



# [Diary written for Lona Elizabeth Voelker by her mother, January 6-April 16, 1899]. Vol. VI 1899

Voelker, Lillie, 1867-1908

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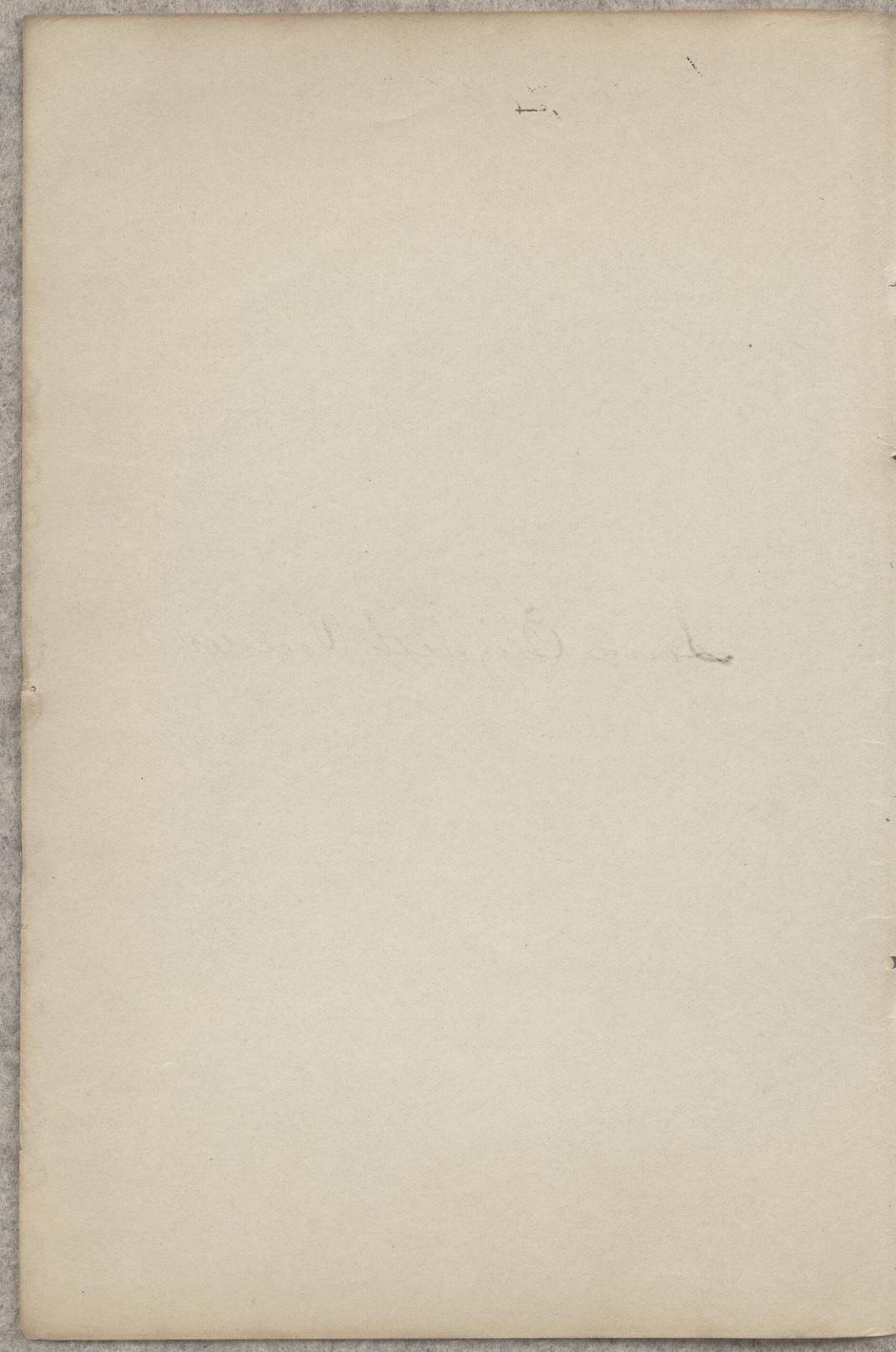
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Sona Elizabeth Voelker.



Thursday Jan 8<sup>th</sup> - 1899.

This has been quite a stormy day but Sona had a good time first - the carav. She played all day so nicely with her xmas things. Uncle Roy came in a little while and that pleased her so very much. She could not help but show him all she had.

The baby was good all day and Sona loves him more and more all the time.

She took a long ride this afternoon and had a good time.

Friday Jan. 9 -

Sona has had a lovely forenoon. We have had quite a little fun together -

I gave her a bath in her tub this morning for the first time since I have been sick.

and she enjoyed it very much. This afternoon Aunt Carrie came down and stayed a short time and Sona was delighted over that.

Miss Foster, the lady who took care of the baby and went home today. We were glad we were well enough to let her go and yet we are not very strong. Sona loves her little brother more every day and can hardly keep her hands off from the little fellow.

Sunday June 8 -

Sona's Uncle Frank came down to spend the most of the day and she thought it fine. Her Papa took her out twice today in her little sled and she enjoyed it so much both times.

Sonia has not been very well for the last few days but seems very much better today. Grandpa came down and stayed a few miles and Sonia was so glad to have him with us that she dreaded to say good bye to him.

Monday Jan 9-

Today Sonia has been very happy playing with her Xmas things and Emma took her out for a ride this afternoon and she had a good time and then came in fast-asleep. Uncle Herman came in a little later this afternoon and they had a big time together. She said today when I asked her to a disagreeable remark for her little brother that she did not like him.

Tuesday Jan 10 -

Sona has been a very good little girl all this day. Uncle Haman was down this noon and took dinner with us. Sona had a fine time, running here with him first.

This afternoon Papa took Sona and I out for a twenty miles drive the first I have had since I have been sick.

We hoped to be able to put Sona asleep in that way but she never shut her eyes once. Wednesday Jan 11 -

As usual Sona has been well and happy today. She had her little outing and came in fast-asleep -

Mrs. Whitney called this afternoon and said she thought Sona positively a handsome child. Mrs. Allin

Cutter called too and she said it made her wish she had a baby again to see ours. She could not rest until she had seen Sora fast asleep on the bed. She is indeed a happy child.

