIGAN.



Miss Lona Voelker

Topinabee

Michigan

A large, stylized signature or flourish consisting of several overlapping loops and lines, written in black ink.

242 LAFAYETTE ST.  
IONIA, MICH.

17 July 1901

Dear Little Sweetheart

Uncle Wreck Expected  
to have an opportunity to  
thank you for your <sup>and</sup>  
brother's beautiful photographs  
but we did not meet  
and now you are away  
off in the north country.

so I send my thanks  
and Good Bye through  
the mail. I suppose  
Kisses do not travel very  
well by mail nevertheless  
I send some to you.  
With love to you all  
Love & Wreck

- Tuesday Sept 26 -

This morning you and I started down street early to do some shopping for Aunt-Ida. She expects you to go to Chicago in search of his health and we are helping her get her trunk ready. You took a ride in your carriage and also helped Mamma get her packages home safely.

Then this afternoon Mamma took you down to Aunt-Carris to stay with Helen while we made a few calls. Aunt-Bessie and Mamma. You had a most-lonely time with your little cousins you said -

-Wednesday Sept-27-

You and little Russell and Mamma went over to the farm house to spend the day again today.

Russell was a good boy and you did much to entertain Grandpa and to make the time glide swiftly by for him. Then this afternoon Emma brought us home. Mamma put you and brother into your little beds early and you slept well until about a half an hour before Mamma returned. When I came in Emma had little brother in her arms and you were sitting a chair making for Mamma.

- Thursday Sept-28 -

You and I started quite early this morning for the farm house to see how Grandpa felt; and we tried to bring Aunt-Ida home with us but she would not come. Then this afternoon Aunt-Carina came down to see us for a little time. It did us lots of good for we had not seen her for some little time.

You are waiting for Papa to come home early tonight and put you into your little bed. He promised he would come and you are waiting

- Friday Sept. 29 -

This has been a very full day for you my little lady. After our morning's work you and Mamma started down town to do our shopping for winter. Mamma bought you a new red coat and bonnet. And many little things for the winter. You were made quite happy over it. I can tell you. You are getting to be quite a help to Emma at least so you think for you have dried the dishes for her quite often of late. Then you had a nice long ride this afternoon with Aunt Carrie and Aunt Bessie. You were very happy.

- Saturday Sept 30 -

You have had a most delightful time today my little one for early this morning while you were in your bath tub you were surprised by little Helen and Morris and also a little later by little Ethel Fuller who came to spend the day. You had a good time going up town today and this afternoon in took a trip up to the prison to go through that place. You enjoyed that so much and many of the prisoners cast a smile toward you while you were not looking. You seemed much interested for one of your age -



Sunday Oct-1-1899.

I know of another happy little girl tonight and she lives nearby. You were very happy all day and your merry little ring of laughter rang all through the house all of this day.

You had a lovely ride with Papa and Mamma this morning and this afternoon Papa sang while you played on the little piano of yours. How much fun you and Russell did think you had and Mamma sat by listening and enjoying it all of the time. Then this evening you begged of Papa to put you to bed and Mamma did not dare to help -

Monday Oct-2-1899-

After you were dressed and ready for the day this morning you asked to go to Aunt Bessie to spend the day. You did and had a most-lovely time. You talked with Papa after dinner over the phone and told him you would come home after you helped Aunt-Bessie wash seven and lots of dishes.

It is quite-fine to hear your dear little voice over the phone and Mamma loves to hear it most anywhere but it sounds very sweet over the wire.

Tonight you say you are writing a letter to Uncle George in New York.

Thursday Oct. - 8 -

This forenoon you spent helping Mamma do a little rumping out - in front on the walk. You seemed as interested as Mamma did and finally you found a little bird that had been hurt and was dead. How sorry you did feel as picked up the little thing and carefully sympathized with its condition. Mamma could not help but think how kind a little heart her little one did have to even look after the little dead birds. Then this afternoon Aunt-Bertie came down and took Mamma and Sora and little brother out for a long ride which made us happy.

Wednesday Oct-4-

This morning my little girl had a little girl friend come and play with her on the east porch. Little Dorris and Louisa had a good time there together for some time and then the little ones hurried away to the dinner table. Then this afternoon Auntie Hatch took us out for a drive and then Aunt Bernier took us out for a still longer drive. We had a very pleasant afternoon together in more ways than one. My little Louisa did not have a very restful night however as you had a high fever until after midnight.

