Song of the Mystic – Father Ryan

1. I walk down the valley of silence –
Down the dim voiceless valley – alone;
And I hear not the fall of a footstep
Around me – save God's and my own,
And the hush of my heart is as holy
As hours when angels have flown!

2. Long ago, was I weary of voices
Whose music my heart could not win;
Long ago, I was weary of noises
That fretted my soul with their din.
Long ago, was I weary of places
Where I met but the human – and sin.

3. I walked thro' the world with the worldly
I craved what the world never gave,
And I said: "In the world each ideal,
That shines like a star on life's wave,
Is tossed on the shore of the real,
And sleeps like a dream in a grave."

4. And still did I pine for the perfect,
And still found the false with the true;
I sought not the human for heaven,
But I caught a mere glimpse of the blue,
And I wept when the clouds of the morn
Veiled even that glimpse from my view.

And I toiled on, heart tired of the human
d I mourned not the mazes of men;
ll I knelt long ago at an altar,
d heard a voice call me; since then
walk down the valley of silence
at lies far beyond mortal ken.

Do you ask what I found in the valley
is my trysting place with the Divine
nd I fell at the feet of the Holy
nd above me a voice said, Be mine
en rose from the depths of my spirit
cho: My heart shall be thine".

Do you ask how I live in the valley
weep, and I dream, and I pray;
t my tears are as sweet as the dew
at fall on the roses of May;
d my prayer like a perfume from censers
ndeth to God night and day.

In the hush of the valley of silence
dream all the songs that I sing;
d the music floats down the dim valley
each fit to a word for a wing
t is men, like the dove of the deluge
message of peace they may bring.

But I know on the deep there are billows
at never shall break on the beach

And I have heard songs in the silence
That never shall float into speech.
And I have had dreams in the valley
Too lofty for language to reach.

10. And I have seen thoughts in the valley
Oh me! how my spirit was stirred!
And they wore holy veils on their faces,
Their footsteps can scarcely be heard;
They pass thro' the valley like virgins,
Too pure for the touch of a word.

11. Do you ask me the place of the valley
Ye hearts that are harrowed by care?
It lieth afar between mountains,
And God and his angels are there;
And one is the dark mount of sorrow,
And one the bright mountain of prayer.

"There is in every human being, however ignoble, some hint of perfection; some one place where — as we may fancy — the veil is thin which hides the divinity behind it. — Confucian classic.

Holly Springs, Miss.

Tuesday Dec. 29th; — (1885)

I am this day seated in a room of the Rust University building; in the land of my birth, the home of my nativity. How strange everything seems! Nearly 4 years ago since I last set foot here and then there was only the foundation of this magnificent 4 story building they call Rust University. I could not get to K. C. so started here Sunday but got left. Yesterday morning started from home to the depot; met Mr. Fulton the manager of the Little Rock Sun, who promised to send me his paper. Received a letter from Mr. M. in which he excuses his delay in writing by saying he had lost my letter, but receiving the Bee that I asked L. M. B. to mail him he wrote again in care of the Living Way office. The letter had been there a week when I got there. He mentioned that a copy of the Times was sent me with the letter in which was a descrip

tion of himself, from which I could judge of his makeup, but it was not there & I have not received it. The tone of his letter is good but a recollection of his motto is eminently necessary in deciphering his hieroglyphics: "Read what you can & guess at the rest". Have read it twice & yet there are something to guess at. Will wait till I go home at any rate, before I answer, then possibly until I receive the paper. Mr. Fortune sent me 10 copies of the paper with my article entitled "Woman's Mission" in it, characterizing it: "a beautiful essay". Sold two copies & will sell the others too. It reads very well, but a little disconnected. Left a list of persons at the office; heard from Miss King that Mr. Davis was married; if so, and to the woman they say, I pity him from the depths of my heart. Left on the 4 o'clock train & arrived here at night about 8; came up to the college building & when

Mr. & Mrs Hall greeted me. Today have been all over the building, inspected everything with the eager eyes of curiosity. Mr. Miller came to see me & we had a long talk. Then we all went out for a walk; strolled around town, meeting many I knew in the days of "auld lang syne", greeting some pleasantly, passing others indifferently, unconcernedly, and making the acquaintance of many who were children when I was here but are grown up now and almost out of knowledge. Visited the cemetery & found my father's and possibly my mother's grave, and was present at a burying. Came home very tired. Matt D. came down to see me; he looks something like a man & more like a man every day. Gave him a paper & a slight sketch of myself for spite's sake. Caught two glimpses of Prof. H. but have not spoken to him. Went up stairs to a social last evening and spent a very pleasant time. Met two gentlemen who are students here

that I liked very much: Messrs Anderson & Howard. The day has been a trying one to me; seeing old enemies, visiting old scenes, recalling the most painful memories of my life, talking them over with those who were prominent actors during my darkest days. They counsel me to forget, to cast the dark shadows out and exorcise the spirit that haunts me, but I — forgetting the vows that I had taken on myself to forget, and the assurances I have made that I was glad because my Father saw fit to send these trials & so fit me for his kingdom — clenched my hands darkly and proudly declared I would never forget! O my Father, forgive me, forgive me & take away the remembrance of those hateful words, uttered for the satisfaction of self. Humble the pride, exhibited and make me thy child. My position seems to be so favorably considered here that I shall certainly look twice before I jump anywhere. Father, I pray that

and went to bid him goodby. There was no reference to the past but he inquired solicitously concerning our welfare. Saw that Gen. B. of "The Little Rock Sun" at the depot the morning I came away, but as Mr. Hall did not come to the train with me I did not get an introduction to him; he is a phlegmatic-looking individual, with little to recommend him to the casual observer.

Found not a single letter when I got home from any source, and of course was annoyed & disappointed at this proof of my friends remembrance. I fully expected a missive from L. M. B., anyhow. He has no right to affect dignified anger or silence as my reply was forced by his request to take the offensive part of his letter. Curiosity as to the tone he would adopt was what animated me as much as any other. Received a letter from Miss F. of N. who informs me she had but recently received my Sept. letter.

Took my second lesson of Lady M yesterday. My interval of the day was filled up with reading Walter Scott's "Ivanhoe". It is the second of his novels I have read and the simple language yet strong portraiture of the characters, invest them with a peculiar charm in my eyesight. Borrowed "Vashti" of Mrs T. & have been reading it all day. It is another of Miss Evans' pedantic novels, that have - in spite of her their being a printed advertisement of her acquaintance with lore & skill in literature, ancient as well as modern, poetic & historical mythological & biblical — in spite of which they have a peculiar charm to me. I had not read this one in so long - it seemed like a new story to me altogether. The authoress has skillfully grouped her charaters, there are different addenda, different surroundings to all, but she loves to deal with the weird, the - I had almost said inhuman & the same principal elements run

thro' & compose all her creations—
inflexible sternness, haughtiness,
independence, unyielding pride
indomitable steadfastness of pur-
pose throughout all trials, sacrifice
of self; and there has in all her
books to be found a doubting, scoff-
ing, jeering, sneering, infidel devil
sometimes man, sometimes woman,
so much so that it has almost grown
monotonous. Her different characters
change sex in different books. And
the women have an exorbitant am-
bition that they feed, & trample every
thing & every body under their
feet to accomplish. I especially
admire her novels tho' for the beau-
tiful, if labored finish of every
thing; the description of the least minu-
tial of person, surroundings, nature
pictures are beautiful word-pictures
garnished by analogies & similes
that are chaste, beautiful & but
times unmeaning to an ordinary read-
er. Her references, quotations, and
general language and especially

her dialogue - are all elegant, the language chaste and the thought pure & elevating, the dialogue cutting, witty ~~and~~ masterpieces. From reading her books I should like to know something of the authoress. I should judge her to be an exquisitely refined creature, passionately devoted to music, art, literature, flowers ~~and~~ with all the useless pomp & luxury money can provide added. She could hardly be otherwise than pure who writes so purely & she must be possessed of a mighty intellect. I am disappointed in "Vashti". The idea that Elfinan Grey could never love Salome Owen and yet be with her constantly makes him more of a god than a natural human being with heart & soul, to me; and I cannot fathom that nature that could willingly leave such a creature, knowing she loved him dearly, and go thro' life without one spark of affection for her,

ever – and yet retaining its sweetness without having ties to call it forth. and the idea of her never marrying because of her hopeless love seems unnatural.

Messrs Savage & Hodges called this afternoon in the rain & stayed a short while. They painted the reception in such glowing colors I am a little sorry I did not go. Mr. F was up last evening & loaned me the $3. I asked. He sent in a bill of $78. and I've no money to pay it. Looking back at my debts I am thankful I could not accomplish my purpose & borrow money to get away – I would have been more deeply in debt and I am very sorry I did not resist the impulse to buy that cloak; I would have been $15. richer. Paid Mrs. R. $3. according to promise on her rent yesterday. She wishes to raise my board but I cannot do it. George came at 10 this evening but I did not admit him. am sorry I was so hasty.

