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[Diary written for Lona Elizabeth Voelker by her mother, August 18, 1897-January 2, 1898]. Vol. III 1897-1898

Voelker, Lillie, 1867-1908

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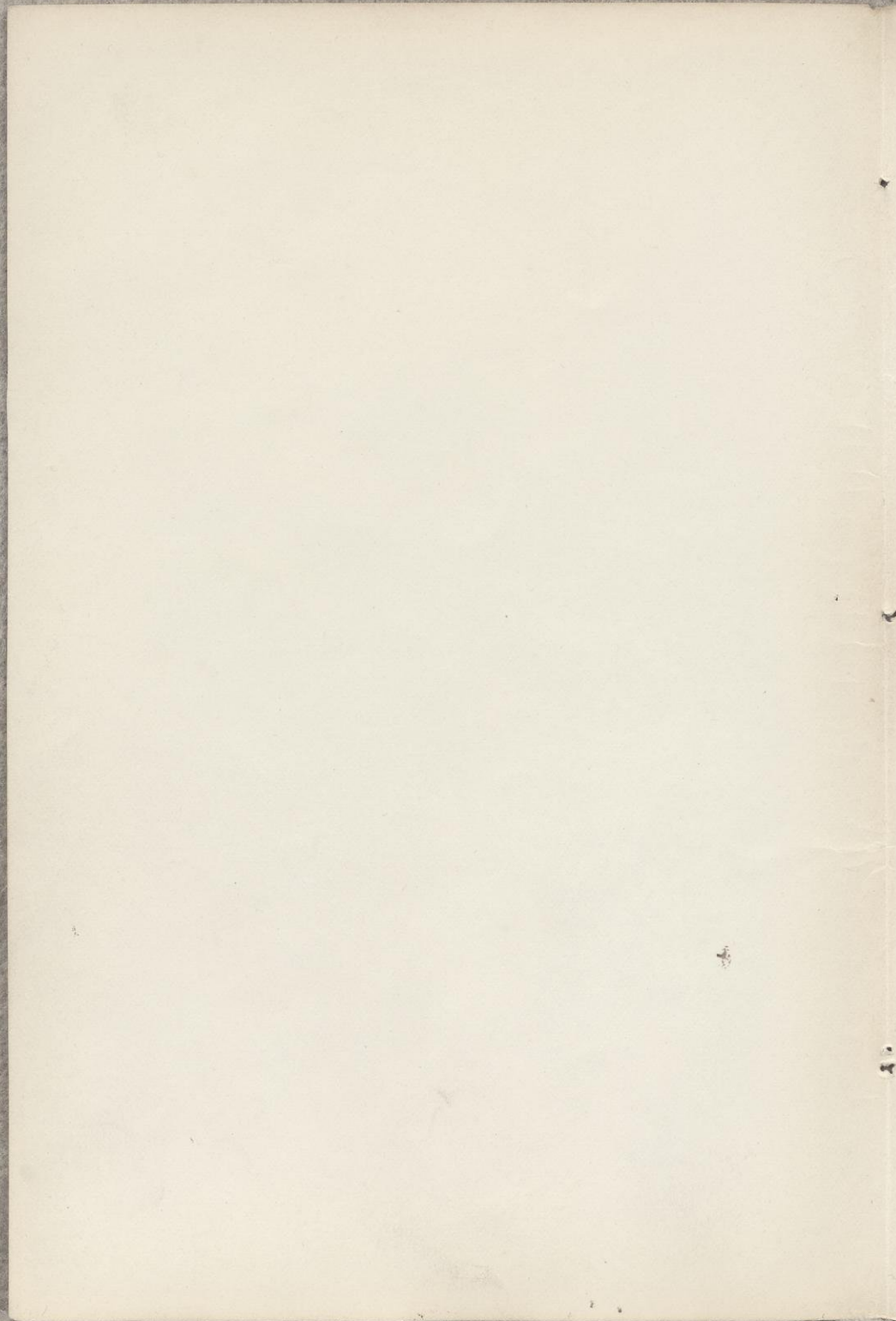
LONA ELIZABETH VOELKER.



Vol. III
1897.



LONA ELIZABETH VOELKER.



Wednesday Aug 18 -

Sona felt this morning that she was not at home I think for it was very cold outside. But after her bath Margaret & Helen took her out for a drive in her cab, then before noon Sona Bertha and I took her down to the City.

She seemed quite delighted with different things she saw. She did not sleep as well last night as she does at home. But all have been delighted with her so far.

Thursday Aug 19 -

After Sona had her bath this morning we took her over to Aunt Schupfeler's to spend the day. She was very much pleased to think we had remembered her to come there before we went away. Sona seemed happy all day there.

Friday Aug 20 -

Sona's Papa came down on our

the morning train to go home
with us this afternoon. Some
was so glad to see him that
I could do nothing with her to
please her in the least. She
wanted her Papa all the time,
after spending a few very
happy days with our dancing
friends we returned on the
afternoon train very tired ^{and glad}
to get home. Some's cold seems
better ^{and} she shows signs ^{and}
seems happier every day.

Saturday Aug. 21

Sona slept very well in her
own bed, much better than while
she was away. She seems bright
and happy this morning. Aunt
Bertha, Sona ^{and} I went down
to see Aunt Carrie ^{and} little Helen
this afternoon. We had a good
time being out together. We are
looking for Uncle Fred's home
coming tonight.