Thursday Jan 12

Sora has enjoyed playing with her dolls this morning. She took her ride and then fell asleep. Auntie Morganthal was in this morning and loved Sora almost to death.

The only wished she was her little girl. She thought she would be so happy and I think she would too.

Friday Jan 13 -

Mrs Partney and Hattie Baker called and they enjoyed watching Sora prance around

so much. She entertained them very nicely too but she did not care to have them take her Russel home with them as they asked to.

They both held and loved our little boy baby long and often and thought him fine,

Saturday Jan 14

Dawn has been very good all of today. She has seemed to enjoy her books more than anything else today.

Emma took her out into the air and she enjoyed that and fell fast asleep.

It worried her quite a little this evening to think Russel was not feeling very well and it made it rather hard to get her to sleep.

Sunday Jan 15 -

Sonja has been so happy to day to think her Papa could be at home all day with her. Grandpa came down this morning and took us all over to the farm house for a ride and brought us back very soon. Sonja enjoyed it so much. She kept saying how lovely this is Mama.

She slept most of the way back. This afternoon her Uncle Franks came and took her out in his cab so she had quite a little fresh air, and did have such a happy gay time all day.

Monday Jan 16 -

This morning Sonja entertained herself nicely. This afternoon Mrs. Mc Carthy came in

and played dolls with  
Sona as nicely as if she  
were a child herself. They  
were as happy as two  
kittens together. Uncle  
Harmon came in and  
helped play and they had  
a fine time together -  
Then Papa came home to  
spend the evening and we  
all enjoyed that so much  
Sona could not leave him  
even for a minute -

Tuesday Jan 17

Today Sona has been rather  
quiet with me for the weather  
has been rather stormy and  
she could not be out as much  
as usual. She did take her  
ride in her cab however  
this afternoon and came in  
fast asleep. This evening

her Papa did not go back  
after supper, and Sona did  
make the most of every  
minute that he was there -  
She made him undress her  
and go to bed with her and  
would let no one do any  
thing for her but him.

Wednesday Jan 18 -

This morning Sonas Papa  
took her out for a walk, the  
first she has taken in a  
long time. She walked  
down to the creamery and back  
and the ground covered with  
frost and snow. She does not  
feel at all good but we think  
the fresh air could not hurt  
her any. This afternoon her  
Papa took Sona and I out -  
in a lovely carriage and  
we enjoyed our ride very  
very much. She seems to feel  
a little better tonight.

Thursday Jan 19 -

Sonja's Papa has been feeling very poorly of late and so has spent much of his time at home especially evenings. It has seemed very pleasant too and we shall miss him very much when he cannot be with us again.

This afternoon I took out for a walk. We did not go so very far, but we felt much better for it I can tell. Sonja seems to feel just a little better each day and I hope the worst is over again for us all. Mr Fuller called this morning to see our baby boy and I think he made about as much of Sonja as he did of our new baby boy. He seemed very delighted however that it was a boy as he bought him a bouncer for his age. I hope he may always be as well as Sonja has been.

Friday Jan 20 -

This has been rather a hard long day for us all. Mama has been sick with the grip and poor Sona has been obliged to care for herself as best she could. She has very good about it all however, and I think she is as sensible as any child could possibly be for her age. When the doctor called to see Mama and the baby today she seemed very much delighted to see him. Aunt Carrie, Uncle Herman and Harry called to see us today and when she was sure they were here she was a most happy little girl. She plays with her dollies so nicely all day. She loves her little brother more all the time. She likes to sit in the rocking chair and hold him. It makes her very happy.

Saturday Jan 21-

It has been a stormy forenoon and Sona has been quietly mithin, and yet has made me no special trouble.

This forenoon she did a very queer thing. She took every thing out of the ballys book and then got into the book herself and began to stir things up most mightily. She never does any particular harm to anything, simply is full of mischief. Emma had her out this afternoon and she came in after a nice long ride in her sled fast asleep and much refreshed from the wind and good air.

Sunday Jan 22 -

This has been rather a hard day for us all. Sona

has not felt at all well and  
Mamma has felt unusually  
bad. Papa has not felt well  
and we have simply had a  
hard time. This forenoon  
Papa did take Sona out for  
a walk however. She walked  
all the way down town with  
him. She came home fast-  
asleep and all tired out. This  
afternoon her Uncle Frank  
came in to see us for a short  
time and we were all glad  
to see him only we all felt  
so badly that we fear he did  
not have a very good time.  
The trouble with us all is  
the gout. Sona made the  
remark today that the gout  
had got her and I think it  
was a sensible way of  
putting it myself. Grandpa  
is rather better than ever.

Monday Jan - 23

This day has been a little easier to endure. Mamma ~~and~~ Soua and all the rest seem to feel just a little better. We hope each day will find us a little better until at last we will feel quite like ourselves again. Today Soua walked down to her Papas shop after dinner and Emma went down with her cab and brought her back. She seemed to enjoy it so much. Her Papa weighed her too and found she weighed just thirty one pounds and a half. She weighed more a week ago I am sure, but the grip has turned her out in a hurry and most terribly too. Still she is pulling through very nicely.

Tuesday Jan 24.

Today we feel very much more like our old selves and we are so thankful too. We will all be very happy to be well over now. Emma took Sora out after dinner and brought her in fast asleep.

She has had a good time this evening with her Uncle Herman. She quite surprised him by being able to say so many of her letters and a little verse with each one.

She can say quite a number of verses of different kinds.

Wednesday Jan 25-

Sora has been very good today though she has not felt at all well. She fell asleep early after dinner in my arms, and then when she

woke up Emma took her  
out-for a nice airing and  
she came in feeling much  
better. Tonight her Uncle  
Frank came in to see her  
but she was too tired to  
even to let him hold her  
in his arms, as much as  
she loves him.

Thursday Jan 26 -

Sonja feels so much better  
today than she did yesterday.  
She has been a very good all  
day. This noon her Papa  
surprised her very much by  
bringing her home her first  
set-of dishes. We all had to  
sit-and eat her with her at  
her first dinner. If I ever  
saw her delighted it was  
with those dishes. She is  
getting to be quite a girl to  
play with dishes.