Tuesday Jan 5th:—

School reassembled yesterday all right—I now have 3 classes. No letters or papers yesterday and no papers today. Perhaps the editors are taking a holiday. The Living Way came out Saturday with half my letter in it; don't know if they print the other next week or no. Mr. Marcus came out last night for the first time. His talk did not altogether suit me but I could not resent it as I wished—this being his first time here. I guess he finds I'm not so silly as I seemed. Taught today, feeling worse than I have for some time; my chest & head have been in an uproar all day & I feel very badly tonight. The winter of my discontent is made more so by Mrs. P's determination to hire out at the end of the week. I ought to have the money to pay her for my board & she would not have to go. I am so sorry I bought

that sacque when I could have done without it. I asked a loan of Mr. G. today; don't know what his answer will be. I hated very badly to do it - but was compelled. I want to pay her even if I go. I will hate to go as the weather is very cold just now & I feel like I am going to be sick. I promised to pay him 10 per cent interest. Wrote to Miss Ford last night and tonight to Messrs Howe, Hall, Avant. The last, asking for his picture & autograph & renewing our acquaintance. Found a letter from Mr. F. of "Little Rock Sun" offering me a scheme to have a branch of his paper published here & I get my pay by selling the papers. He wishes me to assume editorial control, & compliments me as a "powfull writer". Shall not accept as I could not make it pay. It is only 8 o'clock but I go to bed early to see if it will not help me to feel better in the morning.

Wednesday Jan 13th;—

Have been very sick since I last wrote, but kept at school, I am thankful to say & because I was not able to receive visitors I had them in abundance all last week. Was reduced to such direful extremity that I wrote a note to G. to lend me some money at 10 per cent int, but he came by last Wednesday afternoon after school to say he had it not. He expressed his agreeable surprise at receiving the set & we would have "made it up" if I had been willing to answer a question he asked - but I thought it was conceding too much, considering he had never told me anything & would not. [redacted] I would like to have friends but shall do nothing more to make us so, nor will I submit to "conditions" in order to compass it. Mr. R. sent me some medicine by G. which I took that night. Mr. W. came shortly after dark the same afternoon & stayed till 8 o'clock! I was so worried & sick & thought he would never go.

Thursday was city election day; I was not interested in anything but the School Board & both colored men were beaten; we now

have an entirely white Board. As Mr. S. could not be elected I was heartily glad the other one could not be, for I believe him to be a toady and could unknowingly be used by the white men. Then he boasted so and conducted himself generally in such an obnoxious manner that it completely disgusted me with him. Mr. West came up to see me & stayed quite awhile tho I was very sick while he was here. Jim came to the school to see me the same day and wanted money, of course. He has gotten into trouble & can't go back where he was. I have no money & told him so, but gave him a note to Mr. F. who, I knew, would help him if he could & told him to come back that night & tell me the result but he came not and sick as I was, I waited up for him till ten o'clock. During the night, it turned bitterly cold & I was very much surprised on opening the blinds next morning to find snow. It was very cold all day but I went with George to see

Mr. F. that afternoon about J. He had given him a note & sent him to a friend of his & the prospects were that everything would be all right only he did not like the idea of J's companion (of whom I knew nothing). Did nothing all day Saturday but sit by the fire & try to keep warm; it was the coldest day I've experienced. I could not keep warm Saturday & Friday nights but did a little better Sunday. Went down to church but got there too late Sunday morning. Came back home & thought I would answer my letters as I had received them from Eddie, Mr. Anderson of N. S., and L. M. B., but it was late before I got at it and then only wrote to L. He sent me a letter in answer to mine of before Christmas, early in the week, in which, while he did not beg pardon he requested a cessation of hostilities & assured we can become the dear friends he addresses me as & closes by asking me to be his "little sister". I told him I would have respected

him more if he had owned up his sins & begged pardon honestly instead of beating the bush & trying to excuse his ungentlemanly letter behind my sins. He deeply insulted me by assuming it necessary to tell me he was capable of a feeling no higher than friendship, and expects me to forget the enormity of his crime without even an apology. He is one who never likes to acknowledge himself in the wrong & wishes to smooth things over without such humiliation.

Mrs Powell adhered to her determination to move & altho I had paid her $4 on what I owed her & gave her a bill on Menken's for $2.50, she went, and I was forced to hunt another place. Went to carry some books home Monday & found her gone when I came. Went to Flats & stayed all night and last night too. Wrote to C. S. M. over a week ago & received an early reply on Monday. He is pleased

to receive a letter from a "genuine woman" as he has hitherto been overflooded with schoolgirl notes. I think I scent a faint odor of patronage pervading his love but I will not be so suspicious as to let it be known unless it develops itself more strongly. I answered that night before I went to Fs. Received a letter from Miss Ford yesterday & one from Aunt F. & Annie today. Will go to Mrs. Hermans tonight as my things were sent there today & stay till I can find some place more convenient. Mr. H. was to visit the schools today.

Thursday Jan 21st:

Went out to Mrs Hills Wednesday night as Mr. H. had decided after promising to take me, that he could not and I went out there thoroughly disheartened. Said nothing to her about staying there for I wished to get nearer to school, if possible. Thursday night I went out to Mrs.

Mayors & stayed and Friday night at Miss T's again. Every afternoon I went & a number of places & find board but & did not & succeed until finally I grew desperate and went & see Mrs H. Saturday morning made arrangements with her immediately and went & up town & have my things moved. Got & Miss T's as she was going & theatre & went. The play was "The Inside Track" and a very good one of its kind. Mr. Nevils came home with us. Did not go & Mrs T's as I did not & know the piece and was bothered.

Sunday I went & S. S. & church at the Cong. Mrs. B. came home with Mrs Hill & dinner & remained all the evening. I have discovered the keynote & her actions I think. That she would have, is most & desirous of, she labors & appear in different & but her real aim is & secure her ends without seeming & put forth effort. Her studied indifference &.

"me royal highness" has piqued me & I am determined that she shall not succeed in making me show interest in her without a corresponding show on her side.

Was late to school monday but have been on time ever since. Received letters from Mr. Carr, Mr. Mosely, Morris, & Taylor. Mr. Morse writes a very interesting letter & sends me his picture. I told him I liked the face but it is the face of a mere boy: whereas I had been led, from his writings to suppose him a man. I sent him a picture, that I request him to return as it is borrowed - but promise him one for his own when I have my cabinets taken. He is a good critic & takes me to task for one of my expressions regarding Lady M: he thinks I could have found one less objectionable than the one I used. I described myself according to promise only withholding my age till I

know his, as I wish to make the unpleasant discovery that I am his senior - first. If a boy, he certainly has a mans head and a mans thoughts in that head. He is sarcastic on the lack of our women to provide and make their homes beautiful, clean, and homes in the best sense of the term. My other letters were not of much interest as I have not yet received L. M. B's letter. I wrote and mailed 7 letters yesterday to Messrs Lovely, Carr, Anderson, Fulton, Morris, Taylor and Jones. Some of them deserved nice way before Christmas. I have yet to answer Cornelia's and Mrs Avant's letter & Mrs Hall's. Mr. A promises me a picture at "some future day." Sent Mr. Lovely a bundle of papers as he requested.

Things have been running along very smoothly at my boarding place till last night. Mrs. H. is very quarrelsome & picayunish and she

started after E. last night and E. got up & went out doors and she had the door locked on her; this morning about 1 o'clock she came to bed as cold as ice almost & told me she had been out doors all night! Mrs. W. tried to force her to eat her breakfast and she would not; whereupon a scuffle ensued & blows were passed. B. stood it till she began beating E. with a stick of wood when he pitched in and I interfered between them to keep her from bruising him. I left with them still fussing & E. declaring she would go to her mother, Mrs. W. saying she should not & B. standing by to see what was going to become of "sister." It is a sad sad thing and an unhappy household because the mistress of it does not know how to control her temper or manage the children. I earnestly pray for light & help bring peace out of this confusion. Came by

Mr. T. Lotts on my way home from school to borrow a number of the A.M.E. Church Review that I saw there. It has Mr. Fortune's article "Civil Rights & Social Privileges" in it & I was anxious to read it. He let me have it and I remained some time. He is very fond of teasing and as he firmly believes that he is teasing me I let him deceive himself with the idea as he seems to take so much pleasure in it. His wife is an easy sweet tempered, sweet minded mortal. Mr. Carr came tonight & brought a present for Mrs. H. from N.P.X. He had received my letter only this evening.

Sunday Jan. 24.

The month is rapidly drawing to a close; I am truly thankful I am spared to keep up so well this far, but my system is not in good order and I cannot consult a physician till I

get some money. If I once get out of debt I hope this lesson will be remembered and profited by; to think I am in debt more than one month's salary & if any thing should happen I have not more than enough money coming to me to cancel my expenses. I earnestly pray the Board will pay for two months when next they meet. Friday it rained and was very disagreable; in the afternoon a pipe had broken & it was very muddy coming home but J. J. G. & Mr. B. piloted me safely thro the mud. F. J. T. remained with some of her children. She has been singularly uncommunicative this week & I have not sought to woo her from her silence. She brought me a message from Mrs. Dr. P. to the effect that she had something to tell me: must go over when I can find a pilot. Went to the Literary meeting at LeMoyne

Friday night to see Macbeth played but they read it thro'. It was exceedingly dull & tiresome & some of the pronounciation was execrable in the extreme. Took my 3rd lesson of the season from Mrs T. yesterday. The weather was miserably cold as the second "blizzard" came some time Friday night after we got home, but I went as I realize we are losing valuable time by not going. Did not know it thoroughly but got along very well. She told me Mrs. O. was the one who had engaged to take lessons with her but as she had violated the contract between them, she, Mrs. T, did not feel herself bound to obey her injunction to "not tell Miss Wells". She questioned me minutely about her but I evaded her as much as possible because I don't wish her to discard her for anything I may say. Came home & ironed my clothes that Mrs. G. brought home in the morning & charged me 40 cts.

for. It is very cold today & so far I have not been out of the house today. Later: went out & Mrs. Raglands & returned about dark. No visitors except George.

