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

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Sonu Elizabeth Voelker.
Thursday Jan 6 - 1879.

This has been quite a stormy day but Sony had a good little time first the same. 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 Sony was happy more and more all the time. She took a long ride the afternoon and had a good time.

Friday Jan. 7

Sony has had a lovely time. 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 played a short-time and some of us delighted over that.

Miss Faster, the lady who took care of the baby and new-born today. We were glad she was well enough to let her go and yet we are not very strong. Some times her little brother were away and can hardly help her hands off from the little yellow.

**Sunday June 5** -

Some Uncle Frank's 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.
Some has not been very well for the last few days but seems very much better today. Grandpa came down and played a few minutes and some was so glad to have him with us that she dreaded to say good bye to him.

Monday Jan 9

Today Some has been very happy playing with her Xmas things and Anna took her out for a ride this afternoon and she had a good time and then came to fast-asleep.

Uncle Herman came in a little later this afternoon and they had a big dinner together. She said today when I asked her if it was a disagreeable answer for her little brother that she did not like him.
Tuesday Jun 10 -

Donna has been a very good little girl all this day. Uncle Harmon was down this morning and took dinner with us. Donna had a fine time nothing here with him first. This afternoon Papa took Donna and I out for a twenty minute drive on the first twenty miles I have been able to drive. We hoped to be able to put Donna asleep in that way but she never shut her eyes once.

Wednesday Jun 11 -

As usual Donna has been well and happy today. She had her little outfit and can in front asleep.

Mrs. Whitney called this afternoon and said she thought Donna positively a handsome child. Mrs. Allie
Cutter called her and she said it made her rush. She had a baby again to see ours. She could not rest until she had seen some fast asleep on the bed. She reminded me of a happy child.

**Thursday Jan 12**

Sora has enjoyed playing with her dolls and money. She took her ride and then fell asleep. Auntie Morgan took her in her money and loved Sora almost to death. She only wished she was her little girl. She thought she would be so happy and I think she would too.

**Friday Jan 13**

Mrs. Paulney and Hallie Bulter called, and they enjoyed watching some prince around.
so much. She enticed them very nicely for but she did not card to have them take her Russell home with them as they asked to. They both held and loved our little brown baby long and often and thought her fine.

Saturday Jan 14

Downe has been very good all of today. She has been to enjoying the boxes very than anything else today. Emma took her out into the air and she enjoyed it and felt quite asleep. It worried her quite a little this evening to think Russell was not feeling very well and it made it rather hard to get her to sleep.
Sunday June 18 -

Some has been so happy today to think she Pap 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 bought us back very soon. Some enjoyed it so much. She kept saying how lovely this is Mama.

She slept most of the way back. This afternoon her Uncle Frank came and took her out on her cab so she had quite a little fresh air and did have such a happy guy turn all day.

Monday June 19 -

This morning some committed himself nicely. This afternoon Mrs. McCarthys came in.
and played dolls with Sona as nicely as if she were a child herself. They were as happy as two
better together. Uncle Harmon came in and helped play and they had a fair 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 June 17

Today Sona has been rather quiet. I told her for the weather has been rather stormy and
she could not be out as much as usual. She did take her ride in her car however this afternoon and came in
just as 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 horne undresses her and go to bed with her and would let no one do any thing for her but her.

Wednesday June 18

This morning Sona’s 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 much. She seems to feel a little better tonight.
Thursday Jan 19 -

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

This afternoon I look out for a walk. We did not go so very far but we felt much better for it I came till. Some seems to feel just a little better each day and I hope the next ex out again for us all. Mr. Fuller called I was moving to see our baby boy and I think he made about as much of Sisse as he did of our new baby boy. He seemed very delighted however that it was a boy as he though him a bouncer for his age.