Sunday August - 22 -

Uncle Fred came home last-night and we all went over home together today. The two babies were together again today. They seemed to love each other very much. Uncle Fred says Sora has improved very much since he saw her last. He thinks she is so much more intelligent. He bought her a little red cap. Aunt Bertha & I took her to church this morning & we sat with Grandpa. She would have him hold her every minute. She was just as quiet as she could be. I think she disturbed none. She talked aloud some but not very much.

Monday Aug - 23 -

This morning while I was about my work Sora ate quite a little pink paper, but it did not seem to hurt her

in the least; But I was very
much frightened. This afternoon
her Uncle Fred was in and
played with her quite a little.
Tonight I put her on the floor
on a quilt and let her creep.

She began to creep backwards
the first time she ever did that.
She grows sweeter as the time
goes by. She throws kisses and
holds her little mouth to be kind.
So cute. She seems so affectionate.
She loves her Papa most of all.
She simply clings to him.

Tuesday - Aug. 24 -

This morning after Sonas bath
I tried to do a little painting.
She was very good all day
and I enjoyed the work very
much.

Every time Sonas Papa comes
to his meals he takes her

in his arms and he asks her
for the different-pictures on
the wall. As soon as he calls
them by name she puts out-
her little hand for them. She
has also learned to smell. She
always smells very hard when
any thing has a good odor. She
seems to learn something
every day she lives -

Wednesday Aug 25-

Aunt-Eda came down today
to spend the day. She has been
getting a few things ready to
go to College this fall. Louie
has been delighted to have her
here. She enjoys company so
much.

Thursday Aug. 26-

Aunt-Carrie brought little
Helen down today to see us.
Louie did enjoy her so much.

She loves to put-her hands
gently on her head or face.
I hope they may always
love each other so much all
their lives -

Friday Aug. 27

This forenoon I spent doing
some work for our Soud^{and} she
was just as good as she could
be. She became a little lonly
toward noon, but when I began
to call her Papa she brightened
right up and began to look ^{and}
watch for him. This afternoon
two little girls came in to
play with her. They had a
good time in the yard together.
She forgot to eat or sleep, just
seemed contented to play. She
is growing fast and is catching
up again what she failed
during her last cold.

Saturday Aug. 28 -

Uncle Henry came in today
and said Aunt Carrie was

going over home today and
wished I could come over too.
So I have been rushing around
trying to get ready. Soud
did enjoy her ride over there
so much. This noon her Papa
trid her in the seat of the
fig buggy and drew her around
in the yard. Her eyes just
sparkled. She was delighted
as usual when she reached
the farm. She loves to be there.
Aunt-Carrie and the two babies
and I all slept-together. I am
sure none of us had any too
much sleep-

Sunday Aug-29-

We all spent-the day at-Grandpa
Papa came over on his wheel.
The baby as usual, was over
joyed to see him. She kept
them all happy all day.
Soud enjoyed her drive home
very much too. She seems
a little afraid of the

crickets and frogs at night; for she very seldom hears them at home. She slept so good all night. Her exercise and visit did her lots of good.

Monday Aug - 30 -

Son's little cousin Helen Maurine is just two months old today. We love the dear baby so much. She is growing so fast and large. We notice the change so much. I took Son with me this afternoon to do some shopping and so many saw her for the first time today. She seems to be loved by every one. Grandmother wished me to begin feeding her porage, so we began Sunday, and she sleeps nights so much better than she did before we fed her - She seems to like it too.

Tuesday Aug - 31

Today I have been very busy
around the house doing very
many different-things. Have
been spending some little
time on the dress Sonu is
to wear to a wedding tomorrow
night if she is well and the
weather is pleasant. The wedding
of her second cousin Miss
Louise Cutter. Her little dress
is white india linen with
white silk fills over the
shoulder and hemstitched and
open work yokes and lace
ruffles with white silk
ribbons, no two, down the
front-over shoulder and back.
I hope she will be able to go.

Wednesday Sept-1-

This day started in very
disagreeable and I had planned
to take Sonu out to her
second cousins wedding tonight.

but we feared we could not go on account of the rain, but during the afternoon it very suddenly changed for the better. I dressed her in her little wedding dress and took her out into society for the first time in her life. Every one was delighted with her. She made very many happy. I think she enjoyed the wedding as much as any one. We kept her out until after ten o'clock and she never once attempted to cry. She slept very sweetly after her wedding celebration.

Thursday Sept-2--

This morning Louisa and I took the bus and went up to see how our new cousin Leslie James felt this morning. During the afternoon Louisa entertained herself very nicely. Outriders in her cab most of the time. I put her into her little bed much earlier tonight for to gain what she lost last-

night. She seems to rest-
very nicely-

Friday Aug-3-

This has been a lovely day
for Sona - She has been good
all day. I have done quite
a little painting and she took
it all very kindly. This
morning Aunt-Carrie brought-the
baby Helen and Jessie Miller
brought-little Marion and the
three children had a most-
lovely time together. This
evening Soba Cotton brought-
several picture cards and
a book-for Sona - She could
not-enjoy them to know who
gave them but-when she reads
this book she will know ^{and}
appreciate. Tonight-I had
as lovely a surprise as I ever
had in all my life. The

wife of the physician, now
employed when Soud came
to us came in tonight - and
brought Soud and handsome
diamond ring. It is large
for her now but she can wear
it in a few years and realize
its worth and know she gives
better too. I only hope Soud
will always love them both
for they have been very kind
to us all.