Thursday Jan. 28:

No letters Monday nor & papers. all of the latter have gradually come in since then but "The Freeman". Letters from Messrs Morris, Moseley, & Jones Tuesday. answered C. S. M. that night also wrote & H. N. A. Mr. M. returned my picture & repeated the word "boy" so often I fear it nettled him a little altho' he declares it does not bother him. He urges me to write the book I spoke of; to make it classical, representative and standard and I shall make myself loved, honored & respected. He speaks so authoritatively about things and I could accept his calm re-

proof, superior criticism & logic if he were not my junior; he is what I have long wished for as a correspondent, an interested, intellectual being who could lead & direct my wavering foot steps in intellectual paths. His youth, tho, prevents my asking & seeking information of him as I would one who was my superior in age as well as intellectuality. I may overcome the feeling tho' as there is not any pleasure without its alloy. He denominates my nose as my weakest feature but says it denotes war - petty war, perhaps. He phrenologizes my features minutely and unerringly, as well as amusingly. He writes a good letter & I feel my sceptre departing from me, before him as before no other & it is somewhat humiliating. He is progressing, his path is onward and upward while I - am drift

ing along with no visible improvement. Yet it is not altogether procrastination. I don't know what books to read that will do the most good & know not where I am to obtain the knowledge. The stupendous idea of writing a work of fiction causes me to smile in derision of myself at daring to dream of such a thing — but his enthusiasm is catching. Thur Yesterday found a card from Mr. T. saying a Mr. Benjamin would preach for us Sunday. I have read some of Mr. B's literary productions and had gathered that he was a lawyer, & am surprised to learn he is a preacher. Shall go to hear him with some curiosity. A second letter was from Mr. Bowser who is evidently disposed to favorably regard my asking for pay & asks me to state my price. which is an embarrassing thing to do. I have no idea of its worth & shall tell him

as when I answer. The last letter I received in yesterday's mail was from — Mr. C. who thanks me earnestly for the picture and begs me to assure him I respect him as the assurance that I did not — rankles in his breast night & day. I don't know what to say to him as I still have the feeling of pity & contempt for the man, who is not strong enough to rise superior to circumstances — that I had when I first wrote. I could not withhold a grain of comfort for revenge's sake - but can I truthfully say I respect him? He said not one word about his unreturned letters; he is far nobler than I - in that he trusts me more.

L. M. B. sent me a copy of "The Bee" in which there is a marked article from the pen of his very incapable editor, I suppose. The article in question speaks of "the star eyed goddess" as not knowing

what she is talking about. (as every body is accused who differs from the Bee) essays to be sarcastic and volunteers the information that the A. M. E. Church Review would pay me for my articles if I "really wrote" anything. He is contemptible & puerile in the extreme. and knows as much about what constitutes journalism as — as — Louis Brown! I would not write for him for great pay & I will write some thing some day that will make him wince. Chase (the editor) marries — why tonight is the time! yes, he takes me to himself a bride this evening. I think he has good ideas about most things but he has no tact or ordinary ingenuity about how to express them in a way to gain attention or give weight to his words; he is either a fanatic or talks like one. I will outline my heroine's character in my next entry.

+ Saturday Jan. 30.

Friday was a trying day in school. I know not what method to use to get my children to become more interested in their lessons. Had a talk with G. who informed me that some one had reported me as saying any young man I went with ought to feel honored because of the privilege" + that whenever any one was with me all the young men in town knew it & said of him that he was highly honored. He did not add (altho I knew it must be so) that they hasted to tell such an one of the rumor + thus maliciously have been setting all the young men against me + by their cock + bull stories have kept them away, for a silly speech of mine - if, indeed - I really said it (of which I have not the slightest remembrance. This bit of information opens my eyes to some things, which while I did not understand them

I attributed them to pique on his part; I now learn them to be premeditated and deliberate insults & my blood boils at the tame submission to them. I, simply and calmly told him I had been misrepresented as I had too often been and betook myself off to think. I went in my room & wrote & asked him if he was in earnest when he asked me if I would try to love him; he replied that he was, indeed, I then said alright. I know it is unchristian-like to burn for revenge as I do, but a demon is tempting me to lead him on & fool him at last. When I think of how I could & can fool him and of his weak imaginings to the contrary, petty evidences of spite work, that he has been safe hitherto because I would not stoop to deceit — I grow wild almost & determine to pay him back. But I cannot do that; I will do the right as I know it — because it is right

and not as for pay. I have never stooped to underhand measures to accomplish an end and I will not begin at this late day by doing that that my soul abhors; sugaring men, weak, deceitful creatures, with flatter-y to retain them as escorts or to gratify a revenge, & I earnestly pray My Father to show me the right & give me the strength to do it because it is right, despite temptation. I shall pray for Mr. G. & all the others who have formed themselves in a league against a defenceless girl, that they may see the light & the injustice done me and that I may bear it meekly, patiently. If I ever get a chance I shall speak to him about his soul as I have intended to do since Mr. Poole died - otherwise I shall treat him as dignifiedly and courteously as any other ac-quaintance. I will not thrust my-self on him and give the oppor-tunities for rough treatment that I have. Recived letters from Mrs. Rice

Mrs. Sprague & a card from Mr. Neal giving subscription for Freeman.

Have become negligent about correspondence, because I am out of stationery & money, too I suppose, & have answered only Mr. H's letter. Did not go to the surprise party tendered Dr. P. last evening altho Mr. H came. & sat a while. Went to Mrs. P's & took my 4th lesson today & $2.00 is due her therefor. Went from there to call on Mrs. Neal, who is very bright complexioned, with fair skin & black hair, and rather pretty — was more so, before she married. The inevitable baby is there with the habits peculiar to all baby-hood. From there I went to Mrs. F. W. L's expecting some fun with her mischievous spouse but he was not present. She is as good & kind and soft as a mouse. I like her immensely but can't say the feeling's returned. Came home feeling very, very badly but at this writing am some better.

Monday Feb. 1st.

Went to service yesterday morning & found a very slender, puerile-looking, small specimen of humanity occupying the pulpit. His "talk" was premature somewhat, and yet applicable; his peculiarities & oddities certainly have the spice of novelty and daring which surprises too much for demur and carries one by storm almost against the judgment. He was presented to me at the close of the meeting but said little; the predominant feeling then was that he had great enthusiasm for the work & that faculty alone would cover a multitude of defects & help resurrect the church. I went back last night to hear him preach in order to come to a decision and came away doubtful as to his holy zeal & fitness for the work. A constant arraignment of the negro as compared to the whites, a burlesque of Negro worship, a repetition of what he did

not believe in, and the telling of jokes together with a reiteration of his text "ye must be born again" made up his "sermon". It was in style so closely allied to his "talk" of the morning that I detected little difference between the two. If I were to judge I should say he lacks some of the essential elements that compose a preacher; he seems to be wanting in stability, and there seems also, to my mind, to be a lack of reverence in touching & dealing with holy things; a disregard of the Father's command to "take off thy shoes; for the ground on which thou standest is holy". Was troubled with neuralgia most of yesterday. Mr. Mosely came to see me yesterday afternoon & remained a short while; made an engagement to go with him to Dr. P's tonight. Went & spent an enjoyable evening. Received two letters this afternoon & my Freeman. Sam C. writes from N., & Mr. A. of Rust University of N. O.

Tuesday Feb. 2nd.

A snowstorm set in this evening morning & has rag-ed all day. Have been very blue all day & G. was in trying to com-fort me but he makes a mess of it always. Found a letter from my Louisville correspondent who thinks I said more than I intend-ed when I spoke of the fact of my being his senior as "unpleasant," and objected to being patronized as the expression, "my youthful friend" seems to imply. L. M. B. excuses his long silence in the fact that he has assisted in launching Mr. Chase on the matrimonial seas, and seems to gloat over the fact of fighting back against "Iola" with a vengeance." I don't know whether it is worth my while to try and make him under-stand my reasons for refraining an answer to "The Bee's" squib.

Must answer Mr. Bowser's letter tonight ere I sleep; I don't seem very anxious for pay seeing my backward ness in and

Monday Feb. 8th:-

Last Wednesday morning was the most trying of my school-life here; the snow (which fell all of Tuesday night) was from 10 to 14 inches deep & as there was no locomotion of any kind I had to foot it to school, all around by Main street as there was most travel & the likelihood was greater of the snow being tramped down, on that street - and I got to school about 10 o'clock utterly exhausted with wading thro' the snow. On account of the storm the week slipped by & was gone ere we were aware. This is my 4th week here & no letter from aunt F. yet. If G. had not received one from Eddie saying all were well I should be uneasy. No other letters of consequence & my papers ended my week's mail. I have answered none of the letters but C. S. M. I think of his as he tells me in one received today that he does of mine & hasten to answer them. I certainly enjoy them because there is always

something interesting and couched in such chaste and apt language - I am instructed entertained and amused. L. M. B. is older, has a more varied experience, considers himself a blase man of the world with no new worlds to conquer or nothing fresh or new to be, for him learned under the sun - but if I decided to end either, it should be his - for he is so revels so in small things and is - a petty warrior. With all his accomplishments and advantages there seems to be no depth to him; but I forget - comparisons are odious, I have not answered L. M. B's letter yet, but will when I get time. Friday night I went to the theatre with Ella & Boots, to see "Humbug" & humbug it was. Mr. G. assured me during the day that it was "fine" and I went; yielded more to persuasion tho' than any desire of my own & was fully repaid for it - for I was completely worn out & used up when I got home. Received the "Free Lance" & a note from Mr. Benjamin & have not had the time to

read the one nor the grace to answer the other. I had hoped to have received a call from him ere this & returned my thanks, made my apologies in person — but he comes not. Went nowhere Saturday, not even to take a lesson — as I didn't know it, but took a bath in the afternoon & piatched the rest of the day. H. P. H. came from Kansas City & stayed quite a -while that night. I had intended retiring early in order to rise soon enough to attend the Moody & Sankey meeting Sunday morning. We came very near being late but got a front seat in the gallery. The singing was grand, but had we not gone to Avery Chapel to hear him also, I should have been disappointed because I could not hear very well from where we were in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. His style is so simple, plain and natural. He told the old, old story in an easy conversational way that charms the listener ere he is aware and the secret of his success is, I think — that he does not preach a far-away God — a hard to be reconciled Savior but ours.

a natural earnest tone and tells in a natural way without any long drawn doctrine or finely spun theology or rhetoric the simple truth that Christ Jesus came on earth to seek & save that which was lost. Mr. Sankey's singing is a sermon in itself. Mr. Payne was there & I brought him home to dinner with me; he, Huyette & Mr. West took up all the afternoon & I had no opportunity to make an entry or write a letter either. Truly "there is no pleasure without alloy."