I hope he may always be as well as Sisse has been.
Friday June 20

This has been a hard long day for us all. Mamma has been sick with the grip and now some has been obliged to care for herself as best she could. She has been 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 Mamma and the baby today she seemed very much delighted to see him. Aunt-Currie, Uncle Herman and Henry called to see us today and when she was out thirty were here. She was a most happy little girl. She played with her dolls 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 June 21 -

It has been a gloomy forenoon and some has been quietly without, and yet has made me no official trouble. This forenoon she did a very queer thing. She took away one thing out of the storey book and didn't go into the book herself and began to stir things up most frightfully. She never does any particular harm to any thing; simply is full of mischief. Emma had her out this afternoon and she came in after a nice long ride in her 23d fast-asleep and much refreshed from the mind and good air.

Sunday June 22 -

This has been rather a hard day for us all. Some
has not felt at all well and
Mama has felt unusually bad. Papa has not felt well
and we have quietly had a
hard time. This forenoon
Papa did take some out for
a walk however. She walked
all the way down town with
him. She came home fast-asleep and all tired out. This
evening 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 he felt he did
not have a very good time.
The trouble with us all is
the grip. Some made the
remarks to-day that-the grip
had got her and I think it
was a sensible thing to
putting it myself. Today
is cooler better they say.
Mondays June 23

This day has been a little easier to endure. Mama, Sonya 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 Sonya walked down to her Papa's shop after dinner and Emma went down with her 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. Some sure but the grip has strained her output a hunny 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 are so thankful too. We will all be very happy to be well once more. Emma took some out of her room and brought her to fast asleep. She has had a good time this evening with her [illegible] Herman. She quite surprised him by being able to say so many of her letters and a little verse with each one. She can sing quite a number of verses of different kinds.

Wednesday Jan 25

Sona has been very good today though she has not felt at all well. She fell asleep early after dinner at 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 June 26

Some 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 flowers her first set of dishes. We all had to sit and eat her with her at her first dinner. I even saw her delighted at nine with those dishes. She is getting to be quite a girl to play with dishes.
I was so lonely all day that she could not go out - but she has been very happy inside with the family.

I think her Mama is quite proud of her very very...

Friday June 27

Some has felt very well today and has been a perfect mischiefs. I was just thinking I wish her Papa were here and could put her to bed for them perhaps she would give one a little peace when it comes to getting into mischief and I could not have her very different if I really could.

Her Yorkie

Fred came from New York City after being away a very short time and old man very glad to see them too. She was out for her ride today even though it was her old
Saturday Jan 28

Sona has been a dear sweet baby 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 comes 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 Papu love me. She told him she wouldn't if she were mine. It pleased us all very much. She wants all the loving given to her. She seems to be away with all she can get. Aunt Carrie came over soon after Sona woke up from her nap today, and the child was delighted to see her too.
Sunday June 29th
It has been a very cold day, but Papa would insist upon taking Sara out for a ride in her sled. He says fresh air never did hurt anyone yet. So he wrapped Sara up well and took her out hoping to bring her in fast asleep that 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 Sara asleep while out. Sara often says "Papa is very funny Mama," and you are one 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 did Mama do
Monday June 30

Today some has been a great mischief. What shall I do with you my little girl if you continue in this way. You are almost as troublesome to your Mamma as the older you get the more fun you seem to get out of everything. You have never willingly broken anything 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 everything. 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 June 31 -

This forenoon you visited most of the town having your little brother which I can't say he likes much of any as yet. He seems to object as yet but Mama hopes the town will come when he will enjoy very much.

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

You are rather hard on the furniture down turns. You seem to think soup and sweet a very good thing for Mama. Mohogany chairs. You will soon clean better I know.

You seem to grow bigger and fatter every day I think the fresh air goes quite cold there in very good for you.
Wednesday Feb. 1

This afternoon there was a lady in who said you looked like your Mamma so much. But Mamma 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 Mamma 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 one whole year.
Thursday Feb 8th

After dinner you and I took a walk with Pope. We walked down as far as the business part then walked around a whole square before my little girl fell tired. Then she climbed into her sleigh 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 Mamma walk with you that it made me very proud and happy. That we may always be as proud and happy as today.
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 occur and had a most lovely time. And Carrie and I both spoke of how we enjoyed seeing you both play. Then I both you home in your little bed and you fell asleep and slept all afternoon. You were so tired that you could not sleep until your Papa came home and sent to bed with. He also bought you a doll which delighted you very much.
Saturday Feb. 4 -