It was so stormy all day  
that she could not go out  
but she has been very  
happy inside with us today.  
I think her Mama is quite  
proud of her very now.

Friday June 27.

Sonia has felt very well  
today and has been a perfect  
mischief. I was just thinking  
I wish her Papa were here  
and could put her to bed  
for them perhaps she would  
give me a little peace when  
it comes to getting into  
mischief and I would not  
have her any different if I  
really could. Her Uncle  
Fred came from New York  
City after being away a very  
short time and she was  
very glad to see him too.

She was out for her ride  
today even though it has been cold

Saturday Jan 28 -

Sora has been a dear sweet-tiny today. She took her bath in her tub this morning, not as willingly as I hoped she would get into her tub, but when it came to get out she was not ready. She loves her bath as a general thing.

Today she did something quite cute. She would not let her Papa love me. She told him she wouldn't if she were him. It pleased us all very much. She wants all the loving given to her. She seems to do away with all she can get. Aunt Carrie came very soon after Sora woke up from her nap today, and the child was delighted to see her too.

Sunday Jan 29.

It has been a very cold day, but Papa would insist upon taking Sora out - for a ride in her sled. He says fresh air never did hurt anyone yet. So he mapped Sora up well and took her out - hoping to bring her in fast - asleep this he did not do however.

She was as wide awake and happy as when he started out with her. Papa is too full of fun to get Sora asleep while out. Sora often says "Papa is very funny Mama".

Sora you are our big bright-happy girl anyway. Today when I went out into the dining room I found you in the center of the table eating crackers, and what - click! Mama do

Mondays Jan 30 -

Today Sora has been a  
great-mischief. What shall  
I do with you my little  
girl if you continue in this  
way. You are almost as  
problem to your Mamma. I  
think the older you get the  
more fun you seem to get  
out of every thing. You have  
never willfully broken any  
thing however. Mamma has  
never put anything out of your  
reach but has tried to teach  
you to leave Mamma's things  
alone. But you do get your  
fun out of every thing. This  
afternoon you were out in  
your little sled and came  
in fast-asleep. You slept  
until nearly five o'clock  
and woke up happy.

Tuesday Jan 31 -

This forenoon you spent most of the time looking over little brother which I can't say he likes much of any as yet. He seems to object as yet, but Mama hopes the time will come when he will enjoy very much.

Then you took your little tub full of water and helped Mama dust all the furniture.

You are rather hard on the furniture some times. You seem to think soap and water a very good thing for Mama Mahogany chairs. You will soon learn better I know.

You seem to grow bigger and faster every day. I think the fresh air you get these cold days is very good for you.

Wednesday Feb. 1-

This after-noon there was a lady in who said you looked like your Mama so much. But Mama thinks you are much too fair and good looking to resemble her any. To me at least, you have always looked like your Papa. You have been a dear good girl today and your Mama has been able to get quite a little more done about the house than usual today, simply because her little ones have been so good. You slept very well last night.

Do you know, my little girl you have slept with your Papa for almost our whole year.

Thursday Feb - 2 -

After dinner you and I  
took a walk with Papa.  
We walked down as far  
as the business part- then  
walked around a whole  
square before my little  
girl felt tired. Then she  
climbed into her slings and  
said she wanted to lie down.  
You soon closed your little  
eyes and we started for  
home. It was among  
the first walks we have  
taken since I have been  
sick. You seemed so glad  
to have Mama walk with  
you that it made me  
very proud and happy.  
That we may always be  
as proud and happy as before.

Friday Feb - 3 -

This noon the bus called  
you, my little girl, and Mama  
too and we rode down to  
Aunt Carrie's. You and Helen  
always do have such good  
times together. But today  
you started just where you  
left off it did seem and  
had a most lovely time. And  
Carrie and I both spoke of how  
we enjoyed seeing you both  
play. Then I took you home  
in your little sled and you  
fell asleep and slept all  
afternoon. You were so tired  
that you could not sleep  
untill your Papa came home  
and went to bed with. He  
also bought you a doll  
which delighted you very much.

Saturday Feb. 4 -

This morning Sona, you  
helped Mama most wonderfully  
with your little sweater &  
and dusting cloth and  
worked all you could. You  
have been a very good little  
girl again today. This afternoon  
a lady was in who seemed  
to enjoy you and your  
play things very much.

She said she would be glad  
when summer comes so  
she can see you out-  
walking again with  
your dollies. Your Ppa  
brought you another dollie  
this noon, and you named  
it Pauline. You could  
scarcely eat any dinner  
after you saw her.

Sunday Feb-5-

This has been another busy day for you Sona for you have had your Papa with you all day and you have certainly made the most of it. Then this afternoon you certainly did enjoy a good long walk with your Mama. They say it was a very cold night - last night; but in spite of the snow and cold you have walked to your Aunt-Carrie's this afternoon. Mama pushed you home in your sled. You seemed quite delighted with your short visit with little Helen.

We also did Aunt-Bertha, who is sick, some good I think. You asked Aunt-Bertha so nicely to please kiss you and it made her smile.

Monday Feb- 6-

You have been a dear good girl all this morning. You have tried to help Mama do her morning work and it has pleased Mama too.

Papo gladden your little heart, as he has so often done before, this noon by bringing you a little flat iron. You now have an ironing board and all to press your dollies clothes on. You have at present five dollies. A Jenny, a Pauline, a Bessie, and a small rubber doll and our paper doll. You do enjoy your dollies so much. At present Pauline is your favorite, any one can see. You took another lovely ride this afternoon and Mama was with you.

We both had a good time.

Tuesday Feb - 7 -

This has been rather a cold day but not quite as cold as some have been. Uncle Henry stayed with us to dinner <sup>and</sup> then we all rode over to the farm house and how glad they all seemed to see you Dora. Your Grandpa ran to the carriage to greet you. He took you in his arms and loved you as though he had not seen you in a year. You seemed equally as pleased to see him. You had a good time there for about an hour and then Uncle Henry took us home again to Russell. You was fast asleep when we reached home. Then in the evening Hattie Reed came over and you and she had a good time playing with your dishes.