I intended writing Mr. Moody a letter asking him why ministers never touched on that phase of sin — the caste distinction-practiced even in the churches and among christianity(?) but rather, tacitly conniving at it by assenting to their caste arrangements, and accepting it as a matter of course, instead of rectifying it — but I had no chance, & he left the city yesterday; so I know not where to address him. The weather has moderated and the snow is — under the very warm rays of the Sun god — melting fast away: He has unlocked Jack Frost's fingers & loosened

old Jack's grasp on the face of moth-er Earth; for which kindness she is now weeping tears of joy as she smiles & basks in the warmth of his presence. That which Jack Old Boreas used to harden and freeze her with — The Sungod turns to tears of joy at her release and eventually will dry them all away. (But it's awfully muddy & sloppy for all that). Had to school this morning by 8.30 and felt peculiarly pleasant and — good. A days worry with these children has brought my temper to the surface. Found a letter from Mr. C. S. M. on my arrival home this afternoon instead of tomorrow as I expected. He understands & sympathizes with my position of almost complete isolation from my fellow-being on account of lack of congeniality — and I think he does so the more fully because his own experience coincides with mine. His fine humor & sarcasm are very refreshing & I believe I can say at last I have

found a thoroughly congenial correspondent, and I sincerely hope it, the correspondence may not die the death of the others but may be the earnest of and foundation of a lasting friendship, increasing with the years, such as I read about, often, see very rarely and have experienced — never! F. J. B. was here when I came from school but as she came ostensibly to see Mrs. Hill I made no effort to deprive her of the visit. H. went with Ella to the theatre & Mrs. H. had to go too & as there was no one to stay with me, I went too — not that I wished so much to go, for I had seen "The Mikado" before. It is a delightful jumble of ridiculous and laughable; comic combination of ~~singing~~ songs, ~~speaking~~ speeches and actions, and dress; for everything is represented as Japanese. It is very bright and sparkling, with no suggestion of the coarse or vulgar; the character of Ko-Ko is inimitable & it was acted to perfection. Yum-Yum is also a delightful, silly little creature. Lost my veil up there & came home wishing I had stayed when here.

Sunday Feb. 14th.

no letters last week and few papers, except from aunt F. who is well. Answered C. S. M's letter and explained fully my position. I hate the barren formality of our address to each other. I want to say "my dear Charlie" but I hesitate about breaking the ice, tho I know the advance ought and must come from me. Mr. G. & I had a bout last week; he took my hat and walked off with it in the rain & I had to come home bare headed. I took that all in good part till I saw my hat next morning. & then I became very angry for it was utterly ruined by being held in the rain. I would not speak to him for two days when he wrote to ask for his umbrella & suggested that we stop playing as we could not do so without getting angry. I acquiesced & told him to come for his umbrella that evening. He did so and stood around like a mum my a long while but finally offered a dictated apology. He renewed his question of a former occasion

as if I would tell him I cared for him without a like assertion on his part. He seems to think I ought to encourage him to speak by speaking first — but that I'll never do. It's conceding too much and I don't think I need buy any man's love. I blush to think I allowed him to caress me, that he would dare take such liberties and yet not make a declaration. He seems to not have confidence in my actions and were he to plead with me on his knees now, for no consideration would I consider his proposition. He had his opportunity and lost it thro' fear of being deceived and other timidity and it shall not occur again. He's too narrow and suspicious. Right here comes my temptation to flirt with him; to make him declare himself and forget all others, but I cannot — I will not consider it. I have preached and I must practice under all circumstances. I could not respect myself and do so & I will not exert any influence over him tho' he richly deserved to

be punished. Heard a sermon from Mr. Innes this morning. Little Louise Cage is very ill with scarlet fever and we are just across the street from them. Did not get any money as I expected yesterday and went nowhere - not even to take a lesson. Got 90 cts. worth of stationery Friday from Mr. Williams. on credit. Saw an article from some Miss Gaines of State Normal school of Miss. in "The Little Rock Sun" & took it upon myself to answer her erroneous views on "Women in Politics"; partly because she seemed striking at me about "telling whether she is a Democrat or Republican" because I did such a thing in my article to the Freeman. Also wrote a comparatively short letter to L. M. B. in which I gave him my candid opinion of his petty mode of warfare, and asked him to procure me Guttmann's Aesthetic Physical Selfculture & I would pay him for it.

Thursday Feb. 18th.

Some of my good friends remembered me extensively in the burlesque valentine line as I have received this time no less than half a dozen, some by hand, some by post, and some from the schoolchildren. Wrote to Aunt Fannie & Mr. Arneaux of N.Y. Monday evening - also a letter to the Gate City Press. Found a letter from "Charlie", who is as bright, enthusiastic and witty as usual. Went to the theatre but it was crowded Monday evening and so we went Tuesday night to see "The Silver King". Answered C.S. M's letter yesterday and sent him two different pictures to look at - so he might not forget me, but they are to be returned and last night answered the nearly a month old letter of B.F.P's, that I have. I told him respect did not come at the bidding but was called forth by action. Louise died yesterday. There are 3 stamps missing as I cannot remember but 7 letters I've written & have only 6 stamps left.

Mr. B. has told me an incident of Judge Greer's court that for fear I will not remember it when I write my novel I will jot down now. It seems that a white and colored girl had been in the habit of passing and repassing morning and evening, on a narrow path in the woods up the country, and there had never been manifested on the part of the white girl any desire to give half of the walk. One day they passed while the white girl's brother was with her and he pushed the girl from the path and abused her. The next day they met again when each were alone and the white girl attempted to imitate the example of her brother of the day previous and they fought; the colored girl getting the best of the fight, and she was reported, a complaint lodged against her and in the trial the jury brought in a verdict of guilty but fixed no penalty & the judge carried it to the utmost of his power by giving her 11 months 29 days & a half in the workhouse. one half day

more would have been a penetentiary offence & those are filled by the jury.

I read of a case, or heard tell of one, where a white man could not get a license to marry a colored girl and he cut open her three fingers & sucked her blood & then told them he had Negro blood in his veins & therewith procured a license; the facts were brought out in his subsequent trial as his freinds knew him to be of caucasian birth & parentage, & proved it.

George B. of this city and Mary Burton lived together 9 years then when they procured a license thro' a white friend they had to steal away like culprits to be married & then they tried to send them to penetentiary for legally doing what had been illegally suffered and nothing said or done about it. They had several children and he wished to legitimize his union & their parentage

Tuesday Feb. 23rd.

Friday I finished and sent off the article I've been preparing for the Fisk Herald, entitled "A story of 1900." Went to see Lotta in "Mlle Nitouche" with Ella and Emyette that night. She is a bundle of fun, nonsense and comicalities. The play affords her numberless opportunities for kicking up her heels and otherwise exhibiting her marvelous freshness and apparent juvenility. She is near forty but for all the world looks precisely like a girl of 10, full of gaiety, innocence, and of wonderfully small stature. Mrs. Hill is sick; has been ever since Saturday. The Board paid us for Dec., only Saturday & as a consequence mine is gone already and no money to send Aunt F. yet. Paid Menken $20., Mrs H. $22.25, Mrs. Powell $7.00; have reserved $5.75 (after deducting 95 cts. to Williams, the book-store man) for street car fare & incidentals. Still owe Menken's $61. Mrs. Major $4.00, Mrs. Thompson $2. We hope to get some more in about

two weeks & then I shall send aunt F. some. Went to Cong. S. S. to Counter's church for morning service, & see Mrs. Graham in the afternoon, and to Collins's Chapel at night—is the manner in which my sabbath was spent. Mr. Carr came out in the afternoon & he escorted me. H. left yesterday—so he told us that night—and I am not sorry, for I got tired playing second fiddle & running around with them. Mrs. H. wouldn't let them go alone and they honored me by preferring me as chaperone. Yesterday was Washington's birthday and we had a holiday in consequence, but I profited little by it. I went up town and made a small bill at Lowenstein's—about $4.00, for some things I really needed, came back & went & see Mrs Turner & Mrs. Graham again—darned some socks for myself—and came home about dusk. Mr. G. came out and sat like a mummy for some time & left with little benefit from his

visit. Received all the papers & a letter from Sam. George was here last night and went to sleep, then I told him to go home. He went off, telling me he was going away from M. Tonight he came here with Mrs. Ragland but hardly spoke to me & refused to tell me goodby. I think he is carrying his "miff" to a great extent.