This morning some, you helped Mama most wonderfully with your little sweeping 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 dolls. Your Papa bought you another doll this noon and you named it Paulina. You could scarcely eat any dinner after you saw this.
Sunday Feb-3

This has been another big day for you: Some fun 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 Mamma. 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 this afternoon. Mamma pushed you hours in your sled. You seemed quite delighted with your short walk 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. 6th

You have been a dear good girl all this morning. You have tried to help Mamma do her Monday work and it has pleased Mamma too. Papo gladdens your little heart as he has so often done before, this more 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 Jennie, a Paulina, a Bessie, and a small rubber doll and our paper doll. You do enjoy your dollies so much. At present Paulina is your favorite, every one can see. You look another lovely ride this afternoon and Mamma was with you. We both had a good time.
Tuesday Feb 7th

This has been neither a cold day but not quite as cold as some have been. Uncle Henry played with us to dinner and then we all rode over to the farm home and how glad they all seemed to see you soda. Your Grandpa ran to the carriage to greet you. He took you in this dinner and loved you as though he had not seen you in a year. You seemed unusually as pleased to see him. You had a good dinner 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 dolls.
Wednesday Feb. 2

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 mother and Mamma, and then you need to sleep.
Thursday Feb. 9th

Today has been another very cold day, but - some look like little soup 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 some after. 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 song for each letter of the alphabet after 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 umbrella going very fast for such a little girl. Mamma has been very tired this afternoon and yet she has felt quite well since then. 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 Ide came in a little while this afternoon. She seemed very pleased to see you. We feel very sorry for her at present, for she is not well at all.
Saturday Feb. 11

Mamma 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 Jennie of Sounding were in a little while. Uncle Fay preached here tomorrow and had Mamma 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 Jennie's lap showing her your dollies 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 Ida’s 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 helpful 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 Idaho started for Battle Creek and then his forenoon we received Aunt Gene 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 them. 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 done you have been a very good little girl again today. This forenoon you were very happy playing with your dolls and you flat-ironed and thir aferion after your nap Uncle Henry took Grand and Mama and to Aunt Carrie to see the children and Aunt Bertha who is there aick. 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 some something. Then tonight, you were so tired that you were inclined to be just a little cross for a little time only.
Wednesday, Feb. 15th

Some you have been Mama's own dear girl again today. You were a very good little girl all morning. Aunt Currie was down this morning to tell us all about Aunt-Idea's trip to Battle Creek. She brought Aunt Bertha with her. She says Aunt Bertha means old age here while she goes 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 Mamma 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 new at the bathrooms and you did have such a good time with little Helen. You two little girls have always loved one another so much for which Mamma 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 18

Well don't this have been a very big day for you. Your Uncle Henry came and took you and Aunt Bertha over to the farm to take dinner with Grandma.

You did have such a good time. You came home feeling so much better after your ride and then you slept so good all the afternoon and also all night. It does you lots of good to get outside and Mama likes to have you. You stayed awake until Papa came home and undressed you and put you to bed. It is always such a pleasure for Grandma to put-you to bed.
Saturday Feb. 18

This morning early Hattie came and took you downtown for a ride in your cab and you came home about ten o'clock and found little Ethel Fiedler here to play with you. There had been such a scarlet fever scare here that she had 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 League Social for the first time in your life this afternoon at Mrs. Sundheim. Dr. von little folks like you and I know it was lots of good for you.
Sunday Feb. 12th

Today has been another happy day for you and me. 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 Mama thought—perhaps you had better wait until tomorrow for then you could enjoy Papa more today. We had our things all on this off 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. 28

This noon your Uncle Fred and Henry came and took you over to Grandpa's and there you stay & dinner. You did enjoy your ride and meal so much and while you were there you telephoned to your Mamma for the first time in your life. I could hear you say "Hello Mamma" just as plain as if you were an older girl talking to me. You are leaving everything very fast my dear little girl. Soon you will be reading their letters yourself and keeping this book for yourself and really be a young lady. Uncle bought you this one.
Tuesday Feb. 14.