Saturday - Aug - 4 -

This has been quite a warm
day and yet a very lovely day.

Soud has sat outside in
her cab quite a little today.

She has enjoyed herself very
much. Tonight her Papa
brought another little cab
for her. It is in a form

of a wheel chair I should
say. She enjoys riding in
it very much. She looks so
sweet in it too.

Sunday Aug - 5 - -

This morning Papa and I
took Louisa out to church
and she was very good
indeed. She seemed to have
such a good time. In the
afternoon we took her over
to the Bailey house to dinner
and she was just as good
as any child could possibly
be. Then for the first
time for many years we
walked over home. Her Papa
pushed the cart all the
way. She never slept
but enjoyed it immensely.
It was a hard trip but

had a good time -

Monday Aug - 6 -

This has been another
warm day but - Sona enjoyed
it very nicely - Her Papa
had a half holiday and
took Sona for a ride in
her little cab. She enjoyed
too. She is so sweet - every
day she grows more lovely
to me. Aunt Ida came
down this noon to stay a
little time with us.

Tuesday Aug - 7 -

Sona was quiet this
morning but this afternoon
we put her into her cab ^{and}
took her out for a drive.
She saw her little cousin ^{and}
had a very good time -

While down town Miss
Patterson gave her a little
rubber rattle. She had a good
time with it too.

Wednesday Aug - 8 -

Aunt Ida and I have been
very busy today and so did
not get out city today. But this
morning we took Lotta in her
little wagon and went down
town. She was very happy on
our way home we stopped at
Mrs Morgantales to have some
cream at her lawn social.
The baby was the delight of
all the little folks there.

Thursday Aug - 9 -

Sam has been very good
again today. Has played on
the floor the most of the time
Aunt Ida and I have done
quite a little sewing this

evening, we took Louisa down
street and called on the baby
cousins. They had a very good
time together.

Friday Aug-10 -

Louisa has been so good taking
her out nights makes her
sleep so much better and she
seems to be going very fast.
We took her down again
tonight and she was happy
all the time -

Saturday Aug-11 -

This has been Aunt-Ida's
last-day with us for this
week and we have been busy.

I could not take Louisa out
tonight as it has seemed
cooler than it has for some
time.

Sunday Aug-12 -

This has been our very warm
day and we have had Louisa
out quite a little. She

seems to endure the heat
quite a little better than
I thought she would. We
took her out driving and
she was delighted. Her
Grandpa^{and} Grandma called
this afternoon. She was
at the Bailey House to dinner
today with us and behaved
just fine as usual.

Monday Aug-13-

This has been very warm
again for Sona but she
seems to endure it nicely.
Little baby Sona's called
to see Sona this afternoon
and they had such a good
time together. This evening
we went down to the
store to meet Papa and
Sona was happy.

Tuesday Aug 14

The heat is terrible today. I look Sona down to see her little cousin Helen tonight and to meet her Papa. She has learned to fold her little hands during prayer at the table now and she does it so very sweetly too.

Wednesday Sept-13

Sona woke up this morning unusually well and happy and I think it must have been because she is just ten months old today. She had a ride down to Creuney and back with her Uncle this afternoon and she had so much fun. Tonight we took her out for a ride again and I think it did her lots of good.

Thursday Sept-16-

This has been a very busy and also a very happy day for our Son. Ethel Fuller a little friend of Son's came in to spend the day with her. Son loves her and she played all afternoon, and tonight finds her very tired and sleepy.

Her Uncle Frank was also here and gave Son a ride in his little wagon. Every day she grows in interest and we love her more all the time.

Friday Sept-17-

This forenoon Son sat in her cab out in the yard quite a long time. She enjoyed herself so much. This afternoon Mrs. Brock and the two children Stuart and Gertrude came in and the little

was had a big time playing
on the floor together. Tonight
finds her tired and sleepy.

Saturday Sept-18-

Sona has been out in the
yard quite a little this mornig
again alone in her cab. Grandpa
Cutter came down and took dinner
with us today ^{and} Sona would
hold him hold her. This afternoon
Nimmie Schultz came and took
her out for a ride. She fell asleep
in her cab. Then I took her
downstreet and as my way
back stopped at Mrs. Morgantaters.
She gave Sona her supper. We had
a good time together.

Sunday Sept-19-

Grandpa came down ^{and} took
us all over there to spend the
day as Ida could not be
with us for some time
again, for she is going away

to school tomorrow. We all
had a lovely time together.
They have decided that I
had better go with her so
Sond ^{and} I will go tomorrow
morning at seven o'clock.

Monday Sept. 20 -

Sond slept well last
night. ^I was not ready to
open her eyes this morning
when she was obliged to
in order to catch the train.
She stood her trip nicely,
but is very tired tonight.

Mrs Cuttenden pronounced
her a very lovely little girl.

Tuesday Sept. 21

We were very much surprised
this morning to find Papa
here when we came back
from college. He rode from
Ionia to Albion on his
wheel and gave us a
most thorough surprise.

Sona as well as we all
were delighted to see her.