Thursday Feb. 25th.

Mrs. Hill is still sick in bed; I wish she was able to be up. Received letters from H. H. Avant & Mr. Arneaux and both requested a picture of myself. Mr. A. of N. Y. requests me to read up Emilia in "Othello" as he "may need me" in that part. Began to study again last night, and learned almost a page of "Score of" Lady M". He sent me several copies of "The Enterprise", also received "The Bee. but no letter from L. M. B. or C. S. M. yet. I wonder what the matter can be?

Monday March 1st. +
"Charlie's" letter was here when I came home Thursday afternoon; he did not send the pictures but promised to in his next. He did send me Blanton Duncan's notorious letter against the Negro & his own answer which is magnificent and comprehensive in its scope. I answered & returned Mr. D's letter and sent him Miss Gaines' article, my answer and The Fisk Herald article to read. I sent it (his speech) to The Appeal because I wish it published broadcast, but I don't know whether they will do it. I have been perusing the exchanges today & I see not a single mention of it in one of them. Got a letter from L. M. B., Saturday & he as usual is on the war path; he tells me again about his affections, and makes use of the following ambiguous statement; "I could understand you better in another way". I don't know what construction to put

on it and lest I should be charged with the wrong one I make none. I answered his letter Sunday and told him I would certainly cease correspondence if he ever again considered it necessary to let me know the state of his affections were not inclining toward myself. He did not send the picture. Went nowhere all Saturday or Sunday. Had intended going to Mrs. Thompson's the first day, as I paid her what I owed her the day before, but it rained & sleeted all the morning and I did not go out. Found my papers and a letter from Paul Jones Esq. this afternoon when I got home. I am somewhat embarrassed by it as there seems to be a tone of constraint about the few lines he did write, as he says, at the suggestion of Mr. Huyette. I have in mind to give H. a good scolding for I had no dreams he

was in earnest when I bantered him about Mr. J. I started first not to answer it & then thought if I did - I would apologize for the divulgence by H. of any of my silly tales. But I reflected that it would be best to answer in the ordinary tone and a dignified way; which I did, with no personal allusion whatever. I also wrote to Mr. A. to acknowledge the receipt of the handsome picture of himself which happened last week. The day I got it, George came in from the country and says Mr. A came with him & promised to call on me, but he has not done so, as I write thinking perhaps he has gone back. I also mailed a letter to Mr. Fulton yesterday endeavoring to seek employment as a representative of his paper to Washington to the Press Convention. George has gone out to Mr. Payne's to work as he could get nothing to do here. I hope he

will do well. Mrs. Hill told me this morning she would have to move soon and as she goes farther out I, of course, will have to get another boarding place. It seems as if the old prophecy is coming true in my case: I was traveling New Year's day & I have moved twice already since then.

I have found out that some one tattles to Collier everything I do, & I have expressed myself pretty freely to Mr. C. this morning about it & he affects ignorance of it all. Yet I do not fear; God is over all & He will, so long as I am in the right fight my battles, and give me what is my right. He tried to show me the folly of fighting against the tide & told me what I already know of the enmity of the men in societies against me for expressing my honest convictions. God help me to be on the watch and do the right; to harm no man but do my duty ever!

Thursday March 11th.

I have let one thing and another delay me so I've not remembered where I left off. I received a letter from Hayette and one from Mr. Paul Jones of his city. I cogitated some time before I answered the latter because it was so stiff, and he plainly stated that it was the suggestion of H. that caused him to do so. I told him I had no objection to cultivating the acquaintance of cultured and thinking men of the race and in my letter to H. scolded him roundly for his evident blundering. Received answers to both letters yesterday Mr. J's is a long homily on the requirements of the race and H's is an explanation of what I did not understand. He professes to like the name I gave him "silly boy". Answered Miss Rice's long delayed letter also last week but never thought of sending in my application for the school, until I received aunt Fi's letter the same day I mailed it — when I answered aunt Fi's tho' I sent the application thro' her. Received

C. S. M's letter the day I made the last entry but found no time to answer it till Friday, and mailed it Saturday with my aunt's. Took the first lesson of a new month of Mrs. T. Saturday and read all day, after going home, "Bricks without Straw" by Judge Tourgee. It deals with the Reconstruction era of Negro freedom and American history, and I like it somewhat. The writer is actuated by a noble purpose and tells some startling truths. Mrs. Hill decided Sunday night to move next day and she did so. I bought a pair of shoes on credit of Menken's costing $3.97 & endeavored to wear them to school but they hurt me so I had to go home at 12 o'clock & change them. Received a letter from Fortune notifying me of the end of my subscription for the Freeman and an invitation from Brother T. to a tea-party in Nashville. Mr. F. might afford to send me his paper, I

think as I've sent him several subscribers. I'll not renew because I expect to leave shortly. His picture adorned the paper last week. My curiosity is satisfied but I am disappointed in him. With his long hair, curling about his forehead and his spectacles he looks more like the dude of the period than the strong, sensible, brainy man I have pictured him. But then, as I told Charlie M. one should not judge a person by the cut or rather uncut of his hair any more than by his clothes. The Sun unhesitatingly accepts my offer to go to Washington as its representative but remains pointedly mum about the money question. I answered immediately to say I could not go without them paying my way but nothing has resulted but a silence blank and discreet. Tuesday I came in with Mr. H. on the wagon, early

and stayed w F. J. T's house till time to go to school. Received cards from L. M. B. & C. S. M. The former has received the "grand bounce" & will be home in about a month. I wrote him immediately, saying I would be glad to see him. C's card reminded me that I was in his debt one letter & intimated that if it was the fault of our very faulty School board that he would supply the deficiency in his next. Did not answer that for I knew he had received my letter, and sent an answer to that this morning. It is a good letter and I feel so refreshed after reading it. He is indignant at what I told him about the persecution I am undergoing concerning societies. He is a good writer and a good boy I believe. He understands how to steer his epistolary bark clear of the shoals and quicksands. He picks his way so deftly and skillfully out of the complicated labyr

-nuith of woman's various moods & petty fancies. He wishes to know if I can stand examination in algebra, natural philosophy etc, and I must confess my inability. I guess he means to do what he can for me there. I now begin to think of the golden moments wasted, the precious hours I should have treasured and used to store up knowledge for future use. It seems so hard to get at it (study) and I've made so many resolutions I am ashamed to make any more. Went to see Mrs Settle, Mrs Bradshaw, Mrs. Graham and Mrs Love Tuesday evening where I stayed that night and think I will board. Mr. J. stays there and he will help me study if I go. Went yesterday to see Mrs. Dogan; met Mr. M. as I came out Madison st. and he went with me to Mrs. Tally but I don't think I should like to stay there. Received a letter from

"The Plaindealer Co," who wish to know what I will charge for 2 letters per month to their paper. Answered today and stated that I would do as he wished for $2. per article. Don't know what they will say. Sent the article I have been writing on for sometime to Mr. Arneaux today, entitled "Our Name". Mr. M. says for me to write the plot of my novel & for us to write one in partnership. Monday March 15 th;—

no letters since last week. Wrote to "Charlie" & mailed it on Saturday. Had some pictures taken then & broke my $5. to pay for them. I would have remained at Mrs W's but she told me she could not board me for less than $15. and I could not stand that away out there, so came to see Mrs. L. who agreed to take me; as this is nearer than Mrs. L's I decided to come at once. So I moved this morning & so far like it much. Will begin taking lessons of Mrs. L.

Tuesday March 23rd.

Made small progress in books last week & hoped to have done better this week but I seem to find such little time to do anything in. Got my pictures and like them somewhat but the more I look at them the less I like them. Sent one to Charlie and one to Mrs. Hall of W. S. Mrs. H. came by where I was Friday & took one of them. I have not been for it yet but will go soon. Took the second lesson of the series in elocution Sat. but still have not learned all of Lady M's role. Letter from L. M. B. Yesterday & he is still hunting for his place. George came in Saturday from Mr. P's & brought me a dollar; he stayed all night and went back on the cars Sunday, I giving him 30 cts. to do so. Received an invitation this morning to the marriage of Mrs. Booth. I was greatly surprised for I've never had any faith in it. But the ticket says "Thursday March 25th., 1886". Will go down if possible. Had a long talk with "Dad" this evening who thinks my plan a faulty one and suggests for me to go to Louisville until the election is over.

Tuesday March 30th.

Received a long genial letter from C. S. M. last Wednesday and answered that night & sent him a copy of "The Enterprise". M. M. came that evening & we went D Avery Chapel D hear Asbury preach. Received a letter from Mr. J. of K. C. by same mail. He uses chaste language but his letters have not the easy and natural grace of a personal letter; rather has more of the essay in its makeup. Answered it only Sunday & my answer was almost equally dry. I knew absolutely nothing D say. Went D the marriage & wedding & had a very nice time. Mr. D. was my company. Gave the bride a glass butter-dish & pepper-boxes costing $1.04. No lessons of any kind were conned Saturday or sewing done, the biggest job undertaken & finished was a bath. Sunday remained home to finish a labor-article for The Detroit Plaindealer but doubt if it will get in for this issue. A card from Mr. Bowser for an article combating "Aunt Peggy's" assertion & my paper were all my mail yesterday. Letters from Nathan Lewis & George this day. Answered them & wrote D Mr. Dudley tonight.