Today was a holiday so Papal came home at one o'clock to stay the rest of the day with Sona and Mama. Papa took Sona and Aunt Berthia over to the farm to make them a short call and he did not bring Aunt Berthia back as Grandma wanted her to stay there for a short time.

You seemed to miss Berthia as much as the rest of us did. We love to have Aunt Berthia here with us. This afternoon after you came home from your drive you found three little girls here to see you. Lola Cotton and two 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 Maurice 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 crowded with play things and our two little girls had red cheeks from laughter and play. Maurice and Auntie love to see you two little girls love each other so much and play so nicely together. While the Aunt Brittie came in and looked cheerful and all checked from the fresh air, Uncle Herman walked down home with me.
Thursday Feb 23 -

Today it is rather pleasant again and Aunt Bertie took me to ride on her horse 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 turn. Marvin and Russell finished the music while you slept.
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 hi to Hattie 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 content with Hattie and I seem so glad. I think you will always love Hattie for she is a very good little girl and very worthy of our 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 one has seen. For it has been a very cold outside. You took a long nap this afternoon after a hard afternoon of play and then you were ready for play.

Emma took you as far as Aunt Sophia's and left you there while she went to do some around the house and while you were at Auntie's she had a good time with you. You loved Auntie very much as you seem to play as well with her as you would with a little girl near your age.
Sunday Feb 26

Today has been another happy day for my little Son. Papa, Mama, and you my little girl were invited to Auntie's house and you and Helen played so hard that you couldn't get to asleep tonight.

Grandma and Grandpa were there too and we did sail about as hard as we could. You little ones did very well all together. You walked nearly all the way home and it made you very happy too to think you could. It was very damp as the pencil fit you to walk low.
Monday Feb. 27

You were a very good little girl this morning. There were men at work gapping
and painting upstairs and you seemed delighted
when you could get up there and assist with the thing.

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 Sophie's bony
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
1879

You were very happy today for you jumped for joy in a few minutes and you were delighted and then this afternoon mamma took you out for a ride in your car out near auntie’s house then when we reached home we found auntie Bertie there. It seemed so pleasant you very much and it certainly did mamma very much. You were a very good girl again today and it made mamma happy too.
Wednesday March 1 - 1899 -

Will my little Lova you make up as good natured as and today and Mama was glad too. This money you have played about and walked out some too.

Then this afternoon I had you take a long walk after which you went over to send a short line to Hattie.

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 like music so much. Your Papa will enjoy it with you I know.
Thursday March 2—

Today you have been rather uneasy and I know it is because you were out late last night and I have not laid it up against you. This morning your Aunt 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 walks and you found every mule held there heads. You would always step in a good big mule spot unless Maria and Papa had seen us.
Friday March 3

Tuesday you have been your good little self again. I think your are rested from your evenning dissipation. This evenning you Aunt-Bethia and I went down to Aunt-Carrie's and Aunt-Bethia took her bath while you had a good play with little Helen. You had a good time too. Little Helen was quite sick this forenoon 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 4th

Well my little girl this has been a big day for you. For early this morning long before your curls had dried Halter Reed came to take you out for a ride in your cab and then a little later little Ettel Fuller came down. You did play so nicely with your play things and the Ettel took you out in your cab this afternoon and you went-upstairs together and lived a most lovely time.

You came home fast asleep, and Ettel stayed until lunch. Mamiee does not want Ettel to come for you are so good when she is here. I hope she will come very often.
Sunday March 5th.

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 while all covered with mud, as you had a good and complete fall into a water puddle - you looked rather mischievous when you stumbled in - I think Mama will have to make a cloak especially for you not the one you wore 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 and Aunt Carrie came down to dinner. This was more than fun for you than 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 and 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 Henry 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 this after dinner you had a lovely ride with Aunt Betty and Mamma. While we were out you saw Uncle Tom's shirt parade and in it a band played such merry little glee most happily.

Then after this the fresh air put my little Sony just asleep. You were quite happy the rest of the day.
Wednesday March 8th.