-Wednesday Feb - 8 -

Today it has been exceptionally cold and Papa says many people are suffering with the cold everywhere. Donna, you could not go out today, but You have been a very good little girl just the same. Uncle Herman came in after school and you both played with your dishes and had a good time. Then this evening your Papa stayed at home after supper. You and Papa always have big romps together and tonight was no exception.

Papa always puts his little girl to bed when he is home so you and Papa said "sweet dreams" as you always say, to your little brother and Mamma, and then you went to sleep.

Thursday Feb. - 9 -

Today has been another very cold day, but - Sora took her little nap after dinner, and you were ready for a good time as usual. You went up stairs with Mamma after dinner to help her straighten up and then down after we came down stairs Aunt Carrie and Aunt Bertha came down to see us. You were as glad as you always are when they come. You entertained them with your little verses you have learned. You have learned a little very far back letter of the alphabet - also four lines long and are only a little over two years old. Well done,

Friday Feb. 10 -

Today we have been busy sweeping and dusting in the lower part of the house and you have been very busy too. You have kept your sweater going very fast for such a little girl. Mama has been very tired this afternoon and yet she has felt quite well very often today. Uncle Fred came in a few minutes to see if we were all well and we were so glad to see him as usual. Aunt Ida came in a little while this off.

She seemed very pleased to see Sora. We feel very sorry for her at present for she is not well at all -

- Saturday Feb. 11-

Mama has wished that you might get out a little while today but I have finally decided that it is too cold altogether so you have been obliged to be contented inside again. This evening Uncle Fay Thompson and Aunt Genia of Sourcing were in a little while. Uncle Fay preaches here tomorrow and had Mama been stronger they would have made their home here as usual.

You seemed very pleased to see them. It was only a few moments and you were in Aunt Genia's lap showing her your dolls and play things of all kinds.

Sunday, Feb. 12 -

This morning you were glad  
to know that it was Sunday  
for you seem to understand  
already that that means  
that your Papa will be  
home all day. In the  
afternoon Uncle Fred came  
down and took dinner  
with us and then we  
drove over to the farm  
home to help Grandma  
pack Aunt Idas trunk, for  
she expects to start for Battle  
Creek tomorrow morning in  
search for her lost health.  
It has been a sad day for  
all of us but a very happy  
one for you my little girl,  
How I wish you might  
always be as free from care  
and trouble as you are now.

Monday Feb 13.

Today has been a very full day for us all. This morning early Aunt-Ida started for Battle Creek and then this forenoon we received Aunt-Gina and Uncle Fay here. They stayed to dinner with us and started back for Lansing on the noon train. You had a good time with both. Then this evening while Mama went down to Aunt-Carrie's to see how Aunt-Bertha was getting along Uncle Herman was here and played with you and you had a big time together. You have always loved your Uncle Herman most dearly and Mama is glad you do.

Tuesday Feb - 14

Well now you have been a  
very good little girl again  
today. This forenoon you  
were very happy playing  
with your dolls and your  
flat-iron and this afternoon  
after your nap Uncle Henry  
took ~~Sarah~~ and Mama over  
to Aunt Carrie's to see the  
children, and Aunt Bertha  
who is there sick. You were  
so happy to be there with  
little Helen. You both had  
such a good time together.

Aunt Sophia M. was down  
to see our little baby boy  
and she brought you an orange.  
She always brings her sons  
something. Then tonight  
you were so tired that you  
are inclined to be just a  
little cross for a little time out.

Wednesday. Feb, 15--

Since you have been Mama's  
own dear girl again today,  
You were a very good little  
girl all morning. Aunt Carrie  
was down this morning to  
tell us all about Aunt Ida's  
trip to Battle Creek. She brought  
Aunt Bertha with her. She  
says Aunt Bertha may  
stay here while she gets to  
tell Grandma all the news.  
It has pleased you more  
than I can say for you  
have always loved your  
Aunt Bertha dearly. You  
did not get out into the  
air any which makes Mama  
feel as though she had not  
quite done her duty for this  
time. You shall surely  
go tomorrow somewhere.  
The day has been lovely outside,

Thursday Feb. 14 -

Today it has simply been beautiful outside. You and Aunt Bertha and Mama took the bus and went down town to take Aunt Bertha for her bath. She is going to be helped with those treatments we know. You stayed at Aunt Carrie's while we were at the bathrooms and you did have such a good time with little Helen.

You two little girls have always loved orrauocher so much for which Mama is so glad. Aunt Carrie did let you have such a good time too. She let you turn every thing upside down and have a good time,

Friday Feb 10

Well Sonja this has been  
a very big day for you. Your  
Uncle Harry came and  
took you and Aunt Bertha  
over to the farm to have  
dinner with Grandma.

You did have such a  
good time. You came  
home feeling so much <sup>and</sup> better after your ride  
then you slept so good  
all the afternoon and also  
all night. It does you  
lots of good to get out  
and Mama loves to have  
you. You stayed awake  
untill Papou came home  
and undressed you and  
put you to bed. It is  
always such a pleasure  
for Grandpa to put you to bed.

Saturday Feb-18

This morning early Hattie came and took you down town for a ride in your cab and you came home about ten o'clock and found little Ethel Fuller here to play with you.

There has been such a scarlet fever scare here that she has not dared to come before and this afternoon she took you out for a ride and you had a big time. She took you to an Epworth Seagull Social for the first time in your life this afternoon at Mrs Gundrum's. It was just for little folks like you and I know it was lots of fun for you.

Sunday Feb. 12 -

Today has been another happy day for you Son,

It is always the jolliest day of the week for you for then you have your Papa. Your Grandpa was here this morning and wanted to take you over to the farm house with him, but your Mamma thought - perhaps you had better wait until tomorrow for then you could enjoy Papa more today. We had our things all on this oft to take a long walk, you, Papa, and I and then we found it was raining and we were obliged to stay in - It almost broke your heart at first - but you soon learned to take it more kindly.