Saturday April 3rd:—

Nothing of importance to record for the past week. No letter from C. S. M. yet. Sent him a postal card today in which I reminded him that he owed me a letter. Received an answer from Mr. J. which was shorter and more personal than the preceding ones. Also a card from Mr. Bowser asking for an article combating some of Aunt Peggy's statements. I did not comply with his request. Answered Mr. J's. letter last night. The Board paid us for Jan. today and it's very uncertain when we will get any more. Guess I'd better hold on to this, or what's left since I paid my debts; Paid Messken $20. Mrs. Settle $7.00. Bought a pair of gloves for 20 cts. and gave Mr. Truman $1. to pay Judge Greer for me. The case will come up in the Supreme Court some time this month and a tried friend of mine has unfolded a conspiracy to me that is on foot to quash the case. I will wait and watch and fear not. Judge G. charges that as traveling expenses. It is a painful fact

that white men choose men of the race to accomplish the ruin of any young girl but that one would deliberately ask a man of reputation to encompass the ruin of one's reputation for the sake of gain is a startling commentary on the estimation in which our race is held. A younger man would have violently resented the imputation but the older blood is wiser as well as cooler and thus will use the knowledge gained to circumvent plots. Have bundled all Mr. P's letters up to send home but have not done it yet. Will get them off some time next week. Have seen or heard nothing of L. M. B. for some time. He will be home soon I suppose. Was out to Mrs. Louis to supper one evening last week & Mr. J. came home with me. We had a fine time debating. Am getting along nicely in my studies. Hope I'll have perseverance to continue. Ill not pay Mrs N what I owe her until I get some more money. Took the third elocution lesson of the month this morning & am thro' Lady Macbeth.

Sunday April 11th;—

Paid a dollar to Mr. Baker for the Cong. church, & 50 cts to Mr. Dogan for trimming & shampooing my hair Friday evening, 25 cts for repairing my shoes. Went to Episcopal church last Sabbath; Mr. W. called in the afternoon & took me over to see the bride. Nothing of interest transpired the first of the week. Messrs Mosely & Phillips called Tuesday afternoon but I was not at home. Messrs Marcus & Settle called that night and we played checkers. Mr. L. took my peanuts Monday when I was there & I did not go back to recite the whole of the week. Made arrangements to take up the whole of my May salary at Men Kee's & gave them an order on the Secretary for it. I bought enough silk to finish my dress with, and buttons, thread, linings etc amounting to $15.80 & yet have no parasol, or other things I would like to have. My expenses are transcending my income; I must stop. Have not paid Loewenstein, Mrs Major Mrs. Love or Mrs. Hill. It seems as if I should never be out of debt. George

came today and gave me $1.00 I now have 1.70 of his money. Received letters from Messrs Bowser, Jones & on Friday came the long looked for missive from L. S. M. He has moved hence the delay. I answered his letter today; have been nearly all day at it & wrote ten pages; so much indeed that I grew tired of it myself. Also answered Mr. Jones' letter today and in both of them I discussed marriage. L. M. B. arrived on the scene last week & came to see me yesterday afternoon. He looks as well as ever, and I was real glad to see him. Had no visitors today. I am in as correspondingly low spirits tonight as I was cheerful this morning. I don't know what's the matter with me, I feel so dissatisfied with my life, so isolated from all my kind. I cannot or do not make friends & these fits of loneliness will come & I tire of everything. My life seems awry, the machinery out of gear & I feel there is something wrong. Will take it to my father. Have concluded not to take part in the entertainment being gotten up by the young ladies.

Wednesday April 14th.,

Monday afternoon L. M. B. came out to the school-house just as school was dismissing and walked home with me & spent the afternoon. He then went out walking with me and we had a very pleasant walk. Missed my lesson that evening. Went to recite yesterday afternoon and gave Mr. Lotta dollar to buy me a philosophy with and I began the study of it today. I hope I may not grow weary in well doing and I shall earnestly pray for strength to continue. Mr. E. W. M. called last evening and remained very late; he brought me a fine cabinet photograph of himself and of course procured one of mine in return. Went to try on my dress today. It will cost me more than I can afford but as I am in for it, I shall be compelled to finish it up nicely. I need a parasol, fan and I ought to have a hat & pair of gloves but will not be able to purchase only those I really need.

Tuesday April 20th.

Thursday evening Mr. L. M. B. came out and we had an interesting game of checkers in which I beat - of course surprising him greatly. Mr. West called too but left very soon. Went no where Saturday but remained home & attended to my hatching. Friday evening I went to service with Mrs. Settle, from thence we came to the Church fair at Lemoyne school & spent a very enjoyable evening indeed. Took no lesson last Saturday as my book had not come. Sunday went to Cong. S. S. & went to see Annie from there & brought her home with me to stay the remainder of the day. Endeavored to read "Fool's Errand but made poor success. Received Mr. Jones' letter but have not answered it yet. L. M. B. came by on his way to Mrs. B's and promised to return the next evening. No other callers. He did come & we took a long walk out as far as Mrs. Milburns, & when we returned the moon was shining so clear, calm and bright

that me & at in the moonlight and enjoyed the scene. It was delightful. the din, dust and smoke seemed left far behind; all was peaceful calm and still; the mellow moonlight air was beautiful and the landscape spread out before us. Took lessons Thursday. and tried on my dress this last evening.

Sunday April 25th; —

Easter Sunday! the day on which our Lord arose from the grave. I fear I have not spent it as consecratedly as I should have done, tho I have attended service all day; at S. S. this morning, remained to church. Went to Avery chapel this afternoon & Mr. B. came home with me, and again at church tonight with Mrs. S. I am thoroughly tired and worn out. Wore my new dress & hat as they were finished up & like the dress very much. Paid the woman $7.60 for making it and altogether it cost a good deal. Paid Mr. Lott $2. Thursday 22nd, & sent Mr. P. his letter yesterday, which cost me 24 cts. L. M. B. came and remained late last night &

I don't like it, that he come Saturday evening. Received a letter from Mr. M. who will be out tomorrow sometime Had a holiday Friday & spent it in visiting and sewing – Went to see Mrs. Page & gave her 25 cts. Also saw Messrs Turner & Ashford a little while. Only finished one garment for the whole number of days. Letter from C. S. M., Friday, who as usual, had misplaced my letter & could not answer relative thereto, in addition also begged an excuse for allowing 6 days to intervene between the receipt of his & answer to it. I have not hastened to give him a repetition of that excuse, for his letter is still unanswered. Have answered none of my letters tho' for lack of time. A letter yesterday from Miss Rice who anticipates a pleasant time in my society and hopes in me to find a friend. I wonder if her hopes will be blasted? Owe Mr. Jones a letter of over a week's date. Received one from H. H. A, relative to the school; he had only just seen the writing I had done in the back of the book & had answered accordingly to find out all about it. I

he made no mention of the letter he owed me, nor did I, in my reply. I find tho. that I have erred somewhat in my representation of facts to him and will have to write again soon as I find out some things I wish to know. L. M. B. was out again last Thursday night and we went walking again; went to Mrs. Hill's that time but she was not at home, only Mr. H. Mrs. Ragland has professed religion. Will endeavor to study this week and sew some, too, as I am very much behind hand with both. George was in today and had some pictures taken.

Thursday April 29th,

Monday no letters or papers arrived and I was kept so busy receiving visitors at school that I had no time at recess for anything. Le Moyne had a holiday that day & her students came over in great numbers. Messrs Mosely & McNeal called to see me Monday evening & we had a pleasant visit. While they were here Mr. Lawson came to the door and handed me a note. Little thinking of the contents I toyed carelessly

with it - but on my utter surprise
when opening it, I found it to be
a notification that I had circulated
the report that he wearied me with his
attentions! He wrote to beg pardon for
the one offence of having asked my com-
pany once assuring me it would not
happen again. I was very angry and
shocked; I racked my brain trying to
remember anything I might have
said that could be so construed but
could not - and wrote & told him so
& repeated what I had said. I desired
to know who of my friends (?) had told
him any such thing so requested
him to call the next afternoon. He
did so but would not tell me his au-
thor, but promised to do so at some
future day. I can't conceive any one
trying to injure me maliciously but
some one has and is continually doing
so. I may be doing D. J. G. an injustice
but I believe it was he. I hope not,
but the mere thought has incensed
me so against him that I cannot
bear him. Letter from Mrs. Rice Tues-
day telling me I would have to be
there in June to stand examina-
tion when I am not sure school

will be closed here. It is impossible for me to be there at the time set. I wrote immediately and told her so & received one from aunt F. yesterday imparting the same information. So, I know not whether to go or not. I shall have to be guided by circumstances. Wrote to Mr. J. but C. S. M's letter is still unanswered. I had hoped I was entirely out of the party the girls intend giving but it seems that is not to be for Fan. Thompson gave my name to Mrs. B. & she has issued invitations to company for me. I am vexed and perplexed. I know not what to do. In consideration of aunt F's letter & the small amount of money I've sent her I am not able & and feel it to be doing her an injustice to spend money in folic when she is bearing all the load. I was not able to buy that dress but did so & now I am to be drawn into something else expensive & profitless against my will. I trust to time & fortune to extricate myself. On the other hand owing to the peculiar position in which I am placed before the young men of the place, if it were known that I reject-

-ed him on that score, it would only serve to intensify the feeling against me. Went to hear an address from Col. Keating on the opening of the school of manual training, and was agreeably surprised by a rare treat from Rabbi Sanfield. It's the first time I ever heard a Jewish intellectual discourse. Started an article on it last night but did not finish it. Went to take a lesson yesterday and found Mr. Hamilton there. In a subsequent conversation Mr. Lott made me very angry by declaring I only was amiable to men in order to repulse them and attributing every thing to me that is associated with a heartless flirt. It made me very angry and I left; I am strongly in doubt whether to ever go again. I have been so long misrepresented that I begin to rebel. I should not have allowed it go so far without rebuke. No "Freeman", "Enterprise", have made an appearance this week.