This morning you were quite a busy girl helping us sweep and clean. We did quite a little work upstairs 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 car and we went upstairs 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 nappy on you were very quiet —
Thursday March 9

I have been drowning outside all of this week and so we did quite a little work. You did not get out any until Hattie came out of school then you and 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 played until your Papa came home to supper and then he started out to bring you home for he gets very lonely without you when he is alone. I hope you will always show the love for your Papa.
Friday March 10

It was so bad and rainy outside today that I didn't let you go out away.

Your Uncle Roy Miller was here a little little this afternoon and you did very well toward entertaining him. He loves you very much and always prays about how rapidly you are advancing. This afternoon you had great fun in drawing Russell around in his little car and it helped Maurice out so nicely. For I have been very busy trying to come up stairs for some time back.
Saturday March 11

Today I have not seen very much of you. 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 Hattie's bed then this afternoon you were out with Hattie again until dinner time. Marcella kindly knew she had a little soda today and yet you were more than happy all of the time I brought.
Sunday March 12th

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 this afternoon you and I took a long walk. We just had a good time too. It was very sunny and smiling 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 my early tosey bit.
Monday March 13

This morning you were made happy by having Aunt Bertha come back home 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 are more than happy. He let you ride on his back and play horse with him.

You looked as plump 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 Mama more than anything you could do.
Tuesday March 14

Early this morning 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 house and thus you did not enjoy so much and yet you made the best of it. After a good sleep you were much happier by having Aunt Bertha return for a few days again. Then Papa played with us longest after supper and you did have a good play with him and we all felt some a laughing at you both.
Wednesday March 16th

Today you have been another busy little girl helping around the house this morning and this afternoon. Marva took you for a short walk after your good refreshing sleep. Then this evening after dinner you 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 Marva had a hard time to get you quieted down to sleep, but I conquered.
Thursday March 16

This morning you, Aunt Bertha and Mama started out for a morning walk. We just had a nice walk and while we were walking we met Uncle Fred and Tenny. They had just started for Uncle Grandpa to get their dinner. They asked you to get in a car and go too. You needed no more invitations than our and away you went—never seeing Staining to bid Mama good-by. Then after you came home, you had a good sleep and then you went and had a good play with your little friend Halley.
Friday March 17th

This morning Mamie hurried and dressed you of then you went with Aunt Bertha and Mamie to see Aunt Bertha take her bath. You were very much surprised when the lady began spluttering and spitting 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 Elsie 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 Mama lives to have the little folks come run in that way for it please you and helps your Mama out. You telephoned to Aunt Brittie so nicely today. It made her feel good they say.
-- Sunday March 19 --

Well any little Sonne you did have a big tummy today for you went to Church for the first time since long before Mamma was taken sick. You were a very good baby too.

You never disturbed anyone and you did just as Mamma 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 bright and when you looked Grandpa feeling so poorly forever.
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 L. You had a lovely time you thought. You spent your lunch 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 knew having so much fun you said. You ate and slept very well on the good outing if 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 drawing map 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 mannered 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 met your Uncle Fred and 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 hammers. You love to go to Grandma's 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 wholealers but to the farm house.
Thursday March 23

This forenoon you had a big turn 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 love your Grandma and how much she does love you too. How I hope you will grow up to love her more and more till 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 love. You have rushed around until your dear little legs must surely ache tonight. You walked down town with 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 must round asleep three hours before your Papa comes home at night and I know you need the sleep too. You were very good all day and you are the most of the ladies 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 she 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 your 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 tonight after eight o’clock Aunt Sophia Morgan came down to see you a short time. You told her all your verses and had a good time doing that too. She gave you a penny for your books and it pleased you so many much.
Sunday March 24

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 rest you could. You did it very nicely. Auntie Alfred Battle came in a short time and broke up the monotony for you some of 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 enjoyed you just as much.
Monday March 27

This forenoon you enjoyed yourself very much just playing around by your own little self for Mama was quite busy the most of the morning and then this afternoon you went out calling with Mama. We called on our new neighbors first. You always seem to enjoy the calls most when you find other little ones. Then when you reached home you found Uncle Harman here. You did have a most lovely visit with him too. It seemed to cheer you up and I know you will.
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 car and also for a walk. It has been a very dozing and dull 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, thank God.
Wednesday March 29

It has been a very stormy day outside, but you have had a lovely time inside.