Monday Feb. 20 -

This noon your Uncle's Fred and Harry came and took you to you over to Grandpa's with them to stay to dinner. You did enjoy your ride and visit so much, and while you were there you telephoned to your Mama for the first time in your life. I could hear you say "Hello Mama" just as plain as if you were an older girl talking to me. You are learning everything very fast my dear little girl. Soon you and only too soon you will be reading this book yourself and keeping this book for yourself and really be a young lady. Uncle brought you home after

Tuesday Feb. 24.

Today was a hollow day  
so Papa came home at one  
o'clock to stay the rest of the  
day with Sora and Mama.

Papa took Sora and Aunt-  
Bertha over to the farm to make  
them a short call and he did  
not bring Aunt-Bertha back  
as Grandma wanted her

to stay there for a short time.

You seemed to miss Bertha  
as much as the rest of us  
did. We love to have Aunt-  
Bertha here with us. This  
afternoon after you came  
home from your drive you  
found three little girls here  
to see you. Sora Cotton and  
her other little ones. You  
did as nobly as always at  
entertaining them. They  
seemed to enjoy their call too.

Wednesday Feb-22 -

It seems to be rather a dark day yet-not rainy, so Mama took you in your cab down to call on Aunt-Carrie and little Helen for a few minutes. You and Helen made the most of your time. It was but a short time and the room was scattered with play things and our two little girls had red cheeks from laughter and play. Mama and Auntie love to see you two little girls love each other so much and play so nicely together. While there Aunt-Bella came in and looked cheery and all cheeked from the fresh air. Uncle Herman walked down town with us.

Thursday Feb 23 -

Today it is rather pleasant again and Aunt Bertha took a ride over home and then Uncle Fred brought her down here to stay with us again. You were as pleased as ~~Mary~~ was to see her. Aunt Carrie came down this afternoon with both babies to make us a visit. When they came in you were on the couch sound asleep and how glad you were when you opened your eyes to find little Cousin Helen standing at the head with her little arms all ready to put them around your neck. You loved each other and then started for your good time. Morris and Russell finished the music while you play I.

- Friday Feb 24 -

This has been rather a gloomy day so my little girl could not get out very much, so this afternoon after you had your nap, you called to Fannie from the window to come and get you and she did. You came home with rosy cheeks and all excited telling me what a good time you had. You seem so contented with Fannie and I am so glad. I think you will always love Fannie for she is a very good little girl and very worthy of ones love. You were very tired tonight and asked Mama to put you to bed early.

Sat Feb 25 -

This has not been the most pleasant day we have seen for it has been so very cold outside. You took a long nap this afternoon after a hard forenoon of play and then you were ready for play.

Emma took you as far as Aunt Sophias and left you there while she went to do some errand further up town and while you were at Aunties she had a good time with you. You love Auntie very much and seem to play as well with her as you would with a little girl near your age -

Sunday Feb 28 -

Today has been another happy day for my little Sora. Papa, Mama, and you my little girl were invited up to Auntie's to dinner and you and Helen played so hard that you could not get to sleep tonight:

Grandma and Grandpa were there too and we did visit about as hard as we could. You little ones did very well altogether. You walked nearly all the way home and it made you very happy too to think you could. It was very damp on the ground for you to walk too.

Monday Feb. 27 -

You were a very good  
little girl this morning. There  
were men at work puffing  
and painting upstairs and  
you seemed delighted  
when you could get up  
there and visit with them.

This afternoon Mama put  
on her wraps and took  
you out for a ride in your  
cab. You did seem to  
have a good time playing  
with Aunt Sophia's bonnie  
dog. When we reached  
home you cried for more  
ride so Mama started out  
again and tried to satisfy  
you. It was very cold for  
so little a girl too.

Tuesday Feb 28  
1899

You were very happy today for you Uncle Fred comes in a few minutes and you were delighted and then this afternoon Mama took you out for a ride in your cab out over west-dowm to Auntie Benjamin's to visit with little Howard and what a good time you two little ones did have. Then when we reached home we found Aunt Bertha there. It seemed to please you very much and it certainly did Mama very much. You were a very good girl again today and it made Mama happy too.

Wednesday March 1-  
-1898-

Well my little Son you  
woke up as good natured  
as ever today and Mamie  
was glad too. This morning  
you have played about  
and walked out - come too.

Then this afternoon I had  
you take a long nap after  
which you went over to  
spend a short time at Hattie's.

You had a good time as  
always. This evening you  
and Aunt Bertha, Papa and  
I are going out to a band  
concert. I know you  
will enjoy it very much  
too as you do love band  
music so much. Your  
Papa will enjoy it with  
you I know.

Thursday March 2 -

Today you have been rather unruly and I know it is because you were out late last night so I have not layed it up against you. This morning you and Bertha and I went up town and we did a little shopping and then we walked back. This all pleased you very much my little maid. It was rather damp on the walk and you found every water hole there was. You would always step in a good big water spot when Maria and Papa had their backs turned. You naughty girl.

Friday March 3 -

Today you have been  
your good little self again.  
I think you are rested  
from your evening  
dissipation. This morning  
you Aunt-Bertha and I  
went down to Aunt-Carrie  
and Aunt-Betha took  
her bath while you had a  
good play with little  
Helen. You had a good  
time too. Little Helen  
was quite sick this  
afternoon however and you  
could not play as well  
as usual on that account.  
Then this afternoon Uncle  
Harmon came and then  
you went over to Hattie  
and had a good play.

Saturday March 4-

Well my little girl this has been a big day for you for early this morning long before your curls were dry Hattie Reed came to take you out for a ride in your cab, and then a little later little Ethel Fuller came down. You did play so nicely with your play things and the Ethel took you out in your cab this afternoon and you went up there together and had a most lovely time.