Thursday Oct 5 - 1899

My little Louisa Elizabeth started out-bright-and-early this morning with Mamma to go to the farm house when we met Ethel Fuller who took you with you up town. You had a most- lovely time with her and after Mamma reached home she found you were out-again and then she went-out-with another Auntie to gather nuts for this winter. You and little brother spent-the day together without Mamma and in a very good way every day. Then this evening you were both tired and very ready for bed.

Friday Oct-6 - 1899

This forenoon you and a little friend living close by whose name is Cory, had a most-happy time playing together in our door yard and then this afternoon Emma and you and Russell and Mamma took another very nice ride over to the farm and Aunt Bertha had a good ride too. We were all very much refreshed through doing so and felt that our trip and afternoon could not have been better spent.

This evening you and little brother were glad to get to bed and asleep as soon as possible -

Saturday Oct-7-1899-

This has been another  
very happy day for you  
my little girl as your  
little friend Ethel came  
down to spend the day  
with you and you  
made the most of it <sup>and</sup>  
then this afternoon we all  
took another ride over to  
Grandpa and you little  
folks did much to cheer  
him for you always  
make him very happy  
whenever you are near.

We then drove home  
with two rather not-  
very good natured little  
folks and with a tired  
Mamma I can tell you.

Sunday Oct-8-1899-

Today you experienced  
some thing quite new for  
you my little maid. at-  
least since you can remember.

You went with Papa and  
I and Aunt-Carrie and the  
different-Aunties and Uncles  
to the Bailey house to dinner.

You seemed quite delighted  
over the different-things  
you saw and did. Then  
after dinner we took the  
Allin horse and drove over  
to the farm and around  
to the different favorite  
places. We had a very  
happy day together. You  
and Russell both took a  
good nap while we were  
out-riding too.



Monday Oct-9 -1899-

Little did we know this morning when we opened our eyes what this day had in store for us. Uncle Fred came in and said that he, Aunt-Carrie and Mamma would be obliged to start to Chicago with Aunt-Ida to seek her health. After Mamma put you into your little beds and kissed you many times and often I crept out, and left my little ones for almost a week. Mamma thought often of you my little Lona during the night and wondered what you were doing and whether you were missing me as I miss you.

Tuesday. Wed. Thursday. 10-11-12.

Tuesday Morning friends  
Mamma in Chicago and  
very far from my own  
little ones. You have often  
been thought-of by your  
Mamma so very far away.  
Three long days and the  
first that Mamma has ever  
left her little ones.

Mamma has been and is  
on a very anxious trip.  
The most-anxious I have  
ever known. We are looking  
for Aunt-Ida's health <sup>and</sup>  
are doing every thing we  
can to help her find it  
if possible. She has suffered  
much so far and we hope  
will be well again.

Friday Oct-13 - 1899

This morning finds Mamma at-home again with her little Louie and how glad I was to think the time had come when I could once more be with my little girl. When Mamma reached home she found her little Russell fast asleep in her cradle and found her little Louie at-Gandna's.

I was almost-disappointed at-not-finding her at-home but-when Mamma reached the farm you were so glad to see Mamma you loved me again and again. Would run and play and come back and kiss Mamma often and give

Saturday Oct. 14 - 1899 -

This has been a lovely happy day for you & my little girl for Mamma has been with you for the first-day for some time and then your little friend Ethel was here all day.

You have played until your little feet are all tired out and your little eyes look chin & weary.

We took a ride this afternoon and took little Ethel to her house on the hill. Her Mamma was very glad to see you and she asked you come and spend the day with them next Saturday -

Sunday Oct-13--1899

Today we had a very pleasant-day. You <sup>and</sup> Mamma started out-to Church together and we did enjoy it so much.

Then after coming home to our dinner, we took another long ride out-into the country and never got back home until six o'clock. You little folks were sleepy and very tired and we hurried you into your little beds. You helped Papa dinner, sing and talk during your dinner.

Monday Oct. 16 - 1899 -

Papa took this day  
for rather a vacation <sup>and</sup>  
we have seen rather a  
little more of him today  
than usual. He took  
you and I out for a long  
drive today. We were  
in search of nests and  
did not find one but you  
had the fun of picking  
up a few with Papa.  
It made you very happy  
and you seem very  
much delighted with  
the whole trip from  
A. to J. Mamma was  
much delighted to see  
you enjoy it so much.