Wednesday Sept-22

Aunt-Ida is getting quite
well settled and we think
we will return to our home
tomorrow morning. I have met
many of my old friends &
they have all been so much
delighted with the baby.

Aunt-Ida dreads to have
us go back without her.

Thursday Sept-23-

Sona took her trip home
a little more easy than
she did going. She seemed
very glad to get back. We
stopped at Mrs. Thompsons
for a few moments.
She was very glad to see
Sona - We found Papa well
and glad to have his little
girl home again -

Friday Sept-24

We have been busy around the house today. Some seem tired and wanted to be outside most of the time. Her Uncle Herman had her out for a ride this afternoon.

Saturday Sept-25-

Some has been very good all day, I have been busy all day but thought this afternoon I must take her out a little while. I did and met Aunt Carrie and baby Helen. The children had a big time together as they rode along. She saw her father from the store window and threw kisses at him from there.

Sunday Sept-26

Sona woke up very early and happy too. After her breakfast, bath and morning sleep her Grandpa came down and looks us all over home to spend the day. We had a very good time as we always do there.

Sept - 27 - Monday -

This has been a very lovely day and I took Sona out for a ride in her little chair cab. I take her out every day some time to get the air. She has found out something new again. Just found her eye wipers.

She plays with them very often and it usually ends by sticking her finger in her eye.

Tuesday Sept - 28,

We have for some time
been thinking about buying
a house just across the
way, and today we bought
the house across the corner
from us. Sona at least
shall never know what
it is to be without a home
her Papa says -

Wednesday Sept - 29 -

For the first time today I
took Sona over to see her
new home. She sat on the
floor and began to look
around as though she liked
it very much. You take
her out quite a little after
dark of late, it seems to
make her sleep better -

Thursday Sept - 30 -

This has been Papa's birthday

and he is thirty one years
of age. Mamma gave him a
watch chain & Lou gave
him a kiss. I guess the two
was worth as much as the
other two.

Friday Oct - 31 -

I had Lou out this afternoon
with me making calls. She
seemed to have a good time
too. I called on the hall
and she met quite a number
of children there. She came
home quite tired -

Saturday Oct - 2 -

Little Ethel Feller came
down to spend the day with
the baby and in the afternoon
Winnie Shultz came down
too & they had a most-
lovely afternoon play with

Sona. She seemed a busy
with her company as a young
person would. She was
completely tired out - when
night came -

Sunday Oct-3-

Grandpa came down ^{and} called
for us again to go home with him.
Uncles Henry ^{and} Fred came down too.
Sona rode over with them ^{and}
went with Grandpa. We had
a most- lovely time as we
always do -

Monday Oct-4-

We are beginning to move into
our own home and it keeps
us very busy. Sona went
down town this afternoon
with me and so many seemed
to love her more than ever.

Tuesday Oct-5-

Wednesday Oct-6-

Thursday ^{and} Friday -
Oct - 8 - 9 -

These days have been much
the same to Sonu & myself.
We are getting things packed
ready to take over into the
other house. Aunt-Carrie &
little Helen have not been
down to see us in some time.

Saturday Oct - 10 -

Sonu has had a big time
today as Winnie Schultz has
been down most of the day
as she has seemed delighted.

Sunday Oct - 11

Grandpa ^{and} Grandma were
down to spend the day and
so was Uncle Herman -

Now Sonu enjoyed it so
much she could scarcely
take the time to sleep -

We all enjoyed the day
so much together, it may
be the last time in that
house too -

Monday Oct- 12 -

It looks very much more
as though we were among
the parlor is all lower up -
Sonia has been exceptionally
good through it all. Her
back double teeth bother her
quite a little -

Tuesday Oct- 13 -

Wednesday Oct- 14

About half of our things
are at the other house and
the rest will go very soon
Aunt Carrie was down and
bought us little Hilens
picture. It looks very
much like her indeed

Friends have been very
good about coming and
taking the baby out for a
drive and giving me more
time for nursing -
Thursday Oct-14 -

This is the first-day
we have been in the new
house. Tonight we sleep
in the new house for the
first time. Sona feels
more as though she were
away visiting than any other
day and yet - she is very
good natured about it
all the same -

Friday Oct-15 -

Sona is eleven months
old today. She seems to

feel more and more
contented in her home
all the time - Uncle
Herman took care of her
the most of the time this
afternoon -

Saturday Oct - 14 -

Ethel Feller came down
this morning and stayed
with the baby and cared for
her entirely. She has been
good all day too. She took
her down home this
afternoon -

Sunday Oct - 15 -

This has been our first
Sunday in our new home
it has been very pleasant
too. Grandpa & Grandma
came down a little while

Sonia was delighted
too, They think our
home was lovely -

Monday Oct: 18

Sonia has been very good
all morning & this afternoon
has been visiting with Mrs.
Sarah the lady upstairs.
She has not felt very well
and has had to struggle
quite a little to be as good
as she has been -

Tuesday Oct-19

It has been a lovely day
today & Mrs. Sarah took
Sonia out in her little
cart & gave her a drive
and also quite a little
fresh air. She came
home feeling very much

better and slept good all night. We spent the evening with them in their rooms untill eleven o'clock and had a very good time. I had dropped asleep about nine o'clock. When out for a ride this afternoon, her Papa said she ruined her hand across the street-at-him.