You came home just asleep, and Ethel stayed until dark. Mamma loves to have Ethel come for you are so good when she is here. I hope she will come very often -

Sunday March 5 -

Today has been rather a quiet day for you my little girl, but this afternoon you were busy around the house with Papa as it was Sunday and you always have a good time when he is here - Then this afternoon Papa took you out for a walk and you came in with your cloak and your white apron all covered with mud, as you had a good and complete fall into a water puddle - You looked rather mischievous when you stepped in - I think Mamma will have to make a cloak especially for your walks with your Papa -

-Monday-March 6 =

Well my little girl you had  
a big time today for Aunt-  
Bertha came down this morning  
and then Uncle Fred <sup>and Henry</sup> and  
Aunt Carrie came down  
to dinner. This was more  
than fun for you, then this  
afternoon while I went with  
Aunt Bertha to take her bath  
you went with Aunt Carrie  
to play with little Helen  
and you did have such a  
good time that you were  
not ready to come home  
with Mama. Then tonight-  
you did have such a jolly  
time with your Papa  
playing hide <sup>and</sup> seek. You  
and your Papa spent many  
happy moments together.

- Tuesday March 7 -

This morning you entertained  
yourself most-lovely all by  
yourself and this noon  
Uncle Harry took you over  
to take dinner with Uncle  
Fred and Grandpa and  
Grandma and you came  
home with your cheeks  
as red as cherries and then  
after dinner you had a  
lovely ride with Aunt Bettie  
and Mama. While we were  
out you saw Uncle Tom's  
shirt-parade and in it a  
band played with very  
little gal most-happy.

Then after this the fresh  
air put my little Sona  
fast-asleep. You were  
quite happy the rest of  
the day.

- Wednesday March 8 -

This morning you were quite a busy girl helping us sweep and clean. We did quite a little work up stairs and you were there most of the time.

Uncle Fred came this morning and took Aunt Bertha down to Aunt Carrie's to stay until tomorrow. Then yesterday this afternoon Mama took you in your cab and we went up town and Mama left you with Papa while she did some shopping.

You came home rather a cross tired little girl.

But after you had your little nap they over you were soon fast asleep -

Thursday March 9

It has been storming outside all of this day <sup>and</sup> so we did quite a little work. You did not get out any until Hattie came out of school then you <sup>and</sup> she started out for a walk and you had a big time together. You just walked and walked as long as she did. Then you went over to Hattie's and stayed until your Papa came home to supper and then he started out to buy you horses for he gets very lonely without you when he is home.  
I hope you will always show the love for your Papa <sup>as</sup> <sub>now</sub>.

-Friday March 10 -

It was so bad and rainy outside today that I did not let you go out any.

Your Uncle Roy Miller was here a little time this forenoon and you did very well toward entertaining him. He loves you very much and always speaks about how rapidly you are advancing. This afternoon you had great sport in driving Russell around in his little cab and it helped Mama out so nicely too for I have been very busy trying to sweep up stairs for some time back.

Saturday March 11

Today I have not seen  
very much of you my  
little daughter you have  
spent-most of the day  
with Hattie Reed. She  
called for you early this  
morning almost before your  
curls were dry from your  
bath and then you fell  
asleep while you were  
out-with her and you  
slept about two hours on  
Hatties bed then this  
afternoon you were out-  
with Hattie again until  
supper time. Mama hardly  
knew she had a little  
sona today, and yet you  
were more than happy  
all of the time I know.

Sunday March 12 -

This was another big day for you for Papa was not out of the house all day. This forenoon you were happy playing with Papa and Russell and then this afternoon you and I took a long walk, we just had a good time too. It was very stormy and stormy but it did you know how to be out in it. You came back home all the more ready for real hard fun with Papa and you had it too as usual. But you were ready for bed very early today but.

Monday March 13

This morning you were made happy by having Aunt Bertha come back to us to stay a while again for you love her very much.

Then this afternoon Uncle Frank came down to stay a while and then you were more than happy. He let you ride on his back and play hours with him.

You laughed as hard as I ever heard you. You would not be put to bed until the rest and Uncle Frank went too. Then you slept well and that pleased Papa and Mamie more than anything you could do.

Tuesday March 14

Early this forenoon Uncle Frank took you out - for a ride in your cab and you did enjoy it so much and then at noon Uncle Frank had to return to his home and this you did not enjoy so much and yet you made the best of it after a good sleep you were made happy by having Aunt Bertha return for a few days again. Then Papa stayed with us longest - after supper and you did have a good play with him and we all spent some a laughing at you both -

Wednesday March 15 -

Today you have been another busy little girl, helping adorn the house this morning and then this afternoon Mamma took you for a short walk after your good refreshing sleep. Then this evening after Hattie came home from school you were over there and had a good time.

You came home happy to find Papa here and you were ready for fun indeed. Tonight you were unusually tired and cross and Mamma had a hard time to get you quieted down to sleep. But I conqueed.

- Thursday March 14 -

This morning you, Aunt Bertha and Mama started out for a morning's walk. We just had a nice walk and while we were visiting we met Uncle Fred and Henry they had just started for Uncle Grandpa's to get their dinner. They asked you to get in and go too. You needed no more invitations than our and away you went - never even thinking to bid Mama good by. Then after you came home you had a good sleep and then you went out and had a good play with your little friend Halter -

Friday March 17 -

This morning Mamma  
bathed and dressed you <sup>and</sup>  
then you went with  
Aunt Bertha and Mamma  
to see Aunt Bertha take her  
bath. You were very much  
surprised when the lady  
began spattering and rubbing  
Aunt Bertha and then you  
could not understand why  
she would cover her up  
as she did. So you told  
Aunt Bertha to go to sleep.  
It made us all smile  
more than once. This  
afternoon you have been  
very naughty and I  
think you have not felt  
very well however. You  
slept early too.

- Saturday March 18 -

Today you have been another very happy little girl for your little and very dear friend Ethel Fuller and you did have such a good time. You play so nicely and peacefully together. And then this afternoon you went down town together and you both looked contented and happy after you returned.

Your Mamie loves to have the little folks come in in that way for it pleases you and helps your Mamie out. You telephoned to Aunt Bertha so nicely today. It made her feel good they say,

- Sunday March 19 -

Well my little son you did have a big time today for you went to church for the first time since long before Mama was taken sick. You were a very good baby too. You never disturbed anyone and you did just as Mama said you should in every way. Then after church Grandpa came down and took us all over home for the first time in ever so long. You seemed very much grieved when you found Grandma feeling so poorly however.