Tuesday Oct. 17-

It rained quite a little  
after our drive yesterday  
so we could not drive  
out to the farm as we  
had planned so we took  
the drive out there today.

On our way out you  
became quite chilled and  
your sympathy went out  
for the Allie horse and  
you said to me "Mamma  
I should think Allie  
would almost freeze  
without any dress  
on." Mamma could not  
help feeling very much  
delighted for she knew  
her little horse had done  
some stunts for that would

Wednesday Oct-18-

It has been rather a  
chilly day and the little  
Sonia girl could not be  
outside as much as usual  
but your little friend Cony  
came over and took you  
over home with her a  
little before now and the  
next thing Mamma saw of  
her little Sonia you and your  
little friend were outside  
with long dresses and  
trains, You did look so  
cute and were having  
such a good time that  
Mamma almost felt young  
like you again. Nothing  
makes Mamma happier than  
when you are having a good time



Thursday Oct-19-

It has been rather a cold and rainy day and Mamma and her little ones have stayed right in. We have not been unhappy either for there is much here to keep the little ones happy.

You have been very good and happy too all of this day. Mamma was very proud of you this afternoon and with the way you entertained the ladies who called until Mamma could appear. You are a very good girl at all times.

Friday Oct-20-1899-

This has been a very long day and Mamma has enjoyed it very much too for it has been her birth-day and no one has thought of it but myself.

Mamma did tell you my love but you did not know what Mamma meant by it so you were none the wiser. We took Auntie Margaretha and brown over home today for a little time and that did please me very well.

This evening Papa happened to think about my birth day so I have not been entirely forgotten.

Saturday Oct-21-

This day has been a rare treat - to you for little Ethel came down to take you to her house to spend the day and you were simply very happy over it. You went and came home with great stories to tell about - the good time you had enjoyed there. You seemed so happy over your visit - and Ethel seemed as happy over it - as you did. You were just to get back and see Mamma & George & see tell you that

Sunday Oct-22 -

Well Louisa this has been another perfect-day for you my little girl. You went to church this morning with Mamma and stayed to Sunday school too. You seemed more contented than last-Sunday.

Then this afternoon you did enjoy a nap by the side of your Papa so much.

Then this evening Mamma spent the most of the time telling you stories and reading some too.

You and little Russell went to bed very tired little folks I can assure you. Mamma loves her babies more all the time.

Monday Oct-23-

Today has been almost-perfect for little folks like you outside. You have been simply happy like a little bird let-loose.

This forenoon you were over to little Cogy and you and she just had lots of fun. Such romps as you do have. Then this afternoon you were outside and helped Papa rake the yard. This evening after supper you complained of your little legs being tired and aching hard. Mamma soothed them thoroughly and put the little girl snug in bed.

Tuesday Oct-24

This has been another most-beautiful day and Auntie Hatch took us home this morning to see Grandpa and Grandma for a little while. You were very much disappointed at having to come back so soon for you had hoped to stay all day and when you reached home tonight you were very tired and this afternoon Papa came home again and you were helping him do this and that about-the place. You were very happy all this most-lovely day. Mamma loves to care for you when happy.

Wednesday Oct-25-

This forenoon Mamma was obliged to leave her little ones as she had an engagement with the dentist. You cried as Mamma left - however in the carry all but it did not last long and you were happy again soon.

Then this afternoon Aunt-Bertha came down and took you and brother and Mamma out for a long drive.

You were full of fear and kept Aunt-Bertha and Mamma simply stirred up all the time. But we enjoyed your fear.

Thursday Oct: 26

This has been a damp cold and rainy day and my little ones could not go out - any today so we made the best of our time inside. You are very good too. You my little one have come down today with a very hard cold and Mamma is very sorry for it. but she will do all she can to help you out of your trouble.

You were quite delighted tonight - to know you had a birthday soon and made Papa promise you two dolls <sup>each</sup>.



Friday Oct-27

It has been another very damp rainy and cold day for my little girl.

You could not go outside any today as you were already hoarse with a cold and Mamma feared for you and it was a disappointment to you.

But tonight you were made more than happy when Papa said at tea that he would not go back to his work any more tonight but would stay with his little Lucia. You had a most lovely evening together and fell asleep in Papa's arms.