It is ~~thirteen~~ ^{just} over a year ago today that Grandma had her terrible operation of having her limb removed. I have not said much to anyone about it because I thought it best not to, but I have thought of it so many times. She has been spared to us over a year more at least-how I hope it may be many more so that we may have

her lovely influence over us
and I can learn to know
her better and better all the
time.

Wednesday Oct-20-

This has been a lovely day
and I have been happy
while at my work. Louie
has been very good too.
It has been my birthday
and I have thought how
much I have to be thankful
for after all. We are really
settled in our new home
and luck has been with
us so far in every respect.
Grandma remembered me
by sending us a large
supply from the farm.
Thursday Oct: 21-

It has been just over tonight.

since we moved into this
new home - Louisa has become
quite accustomed to her
surroundings. For the first
time I have noticed that
she says the words, "see
there," "look here," "bady" ^{and}
"bye bye" - very plainly. She
creeps across the room very
rapidly too. She seems
to grow smarter every day.

Friday Oct--22-

This has been a very busy
day for Louisa. Her Grandmother
has been here all day. She
seemed to want to be near
her all the time. Uncle
Fred ^{and} Henry came in to
dinner and supper ^{and} Louisa
simply been delighted all
the day.

Saturday Oct--23-

I took Soda out-in her cub
this afternoon & she seemed
to enjoy it so much. This
afternoon little Winnie
Shultz came down to play
with Soda. They seemed
to have such a good time
together. Aunt-Carrie came
down with little Helen-

Sunday Oct-24-

We all went-over to Grandpa's
to spend the day. Soda
was out-in the air most-of
the day. We took a drive
in the afternoon. Helen
holly was over there too-

Monday Oct: 25-

Soda was very good all
day. This afternoon Mrs.

Serory had been out for
an airing. She seems
to enjoy the air and rides
so much every day.

Tuesday Oct--26--

²⁴ Today Loua and I stayed in
quite closely, a little boy brought
in his new horn for Loua
to see. He blew it so loud
that for the first time she
became quite frightened.
They had a good time
together after that however.

Wednesday Oct--27--

It has been such a lonely
day that I felt guilty to
think I had not had Loua
out so this evening I took
her after supper. She
frightened me very much
though for she coughed
quite hard.

Thursday Oct-28-

Papa surprised Mamma this morning by sending up a chair as her birthday present. It was certainly very kind of him & it looks very well in the parlor - I took Louisa down town for the air this afternoon. She had a big tumor. She is cutting four back teeth. She can point to her eyes when asked where they are. She can say many cute things too. She imitates a cat ^{and} dog very nicely too.

Friday Oct-29-

Louisa has been such a dear good little thing. She

has slept most of the
morning ^{and} this afternoon
I took her out again - She
always dreads coming back
into the house to stay.

Saturday Oct. 30 -

Sona has had a good
time today. It has been one
of her big days. Ethel Fuller
came down to play with
her ^{and} Hattie Reed another
little girl came in too.

She could not take the
time to sleep this morning.

This afternoon Mrs. Leroy
gave her a little toy ^{kit}.

It pleased her so much
She had a big time with
it I can tell you.

Sunday Oct. 31 -

Papa started out this morning

to attend a funeral at Howel
this left Sora and I to spend the
day as best we could. But
Grandpa came down and
took us over home with
him. Sora enjoyed the day
more than I can tell. She
crept around on the floor
and entertained them all.

Papa came home on the
seven o'clock train and Sora
was simply delighted to
see him.

Monday Nov. 1 -

This has been a raining
dreary day and I could not
take Sora out any. She was
very good all day. Melvin
Mitchner came in to tea
before going back to New
York. When he was ready
to start away. Sora clung

to him and would not
leave him without-crying
Some thing for him to
remember. It seemed to please
him too.

Tuesday Nov. 2 -

This has been a most-
lone day. Mrs. Seroy took
Sond out-for a ride in her
cab today. Mrs. Whitney
was in this afternoon
and said she did miss us
so much as she did not see
so much of the baby since
we had moved.

Wednesday Nov. 3 -

I have been very busy
this morning Sond has
slept most of the forenoon.
Aunt Carrie came down
this afternoon and we
took the babies to call
on Mrs. Putney. The
first-time the two little

ones have been out-calling
together. They were both
very happy most of the
time. We saw Ellen Townsend
and Lillie Scribner there and
they saw the babies for the
first time. They enjoyed it
too. They thought them
such large babies for their
ages -

Thursday Nov. 4 -

Sonia does creep so fast -
it keeps our busy watching
her and she does have
such good times. I took
her out-calling again this
afternoon. She loves to be
out so much.

Friday Nov. 5 -

Papa and Auntie Secoy
took the baby over to

Grandpa this morning for
the ride. I could not go
for I was too busy. They
said the baby enjoyed it so
much. For the first time
Sona took a few steps
today. She stood up by a
chair and then pushed the
chair along. It pleased her
so much. She laughed right
out-aloud. She has walked
quite a little in that way
this afternoon. This morning
Uncle Henry brought her a
little cup and saucer from
the Niagara Falls. It will
please her when she knows
of it - I know as much as
it did now.

Saturday Nov. 6 -

This has been a lovely day for
very our but-babies, for them

just the least bit cold ^{and}
still Mrs. Seroy and I took
Sona out this afternoon & I made
a call. We and she both enjoyed
it so much.