Monday March 20-

This forenoon you are rushing around helping Mama do this thing and that and finally this afternoon you were ready to go up town with Aunt Bertha and I. You had a lovely time you thought. You spent your time while down town with Papa in "Papa's house" as you call it. When Mama called for you, you were hardly ready to go for you were having so much fun you said. You ate and slept very well as the good outcome of it all.

Tuesday March 21 -

Today has been a  
very stormy day and  
my little girl could  
not go out - very much  
today. But you have  
been a very good little  
girl. You took a nice  
long nap this afternoon  
and you have had a  
good time since for  
Uncle Herman came  
in and you had a good  
visit with him. You  
and Herman play with  
your dishes as though you  
were both children -

Tonight - you were not as  
good natured as usual  
about going to your little bed.

Wednesday March 22 -

Today you have had another big time. You started out for a walk with your Mama and we met your Uncles Fred & Henry. They picked you up and took you over to the farm house to take dinner with them. Then they brought you back with cheeks as red as roses and eyes as big as haulds. You love to go to Grandmas more than any other place and they love to have you come too. Mama thought she never could spare you long enough to let you go any where alone but to the farm house.

Thursday March 23 -

This forenoon you had a  
big time you thought running  
up and down stairs while  
the paper was being hung  
in one of the bed rooms and I  
think myself you did and  
then just after dinner Uncle  
Henry came and asked you  
Aunt Bertha and I to take a  
ride and we made the most  
of it too. It has been very  
good sleighing and we took a  
sleigh ride over to see our  
dear Grandma. She was  
sick in bed but as glad as  
ever to see us. How you do  
dote your Grandma and  
how much she does love  
you too. How I hope you  
will grow up to love her  
more and more all your  
life and make her feel it  
too my dear little Son

- Friday March 24 -

Today your Mamma has been very busy all day and so has my dear little Son. You have rushed around until your dear little legs must surely ache tonight. You walked down to the mill Aunt Bertha and Mamma this afternoon and then tonight you could not wait for Mamma to undress as usual after supper but I had to go to work long before supper and you were sound asleep three hours before your Papa came home at night and I know you need the sleep too. You are very good all day and you are the most of the time anyway. I think your Mamma loves you more all the time anyway.

Saturday March 26--

My little girl you were out all this day with little Hattie Reed and you had a very good time too. This morning she came for you quite early and while you were away she took a ride over to our farm house and how you did miss her too. Then when you had a short nap you started out again with Hattie after dinner and to-night after eight o'clock Aunt Sophia Morganhale came down to see you a short time. You told her all your news and had a good time doing that too. She gave you a penny for your bank and it pleased you so very much.

-Sunday March 26.-

Today has been a very quiet day and we all stayed at home and made the best of it. Papa felt very poorly and Mama did not feel very well either and so you my little maid were obliged to entertain yourself the best you could. You did it too very nicely. Auntie <sup>and Uncle</sup> Hatch came in a short time and broke up the monotony for you soon than your Papa took you out for a walk which you seemed to enjoy very much. Sunday you are always very happy just to have Papa to look at and enjoy. And your Papa enjoys you just as much.

- Monday March 27 -

This forenoon you enjoyed yourself very much just playing around by your own little self for Mamma was quite busy the most of the morning and then this afternoon you went out calling with Mamma. We called on our near neighbors first. You always seem to enjoy the calls most where you find other little ones.

Then when you reached home you found Uncle Herman here. You did have a most lovely visit with him too. You seemed to sleep very good <sup>tonight</sup> this afternoon and I know you all

Tuesday March 28 -

You have simply begged  
all day that you might go  
out-tonight so this afternoon  
after one of the little girls  
came home from school  
I let you go out-riding in  
your cab and also for a  
walk. It has been a very  
stormy and bad day but you  
seemed to enjoy it very much.

Your Uncle and Auntie  
Schuler came down today  
to see us the first-time  
in almost-a year and  
we were very glad to see  
them too and they seemed  
very glad to be here too.  
They are going to stay all  
of this night-with us.

- Wednesday March 29 -

It has been a very stormy day outside, but you have had a lovely time inside, this forenoon Mamma took you over to Hattie's to play with her for awhile and then this afternoon they came down from home and took you and I over home to spend the day with Aunt Bertha for it is her birth day and she is just twenty years of age today. You had a very time. They treated us all to some warm sugar and it tasted just simply fine for it has been the rest ever since.

- Thursday March 30 -

Today it has not been very pleasant out nor was it yesterday. Hattie came over and took you over there to spend the most of the afternoon and you had a very pleasant time and then this morning you were up stairs more or less with Auntie Hatch. She has just finished putting her rooms up stairs and it is a treat for you to go up there. You took a nice long nap just after dinner and seemed to feel very much better. Thought you took down cold yesterday in riding over to Grandpa's for you have coughed more or less -

Friday March 31-

Today you have just tired yourself out - playing at one thing and another.

You took a nice long nap after dinner and then Uncle Harry came in. You played with him until he started for home. Then Papa sent word over the phone that he wished you and I would come down and take supper at the W. E. Church with him. We went and had a good time and your first experience was quite a little fun for you for several of your little friends were there and you had a good time in every way.

Saturday April 1 - 1899.

It has been very stormy outside today but you have enjoyed yourself very much for you have been with Hattie the most of this day. This afternoon you and Hattie built your first nests for the old rabbit to lay his eggs in for you.

You built a little nest in the woodshed of hay and it was quite fun to see you dig out the colored eggs this morning. Papa had bought you a little toy Rabbit some time ago and this you found in your nest of eggs. You were quite delighted too as you found this nest now it will be still more fun.

Sunday April 2 -

We did not go over to Grandpa's today to spend the day but stayed quietly at home. Aunt Ida came home from Battle Creek and Aunt Bertha was at Grandpa's too so we concluded it would be best for us to stay here. You were happy with your eggs this forenoon and after dinner you took your nap and then this evening Aunt Ida and Bertha and Uncle Herman came down a little while to visit with us. We all had a good time together. Aunt Ida seems no better to me though she may be. You seemed so glad to see her.

Monday April 3 -

This has been a very pleasant-day and you spent most of the forenoon having a good time with Aunt Bertha. Then after your nap this noon you and I went down with Aunt Bertha to take ~~your~~ bath.