This afternoon Mamma took you over to Hattie to play with her for awhile. After

they came down from there and took you and I over home to spend the day with Aunt Bertha for it is her birthday and she is just thirty years of age today. You had a very nice. They treated us all to some apple pie and it tasted just simply fine for it has been the wettest day.
Thursday March 30

Today it has not been very pleasant out more than 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 Hattie. She has just finished cleaning 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. Though you took some cold yesterday in riding over to Grundy's for you have coughed more or less.
Friday March 31

Today you have just
tried yourself out—playing
at one thing and another.

You took a nice long
nap after dinner and then

Mr. Henry came in. You
played with him until
he started for home. Then
Papa went over the phone
that he wished you
and I would come down
and take supper at the
M.E. Church with him. We
went and had a good

Dinner and your first
appearance was quite a

little fun for you for some

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 their nest next year it will be still more fun.
Sunday April 2

We did not go out to Grandpa's today to feed the dairy but stayed quietly at home. Aunt Ida came home from Battle Creek and Aunt Bethie was at Grandpa's too so we concluded it would be best for us to stay here. You were happy with your eggs this a.m. 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 Barton. Then after you

map the room you and I went down with Aunt Barton to take your bath.

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


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 Dad Bethie took a ride over to Grandma's 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 5th

This forenoon my little girl you were very happy and you helped Mama do her housework to perfect with the promise that you could go ripe by this afternoon. After dinner the lady who helped Mama at the farm came down and took me over home to Grandpa. 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 hard cold.
Thursday April 4

My little Sonia 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 ours as well as you and Mama 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 Leo 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 Auntie Bertha to take Lita’s bath and while you were gone Papa went sep to Pianio. You came in and said “Ah Mama how lovely this is.” This is new Pianio. You have spent the rest of the afternoon playing on your Pianio 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 your little friend Ethel Feehee came in to spend the day with you. You did have such a good time playing with your dolls and etchings and then in the afternoon you went out first for a walk and then for a ride in your car. 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 months back and Mama 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 shoot drive. We always love to have Sunday come for they we have our dear Papa all to our selves. It seems to me that you love your Papa more and more all the time. He certainly loves his little girl very dearly. This afternoon Papa took you out on your boat and you seemed to enjoy yourself very much. All the fresh air seemed to just put you asleep in a great big hurry and you slept the rest of the afternoon. You are growing very fast my dear little girl, everyone remarks it.
Monday April 10

Since 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 shoes and we reached a little with Aunt Isla and little Helen for things were done here and then after dinner Papa started to take you out for a walk again but you turned into Grandma Reed's 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 met a man who called into Mrs. Phelps, and they were so glad to have you there only for a few moments. 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 outside, all 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 heart's 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 us and also went with us to Aunt Bertha's bath this afternoon. You called on Papa too at his house as you call. Then 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 18

This morning my dear little girl had a big time outside. You did enjoy taking your dollies out in their little wagon and after you slept this morning you went out again. You ran away tonight for the first time. You ran half way down town 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 yard dog bright - and I am so glad too. You had a little full tonight about -two steps two
Friday April 14

This morning Mama has been out at the farm all day. She went over to the farm to chisel and remedied their instill. Mama came over a little later. While you and Helen had a most lovely time. Uncle little Morris was there too. Aunt Britta did not go over but stayed here and was very glad when she got back. We are all a little excited over the fact that Uncle George comes home tomorrow for a short time. I shall always see him meet the babies and some you will enjoy it too.
Saturday April 13

This has been a big day for us. There has been much to see 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 worried about speaking to him and loving him to. Then you thought him very good for bringing you a box of New York's fine candies. You told Uncle that he lead come in the car from New York City and it pleased and surprised him.
-Sunday 14-

Today we had a good time. We all went one to Grandpa's again to spend the day. Cousins Helen and Morris were there and your children had a most lovely time.

Then we all did know 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 go to bed. You and Papa still sleep together and you enjoy it as much as ever I think.