Sunday Nov-7-

I went to church this morning
for the first time in a long
time and left Papa home to
care for the baby. They had
a lovely time together. After
church Uncle Fred ^{and} Henry
came down and took rest
home. We had a lovely time
as usual.

Monday Nov-8-

Sona was so good all morning.
This afternoon Mrs. Seroy ^{and} I
took her down town and
for the first time in her
life she spent the afternoon
with her Papa in the

store. She had a big tummy but
was glad to have her Maria
come back and take her
home for she was so tired
with sleep and play.

Tuesday Nov 9 -

Sona did not get out into
air much this morning but this
afternoon we took her out
calling again. She seems to
relish anying getting into
different houses - She makes
herself perfectly at home ~~everywhere~~

Wednesday Nov - 10 -

Sona walks way across
the room now by pushing
a chair ahead. Her little feet
almost - grow out but she will
walk just the same. It
has been so rainy and gloomy
all day Sona could not get
out.

Thursday Nov. 11 -

Sona has learned to love Mrs. Leroy next to her Papa and Marka - She loves to be with her and near her - We all went out together this afternoon again and Sona had a most lovely time.

I made her a creeping skirt and she gets along so much better with it too. She looks like a little dutch girl in it too. It is made of red goods -

Friday Nov - 12

We had a little surprise this morning. I da came home from College in a hoarse sick condition. Sona was glad to see her and I da was more than glad to see all of us. Papa was away with Uncle Fred to spend

the day. Lona missed
him too for when I asked
her this noon when he was
she began to whimper, as
much as to say. I know it -
and I wish I could see her too.

Saturday Nov-13-

Lona was rather happy
this morning as Ethel Fuller
came down to spend the
day with her and play.

Auntie Thompson came
from Samsony to dinner
today for she was passing
through here on her way
home. She was very
glad to see Lona and Lona
was glad to see her too.

After Auntie went away
Ethel and I took Lona
out - by a ride -

Sunday Nov - 14

Just one year ago today I was very sick and M. was also the day our little Sonu came to us. And next her birthday is tomorrow as it is the fifteenth of the month tomorrow. This is really the last day in her first year. We still spend it quietly at home for the day is rainy ^{and} bad. Sonu has been just as happy as a bird all day for she has had her Papa all to herself and that has happened to her.

Monday Nov. 15 - 1897.

Sonu woke up early and more than happy this morning. She could not have been happier on the morning

of her first-birthday. Her
Papa put-another four dollars
into the bank for her this
morning so she has forty
there now all her own. Her
has faithfully kept-his promise
made at-the beginning of the
year that-she should have ten
cents each day. Auntie Leroy
gave the baby a silver spoon
today with her name engraved
upon it. Lona can always
know gave her the little
spoon as she can read it-her
It was certainly very kind
and thoughtful of her to
remember Lona so soon again.
She gave only a short-time ago
a toy dog. Her Papa gave her
her second pair of little shoes
and Mamma gave her a big
hug and kiss and sent-up
a benediction-prayer that-her dear

little girl may grow up to
be pure and good and have as
many true friends all through
her life as she has now
and that she may see many
many more such happy
birthdays. I should have
taken her down and had her
picture taken today had the
weather been better but now
I think I must wait a few
days. I have faithfully
kept Louisa's diary every day
of this year and it has
been a great pleasure as
great a pleasure as it has
been to care for her. How
I hope I may never know
what it is to be without her
to love and to care for.

Tuesday Nov-16.

Sonia has been good all morning and the weather has been good so I took Sonia down and had her picture taken as I had planned to do yesterday. She sat very quiet for a baby and I think they will be good.

Wednesday Nov. 17

It was not very pleasant so Sonia and I stayed in all day, but in the evening Mrs. Seroy and I went out to a flower show and left the baby with Mr. Seroy. She was very good all the time. It was the first time I have been out all evening for a long time.

Thursday Nov. 18 -

Sonia and I were over here at Grandpa's to spend the day

and we had a very good
time. Soda always is a
great-comfort to her Grandma
and Grandpa -

Friday Nov. 19 -

Mrs. Seroy ^{and} I took Soda out
to get the air and made
several calls at the same
time. She seems to enjoy
calling very much.

Saturday Nov. 20 -

It has been the most-
lovely day of all the fall
and we took Soda out
this afternoon. She seemed
to have a good time too.

She tires herself out-
entirely by bedtime for
she is walking around
most of the time.

Sunday Nov. 21

As Sora and I were home one day this week we thought but we would stay at home today, so told Grunelpa he need not call for us. Papa Sora and I had a good time together. Papa had Sora out in the afternoon to get the air and we were all very happy together. Uncle Fred called in the forenoon.

Monday Nov. 22 -

Sora was very good all the morning. She was going out this afternoon to get the air, but her little cousin Heleen called so she stayed at home and visited with her. They seem always to have such a good time together. Emma Johnson the girl we had when Sora came was down and gave her a little rattle for her birthday present. War

discovered this noon that
Sona had cut-out of her
back teeth through. She
almost-walks alone. With
just-a little help in our
hand.

Tuesday Nov. 23 -

We stayed in quite close
this forenoon and then
this afternoon we took
Sona down town with us.