You always enjoy it so much to see her go through all the different movements and it does indeed seem nice to see it & enjoy it myself. Then you enjoy walking around on main street and looking at the different decorated windows. You always have a good time when you are out in that way.

Tuesday April 4.

Today my little girl you  
have had a very good  
time. You played so hard  
all morning and then  
had a good long nap in  
the afternoon. While you  
were enjoying a good  
long nap Mama and Aunt  
Bethia took a ride over  
to Grandmas and then  
when we returned we  
took you out for a short-  
ride and then tonight-  
you were both so tired  
and you felt so bad with  
a terrible cold you have  
that you did not rest  
very well nor did  
any of us. I hope you  
will rest better tonight.

Wednesday April 5 -

This forenoon my little girl you were very happy and you helped Mama do her housework to perfection with the promise that you could go home by this afternoon. After dinner the lady who helps Mama over at the farm came down and took us over home to Grandpa's. We found Aunt Carrie there with the two babies and you little folks had a most lovely time. You made the most of it for the short time that you were together. Tonight you and baby brother both seem to feel very badly with a bad cold.

- Thursday April 4 -

My little Sona you have been a very good girl today when I stop to think how badly you have felt with your cold today. Your little brother has suffered with you as well as you and Mamma has tried all she could to help you out; just after dinner today your Papa had you out for a short walk and then your Auntie Bertha and Ada came down to spend the afternoon and also Uncle Herman. You all had a most lovely time. Your little Cousin Helen is quite sick today again and we are very sorry about that.

- Friday April 1 -

Well today you have had a big time. Such a big time that you did not sleep any this afternoon. One of your little friends came in to see you and after that you went down town with Aunt Bertha to take her bath and while you were gone Papa sent sep a Piano. You came in and said "Ah Mamma how lovely this is" This is my Piano"

You have spent the rest of the afternoon playing on your Piano as you call it. Mama hopes you may learn to love to play on it and make of yourself a very good player. You came home this afternoon with a box of candy that was given you.

- Saturday April 8 -

This morning early you little friend Ethel Fuller came in to spend the day with you. You did have such a good time playing with your dolls and things <sup>and</sup> then in the afternoon you went out first for a walk and then for a ride in your cab. You had a very good time as you always do when little Ethel comes.

You have felt very badly of late with a cold but it is getting very much better now and I think you will have not as much trouble as you did have for several nights back and Mamma is glad for she dislikes to see you or Russell suffer -

Sunday April 9-

Some this has been a very busy day for you. Early this morning Papa took you out-for a walk and then he took you and I out-for a short drive. We always love to have Sunday come for then we have our dear Papa all to ourselves. It seems to me that you love your Papa more and more all the time. He certainly loves his dear girl very dearly. This afternoon Papa took you out-in your cab and you seemed to enjoy yourself very much, but the fresh air seemed to just put you asleep in a great big lury and you slept the rest of the afternoon. You are growing very fast-my dear little girl, everyone remarks it.

-Monday April 10-

Now you are a happy little girl that is sure. You wanted to go outside the minute you were dressed this morning. Mama put on your cap and we walked a little with Aunt Ida and little Helen for they were down here and then after dinner Papa started to take you out for a walk again but you turned into Grandma Reeds and spent the rest of the afternoon there. Tonight you were very tired for you had had no sleep this afternoon. You have been a very good little girl however all day and Mama feels as proud of you as ever she can.

Tuesday April 11 -

This morning after you  
were dressed and washed  
for the day you and I started  
for a walk down to the  
dry goods store to do our shopping.  
On our way down we went  
called into Mrs. Phelps, and  
they were so glad to have  
you there only for a few  
moments - for they love babies  
dearly, and before we got  
back it began to rain quite  
hard and you were obliged  
to run until you were  
almost out-of breath to  
keep from getting wet.  
The rest of the day you  
could not go out - any  
on account of the rain -

Wednesday April 12

This morning my little one  
you have been surely very  
happy. You have been in  
and out to your hearts  
content. It has been the  
very first day that you  
could go out and have  
such a good time. Then  
this afternoon you made  
a call with me and also  
went with us to Aunt-  
Bertha's bath this afternoon,

You called on Papa too  
at his house as you call it.  
This tonight you are  
a very tired little lady  
Aunt-Bertha put you to  
bed as Mamma had to be  
out more or less this  
evening.

- Thursday April 13 -

This morning my dear  
little girl had a big time  
outside. You did enjoy  
taking your dollies out -  
in their little wagon <sup>and</sup>  
after you sleep this noon  
you went out again.

You ran away tonight -  
for the first time. You  
ran half way down  
Crown before Mamma  
missed you at all and it  
was after dark too. You  
are not the least bit  
afraid after dark any  
more than you are of  
the hound dog night - and  
I am so glad too. You  
had a little fall tonight -  
about two steps too.

- Friday April 14 -

This morning Mama has been rather busy all day. This noon you went over to the farm to dinner and remained there until Mama came over a little later. While this you and Helen had a most-lovely time. Uncle Little Morris was there too. Aunt Bertha did not go over but stayed here and was very glad when we got back. We are all a little excited over the fact that Uncle George comes home tomorrow for a short time. I shall enjoy seeing him meet the babies and soon you will enjoy it too.

Saturday April 13

This has been a big day  
for us. There has been  
much to see to so that we  
would have more time  
to visit with Uncle George.

Uncle George came  
home this afternoon and  
we were all delighted. You  
did not seem at all back-  
ward about speaking to  
him and loving him  
to. Then you thought  
him very good too for  
buying you a box of  
New York fine candies.  
You told Uncle that he  
had come on the cars  
from New York City and  
it pleased and surprised him.

- Sunday 14 -

Today we had a good time. We all went over to Grandpa's again to spend the day. Cousins Helen and Morris were there and you children had a most lovely time. They in all did Harry a very good visit. Uncle George seemed to enjoy the babies so much.

You were a very good baby all the afternoon but you became very tired about bed time and you seemed very glad to get to bed too. You and Papa still sleep together and you enjoy it as much as ever I think.