Thursday May 6th; —

I had no choice but to pay my assessment and go to the entertainment last week, so

tried to sell my encyclopedia to raise the money without breaking my $10. but I could not. So I bought two pairs of drawers (90 cts), paid Mrs. B. 1.00 & Mrs Settle $6.00 for half the month of April lacking one dollar. Borrowed Mrs. F's diamonds(?) for the occasions and wore my black silk. Enjoyed myself hugely and Mr. G. handed me a verse declaring he knew I loved him & he longed to sip the nectar from my curling lip. I received it in silence, but intended keeping it. Mr. M. attempted familiarity that I quickly resented. Was on the floor in a set for the first time in my life and got through better than I expected. Mr. Dardis asked me to read a piece for his concert next week and altho' it is such short notice I shall do something because I wish to be present at his concert but am not able to pay anything & have long ceased expecting company. Went over to see Mrs Thompson & we did not decide on anything. I like Lady Mac's soliloquy & sleepwalking scene but it is almost impossible to arrange it. I will give that or Le Marriage

de Convenience", or "the Doom of Landing & Cynthia". Came home & slept till 3 o'clock when Misses Hamilton & Barnes calling — Mrs. S. awoke me. Saw Mr. Humphries of Miss. who would call soon he says. Do church Sunday & Episcopal in the afternoon home & bed sunday evening early. George was in Saturday afternoon & gave me #1.15 to add to his #1.70. His pile grows slowly. His pictures are very good indeed. No letter Monday or Papers. Tuesday a letter from Mr. P. in answer to the note I sent with his letters over a week ago. He calls me the twin mate of his soul and I know not that he is not telling the truth, and asks me to write again and let him know I received his letter which was sent to a new address. Had a talk with G. that day and requested that we be more civil in our treatment of each other especially in the presence of strangers. I told him I desired always to do right but failed sometimes, and I think I convinced him of my sincerity. He called that evening and re-

married till after Mr. S. had gone. He asked me to kiss him, but I gently but firmly refused. Another lost opportunity of his, for springing the question that evidently seems uppermost in his mind. I believe he loves me, but he is certainly very enigmatical in his behavior. Have seen nothing of L. M. B. for nearly two weeks; shall not ask him why he did not come when he arrives. Mr. West was here Monday night and we played checkers for some time. No callers last night but a letter yesterday from Mr. Jones. Rs. letter as today and as there was a rainstorm this afternoon, I settled myself for a good long evening of study but alas for the perpetuity of human hopes! I had 4 callers tonight who came in simultaneously and remained the same length of time except H., who left on business. They were Messrs Lawson & Humphries, Messrs Huyette & McGee from Kansas City; the latter brought a letter of introduction from Mr. Jones. We four spent a pleasant agreeable evening. Shall write to Mr. J. tonight.

Sunday May 9th.—

A letter from my aunt, Friday who wants me to decide what to do; she thinks I ought to be sure of something. Went to the literary Friday night. Went to recite Saturday but have made no choice of a piece yet. Went up town for my dress but it was not finished. Met Mr. McAlwee who walked up the street with me & spoke of coming to see me. George is thinking of going to California. Saw Mr. F. who told me of the dirty method Mr. Cummins is at tempting to quash my case. He ordered him to stop it. I honor & respect "my dad" highly. A letter from C. S. M. that was lengthy, bright, and witty in the extreme. Also a card from Mr. Mosely that I am undecided about answering. Answered Charlie's letter today & called him by his christian name. don't know how he will take it. Wrote no other letters and remained indoors all day. Went nowhere & had no callers.

Tuesday May 19th,

No callers last week and only a letter from Mr. Jones, who wishes to know what I mean by "man of the world". The schoolboard paid two months sal. and I paid all outstanding debts except Henken's, Mrs Thompson, Mrs. Lott; paid my board up to June 1st, sent aunt F. $10. and today deposited $50. in bank. Bought Mrs. G. a parasol for $2. nearly, and have $15. with which to pay all others. I thank God for that. Saturday evening I went to the baseball park & saw a professional game for the first time, but lost my temper & acted in an unladylike way toward those in whose company I was & hardly noticed L. M. B. Went in the afternoon to pay Fannie A. a call, but she was not there, from there went to Ida's to see Miss Harvey, whom I liked very much. Received a letter from Elsie yet & the children's pictures which are splendid.

+ Sunday May 23rd;

I had a terrible fall from a horse yesterday afternoon. Started out riding a strange horse who, I was told, was afraid of the street-cars, + the first one I met, he ran up on the mules + begun rearing and plunging. I was terribly frightened but kept my seat until we got a lit-tle to one side, when the horse's leg became entangled in the traces + that threw him and I went over his back, + fell on my back; the small of my back is swollen + painful yet, where I struck. I was very uneasy for fear some of my bones were broken or my spine injured, some way + I do not know yet if such is not the case. I think of my escape with a solemn thankfulness. Received letters from Mr. M. + Mr. Jones. No letter from "Charlie" yet. Mr. L. M. B. came by and tarried quite a while last night. Answered the two first of my numbers + wrote to G. C. P. Received a telegram from my aunt today saying the examination would be held June 15th and telling me to come immediately. I don't know what to do, my business is not arranged to leave on such short notice.

Thursday June 3rd: — School is out & the exhibition attempted but it was a complete farce. The house was jammed & crowded & so noisy, we could hear nothing; so half the exercises were omitted. Am tired out as we have been on the pad, night & day for nearly two weeks. Messrs Lee & Washington called Sunday and I received Charlie's long-looked-for letter ~~Mr~~ Tuesday before going to school. He offers as consolation for the delay in his writing the thought that he has thought of me. Also wishes to know if I can come to Louisville this summer. I would like very much to go but fear I can't spell able. Won't answer his letter soon. Got one from Mr. Jones this morning & his letters assume a deeper tone. I hardly know what to do. Tuesday Mr. G. ~~[illegible]~~ came home with me & told me of his love for me & I reciprocated. I told him I was not conscious of an absorbing feeling for him but I thought it would grow. I feel so lonely and isolated and the temptation of a lover is irresistible. I should not like to go thro' another winter as wearily as

heretofore. But its all so new and strange. The only thing I regret is I did not tell him the exact truth for he asked if I had loved any one since the rupture between myself & Mr. C. & I said no - I must rectify that mistake. I could not live under false colors. We went to the picnic next day and he was unvaryingly kind & attentive. Paid a woman 50 cts. to do my washing & ironed yesterday myself. Went to call on Misses Barnes & Hamilton in the afternoon. I shall patiently wait to see what the future shall bring forth. Mr. B was out last evening & we went walking; he had a debt to settle with me about Tuesday night's escapade & he talked in such a lofty strain & gave me withal some such good advice - enacted the real friend he professed to be - that I was agreeably surprised and delighted with him, when he soared above personal pique & forgot self in my behalf. It gave me a higher opinion of himself than I had & I now begin to think of him as a friend to be kept. I have not kept the friends I have won but will try from this on.

Monday June 7th, 1886. Holly Springs, Miss.
83 Didn't decide until 12 o'clock Saturday to come to H. S. but after making my waist Friday, I went out walking. Received a letter from Mr. Jones Thursday & answered it & Charlie's & Mr. Mosely's & sent Charlie one of the pictures of my school. Went up town to mail my letters & got a wagon to bring me to the depot for 25 cts. Bought a waist for 1.25 - and hurried to the depot where I found Fannie H. Susie B. and Stella B. all bent on the same excursion as myself. Of course we had the usual trouble about the first class coach but we conquered. Am stopping at Mrs. Rather's and having a very pleasant time. Went to church & times yesterday and spent a very pleasant time; met many old friends & acquaintances among whom were Hallie S, Henry A, Annie T, Lucy Mc, Victor T and spent a very pleasant time; the first two came home & spent the afternoon. Henry A, went to church with me & Mrs. R. S. Rust talked last night. Wrote a letter to L. M. B. & a card to J. G. Went to Rust today & spent the time in the recitation rooms. Gave H. A. my picture

Memphis June 12th:- Saturday
84
Left Holly Springs on Thursday as the crowd came that day and am here. I spent a very pleasant time at home, better than ever before. Monday night we went to the college in a bus to witness the literary exercises, Frank & Epps going with me. We had a jolly good time and enjoyed it immensely. Tuesday was commencement day and after those exercises came the alumni exercises which, tho' long were interesting. As I witnessed the triumph of the graduates and thought of my lost opportunity a great sob arose in my throat and I yearned with unutterable longing for the might have been". When Will said to me afterward: "Ida you ought to come back here and graduate", I could not restrain my tears at the sense of injustice I felt, and begged him not to ask me why I said "I could not." I quickly conquered that feeling and as heartily wished the graduates joy as tho' no bitterness had mingled with my pleasure. I had heard it asserted before I got to H. S. that Will & Annie would be married but

the time was near at hand & and I had met no one who could tell me positively that it would happen, or that had received an invitation, but an idea prevailed that it would be at the "students reunion" so all went & assembled themselves in the chapel and waited. Their waiting was not in vain, for they walked in after a while and were married as unpretentiously as possible; the ceremony, pronounced by Prof. H. was solemnly & impressively beautiful. He has watched over and shielded Annie ever since he has been there, and it was but fitting that he should be proud of the successful termination of his care.