It was bitter cold, but we
had her well wrapped up ^{and}
she bore it well. Her ^{Yule}
Herman came in this
afternoon ^{and} they had a
big time.

Wednesday Nov. 24 -

This has been a very
busy day preparing for
our Thanksgiving dinner.
Sona Elizabeth has not-

been out - today as it has
been damp and cold. Quite a
number of our people have
been down today.

Thursday Nov. 25 -

Mr^{er} & Mrs. Leroy^{er} & a Sunday
friend of theirs took their
Thanksgiving dinner with us
today. Our family all but
Henry^{er} & I took their Thanksgiving
dinner at Carrie's. We feel
that our home so much to
be thankful for. All in
such good health. Such a
lovely, darling baby^{er} & such
happiness in our home so
new and sweet. That our
hearts may ever become
more thankful to our
giver is my prayer daily.

Friday Nov. 26.

Uncle Fred and Harry

in to help eat our dinner
of yesterday as it remained.
They seemed glad to be
here and we were delighted
and Sona Elizabeth always
enjoys a large gathering of
those she loves - Tonight
we were invited out but
our little baby girl seems
to have a cold already ^{and}
it is raining so Papa, ^{and}
and we stayed at home
and in the warm ^{and} dry
Saturday Nov. 27

Mama was quite busy this
forenoon preparing some of
Sona's things for her to wear
tomorrow for we think we
will take her to church. She
has not been there for some
time. This afternoon I
took her out to get a little
of the fresh air.

Sunday Nov. 28 -

This is our lovely morning and we will take our baby out-to church. He did and she was very good only wanted to sleep so we took her out-into the hall and put her to sleep. She wanted to visit with all the little girls and boys she saw. Every one just loved her. This afternoon we went over to Grandpa's and had a good time as usual.

Monday Nov. 29

Sona must have taken cold yesterday when we took her out-into the hall for she has a high fever today and chills too. I think her teeth are troubling her too.

Tuesday Nov. 30

Aunt-Bertie was down today to spend the day with us. Sona was no better and

her fever seemed to come so
so I had the doctor come and
see her and give her medicine
too. She seems cross and
nervous and I don't blame the
little thing, her gums are sore
and swollen.

Wednesday ~~Dec~~ 31 -

Sona seems some better today
though has some fever. Aunt
Carrie brought little
Helen down to see Sona and
they both seemed to enjoy it so
much. Sona seemed delighted
when Helen came in.

Thursday ~~Dec~~ 32 -

Sona seems very much
more like herself today.
She seems to eat and
sleep better than she has
for some time back. I
think the worst is over
for some time.

Friday ~~Dec~~ -

This morning Mrs. Leroy took
our Lona out for a drive in
her cab. She seemed so glad
to get out into the air again.
It seemed to give her so much
good too. She slept very
sweetly after her ride & I
hope will sleep better tonight.

Saturday Dec. 4 -

This has been rather a dismal
day. It has rained ^{and} snowed
most of the time & I have
been in very close with Lona.
She has been restless most of
the time.

Sunday Dec - 5 - -

Papa was out to church ^{and}
S. S. this morning ^{and} this afternoon
he took Lona out for an airing
in her cab. She seemed to have
such a good time. This
afternoon little Winnie Delutz

was in to call on her & if
she seemed to enjoy her so much.

Monday Dec 6 -

It has not been altogether
pleasant today but Mrs Seroy
and I put Louisa into her carriage
this afternoon & took her down
town. While we were on the
street I found two two dollar
bills & one one & five in all.
The first money I ever found,
I have put it into Louisa's bag
for her & feel just as rich
as ever.

Tues Dec - 7 -

We heard yesterday that
Mr Thompson of Lansing
would be with us today but
he has let us know today
that he cannot be here -

Mrs. Seroy took Louisa out -

this afternoon for a short-
time.

Wednesday Dec - 8 -

We took Sona out - this afternoon
and while dressing her for
the ride she had her first little
tumble. She was sitting in the
rocking chair and rolled off. She
never uttered a cry. She took it
very kindly.

Thursday Dec - 9 -

Mrs. Semy took Sona out -
this morning and she slept most
of the time. For the first time,
dropped four pennies into her
little bank this morning and
several this afternoon again.
She does it so cute.

Friday Dec - 10 -

Papa has been in Grand
Rapids all the afternoon. It
has been so rainy I could

not take Sona out - nor
let any one else take her.

This morning while dressing
her I found she had cut
another tooth through. I
brom chlorid - her a little
cross of late but I do not
under at it now. Uncle
Herman comes in and
plays with her every night.

Saturday Dec - 11 -

This has truly been our great
day for our Sona. Little Ethel
Fidler came down to stay all
day and night - with Sona. They
have had a big time together.
This afternoon Winnie Schultz
came over too and between
them they had a lively time.

Sunday. Dec. 12 -

Ethel has spent the whole
day with Sona again and
they have played as hard

and as fast as they could.
Mr. Horn began to regain her
today and we dread it too
so much. I went to church
with Henry tonight - and left
the baby in Mr. & Mrs. Seroy's
care. I always feel perfectly
safe with them.

Monday Dec-12 -

Mr. spent rather a sleepless
night last night. Soda was
determined to have me come
to her. I spent most of the
night on the couch. She
seemed determined to have her
Mamma and dinner - I felt so
so sorry for both her and her
Papa - I saw Yoncha Francis
She has been very good
today. Mrs. Seroy put her to
sleep this afternoon but I
cannot do it as yet for she
wants her dinner.

Tuesday Dec - 13 -

Sonia's Uncle Frank came today and she has had a big time with him. She can walk by holding only with one hand and she has kept him walking most of the day. Her Papa put her to sleep this noon -

Wednesday Dec - 14

Uncle Frank took Sonia out for a lovely drive today. He took her down town and down to the creamery and all around and it did her lots of good. She slept much better last night.

Thursday Dec - 15 -

Mrs. Seery took Sonia out for a ride this morning. It was very cold but she seemed to enjoy it. I think it did her good too. She

is beginning to forget - her
dinner very fast.

Friday Dec - 16

Soma has been good all
morning. Her Uncle Fred was
here to dinner and seemed
to make her feel good. He
has poisoned his hand and
is compelled to wear it - bandaged.
She seems to feel very badly
about it and she always
wants to put it for him.

Saturday Dec - 17 -

This morning Aunt Carrie
and Uncle Fred were in to
see and plan for Xmas.

Ethel Fuller came in to
spend the day with Soma
again. They had a lively
time. Mrs. Jerry had her
out in her cab this afternoon.

Sunday Dec - 19.

It has been a very cold day but Grandpa called for us, and we went over to spend the day with them. They were all surprised to think Sona could talk and walk with help so well. They brought us home quite early in the evening. Helen was there all day too. When we got home Frank Sornis a very dear gentleman friend of ours called on us. We had not seen him in seven years and he was very glad to see Sona. He thought her a very dear little girl.

Monday Dec - 20.

Sona was very good this morning and this afternoon Auntie took her uptown. She simply tires herself out trying to walk. Aunt Carrie was down this morning a

little while -

Tuesday Dec - 21 -

Mrs. Soule, the lady nurse I had when Sona came, came on a visit last night. She has had a big time with her boys today. She taught Sona to stand alone, and how to eat apple alone without choking. She returned tonight.

Wednesday Dec - 22

Sona has not had very much care of late. She has taken most of the care of herself.

Auntie takes her out nearly every day and I fear she could not get much outing over Xmas time!

Thursday Dec - 23 -

Auntie Severy and I have dressed Sona a doll today to put on the Xmas tree at the church for her. We gave her her piano yesterday, and

She was simply delighted
with it. She is growing
sweeter every day. She fell
asleep on the floor today.
Friday Dec-24

This has been a cold but
lovely & nice day, or day before.
We took Sona down to the
services tonight and she had
a big time. She loved to
see the lights and things
and all the children. She
could not help but scream
right out when she saw
the dolls. She was delighted
with her doll, Auntie
Seroy gave her a nice
picture book. She seemed to
think more of it than
she did of her doll.

Saturday Dec-25-

This is Xmas morning and
Sona woke up happy

as a little bird. Last
night she slept quite
well. Uncle Fred^d and Henry
came down after us. Fred
now went over to Grandpa
to spend Xmas. When
Sona got there she found
Uncle Fred & Henry had
given her a little doll carriage
and her Auntie a gown like
a horn and Grandpa^d and
Grandma gave her a dollar.
So she has fared very
well. Before going over
there we found two dollars
in a letter for Sona from
her Grandma. We also gave
her gift. Sona saw her
first Xmas tree today
and she seemed to enjoy
it so much. The only
thing that mared over

happinere was that Papa
could not be with us as
Xmas came on Saturday,
but otherwise we had a
happy Xmas time -

Sunday Dec - 26 -

Sona and I stayed all
night - at Grandpas and
Papa came over after lunch
to spend the day. We
enjoyed our presents very
much again and had a
good time together. We
started for home again
early and Sona was glad
to get home again - She
slept well all night -

Monday Dec - 27 -

Sona had another gift -
this morning a doll that
plays a tune every
time it swings around.

She likes it very much
and we have read it
several times.

Tuesday Dec - 26 -

Son and I have been
quiet today as I have not
felt very well. Yesterday
we were down to call on
Helen and she had a good
time as usual.

Wednesday Dec - 27

Today I have stayed in all
day. It was not very
pleasant out and we have
both felt not very good.

Today Aunt Bertha and little
Amina Soule of Grand
Rapids were here to spend
the day. We all had a
good time together.

Thursday - Dec, 28 -

Today Mrs. Putney came down to spend a little time with us. We enjoyed seeing her very much.

She was so surprised to see Lorna walking around all alone. Lorna has got so she can say Aunt Ida very plain. The first name she has tried to say as yet.

Friday Dec - 31 -

Little Lorna had a New Years gift of a pair of black stockings knit by her Grandma Tuelker. She is the only one in the family that had a New Years gift.

Saturday Jan - 1 -

We were very quiet at home. Uncle Fred, Henry and

and Herman were in
this morning and this
afternoon Aunt-Carr's came
down and we all took
tea together. We had
a lovely time. Louisa is
sick however. She took
cold in some way and
has not been well since.

Sunday Jan-2-

Grandma and Grandpa
came down this morning
and surprised us very
much. Louisa enjoyed
their being here to dinner
very much. Grandpa
bed her and she thought
she fared quite well.

Monday Jan-3-