When thinking over it the next day & endeavoring to find an adequate reason for his particular interest & care for her, I decided that it was not — as I used to think in my childish rage & jealousy at his evident preference for her — because of her color, for there have been others who were brighter in color and withal prettier than she and yet who won not his favor); it was not her high intellectual powers (for many I know were more brilliant, Florence especially, was non-intellectual yet he interested himself not in their behalf as in Annie's, and

so I've come to the conclusion that it was her obedient disposition, her extreme tractableness and therefore easily controlled and her evident ladylike refinement and when I think of my tempestuous, rebellious, hard headed wilfulness, the trouble I gave, the disposition to question his authority — I remember that Mr. H. is but human and I no longer cherish feelings of resentment, nor blame him that my scholastic career was cut short; my own experience as a teacher enables me to see more clearly and I know that I was to blame. I congratulated them both heartily and was cordially received. Was introduced to Miss Atkinson the music teacher, who seemed so fair and pure, so divinely good, whose motions were grace & poetry personified. she seemed to me, one of the few women that I have met who come near justifying the ravings of poets and proving their metaphors not inspired alone by the imagination. She seems so thoroughly pleasant, so bubbling over with an effervescence of youth, health, high spirits, cheerfulness and with all such an exuberance of vitality in every look or motion that every one is charmed without knowing why.

She is quite young - just from college and when she is toned down somewhat will be a truly noble - minded woman. Was introduced to Messrs Forbes & Hibbler - the former went home with me, the latter called next day but I was not at home; both seem to be thoughtful entertaining gentlemen. Wednesday had several callers & in the afternoon when it cleared up, went to see aunt Rachel R; from there I came to cousin L's to dinner and we had a splendid one! Ate so much and stayed so long is why I missed Mr. H. The boys gave a sociable (?) & the visiting girls that evening and sent Mr. Crowe after us! I was speechless with surprise when he presented himself with all his old time sang froid and announced that he was our escort! We went but I kept him at a respectful distance that did not allow a nearer approach; he did not attempt to go over it. His wife greeted me with cordiality and as I manifested a desire to see the babies took me in & we had a chat. Left next morning and as my ticket was through mistake purchased for Illinois C. R. R. I had to come that way with the crowd. George with his usual improvidence, went there with only enough money to carry

him, depending on me to pay his money - as I did not, I had to leave him there. We were all day coming as we stayed at the junction till 8 o'clock. Found letters from Preston T. - T. D. Fortune and Mr. J. who informed me he would leave for here the 14th, inst. I answered & mailed him a reply yesterday which I hope he will get before he leaves. I am very eager to see him and hope I'll not be disappointed. I am glad I'll not have to wait till I go to K. C. to see him. Went to see Dr. Sinclair about my ear, & am to go again today. Went Mr. J. J. G. came out last night and I spent an agreeable evening in his society. He is very thin poor fellow.

Tuesday June 15th; -

Mr. B. and I took a long walk Saturday evening and he told me some things that surprised me a little - especially about his loving me. He said he'd carefully guarded against such as I was just the kind of girl of whom he would become infatuated. I begged him not to spoil all by any such course; whereupon he said, as many others have, that he did not believe

I had any heart or could love anyone I did not endeavor to change his belief. He furthermore said, that he thought Mrs. G. idolized me; I neither affirmed nor denied the statement. Sunday I went to the doctor and then to Collins Chapel to afternoon service. Mr. Hoxsey preached. It was fearfully warm and as we were coming home a heavy rain clouds came up. Luckily we were on the car. He came home with me, and remained all the afternoon. He also, thinks I have no heart. Mr. B. came that night and we spent a cozy evening together despite the rain. He told me all about his engagement with Miss G. of Ga. He is the embodiment of frankness. With me, my affairs are always at one extreme or the other. I either have an abundance of company or none at all. Just now there are three in the city who, with the least encouragement, would make love to me; I have two correspondents in the same predicament - but past experience will serve to keep me from driving them from me. I am enjoying existence very much just now; I don't wonder longer, but will enjoy life as it comes. I am an anomaly to myself as well as to others. I do not wish to be married but I do wish for the good

ty of the gentlemen. Received a letter from Charlie yesterday and answered immediately. He is bubbling over with fun & nonsense and wishes to know how that sister looks. Wrote to Sallie K. also asking her to come up on the 28th. Am assured that I will be re-elected to my position but am afraid to leave until I know it as a certainty. Will write to Mrs Bowser today also answer Messrs Taylor's & Fortune's letter. No message or letter from Mr. Jones yet. Would have washed yesterday but it rained all day & is raining now. My railroad case will not come up in the supreme court this term. Gave Henrietta F. a note to Mr. Payne today as she is in search of a school, and she seemed to take it as her due. Of course I don't wish any one to bow down and worship me but I would like them to express gratitude for an attempted favor.

Preserve me from narrowness & bigotry, I sincerely pray. Received a copy of the A. M. E. Church Review this morning and a letter from the editor asking an article from my brilliant (?) pen. I have not decided on accepting as yet. Also received C. S. M's Journal; it is very good as a beginning but rather abrupt.

Monday June 28th; ¶ It rained every day of the week in which I made my last entry and I did not get to washing until Friday. Going to the Dr. every day about my ear bothered me somewhat. Earnest C. came to see me one evening, and Mr. M. another. Received a letter from Mr. Jones Friday morning explaining why he did not come. Mrs. S. Mrs. B. and myself went to confirmation Thursday evening and L. M. B. came after we returned and stayed some time. Mrs. B. stayed all night and we had a long confab & came nearer being acquainted than ever before. Went up town to get our salary from the Board Friday morning and I also went to the Dr. again. Hurried home & went to Mrs. Turner's to washing and Mr. Graham came while I was away, and did not return that night. He left me without a farewell & I thought he would return but he did not. I don't know how to take him. He is either afraid to trust me, or does not care for me one. I am too proud to beg but I must be loved with more warmth than that. Saturday morn

ing I went with Mrs. Graham to the Dr. and paid him $3.00 for myself. Put her on the cars to go home and went to see Mr Strickland about that furniture, but he was not in. Went to Menken's & paid him $69.+ my whole indebtedness to him & thank God it shall be my last. Put $45. in the bank which makes $93 to my account. Received a letter from aunt F. who is very angry and disappointed because I did not come to California. Answered and tried to pacify her as much as I could. Intended to go and iron on Saturday but Mr. Payne came for me & I went home with him and stayed a week. Just returned day before yesterday. Endeavored to make some entries while there but had no ink and very little time for this as I was pretty busy all the time. Wrote to L. M. B. — P. J. — and a card to Mrs Farmer on Sunday and took a walk in the afternoon with George. Sewed all the week very near and made four garments. Washed and ironed also, and my clothes are so pretty & white. Received a letter from L. M. B. while there, in which he told me

about dreading my influence as he was afraid he was falling in love with me, also that he was going to Washington. I answered and told him not to do either, and assured him I would in response to his pleadings be in on Saturday; also told him I believed him incapable of love in its strongest, best sense. I came in early Saturday and found letters from Messrs Taylor, Fortune, Jones, Mosely, McGee, and cards from J. J. G. & Mr. M. I wrote immediately to Messrs Taylor & Mc., telling the former what to give me as a birthday present and asking the latter to write and tell me immediately what he means by his warning regarding a stopping-place. Have answered none of the others as yet. Went up town Saturday eve and visited several places. Mr. B came out and persuaded me to go walking with him & he forced me to our trysting-place. I weakly yielded to his importunities to be seated and then he too told me a tale of love and asked me directly if I were pledged to any one. I could not say yea, and I did say nay. For with all the encouragement I've given J. he has not sought to bind me to him & seems so utterly indifferent

that I don't and can't feel that I belong to him. I told Mr. B. I did not love him, but I was sorry that would cause a cessation of his visits. He talked some time longer and then begged as hard for the right to pay his addresses to me as to hope, that I could not satisfactorily give. But he kissed me - twice - & it seems even now as if they blistered my lips. I feel so humiliated in my own estimation at the thought that I cannot look anyone straight in the face. I feel somehow as if I were defrauded of something since then. I came home and lay thinking of the awkward predicament I am in and the remark made by Mr. Settle the other morning at the breakfast-table recurred to me, "you are playing with edged tools" and I feel that I have degraded myself in that I had not the courage to repulse the one or the other. I know not which of the two I prefer. One has qualities the other does not possess & I cannot choose between them. I don't think I want either for a husband but I would miss them sadly as friends - and of course that would be an intermission of friendship if I said nay. But God helping

me I will free myself from this predicament somehow and I pray for tact and judgment so to do wisely but firmly. It seems I can establish no middle ground between me and my visitors - it is either love or nothing.

Went to church yesterday morning and saw Fan. Thompson, who tells me they will have berths & all the ladies will take the sleeper. I am unable and unwilling to do so, especially the roundabout trip they will take on the C. O. & S. W. R.R. and think I'll take the regular K. C. route. Slept all the afternoon and rose & dressed just about time Mr. B. made his appearance on the scene. I scarcely spoke to him directly and Mrs. S. came in and helped to entertain him. He made an engagement for Tuesday evening. Went with Mrs S. to the guild and from there went to do some shopping. Met Will S. Matt. D. and Henry R. on my way home and the last named came home with me and remained to supper. L. M. B. came in and was introduced. We played logomachy and they stayed till late. H. seems backward and constrained in the presence of strangers.

Sunday July 4th. — We have definitely concluded to go on the excursion which leaves this afternoon for the west. am all in a turmoil as to what I shall do and how get out of the predicament in which I am placed. Received another letter from Mr. Mc. Tuesday in which he was more explicit and yet made no specifications. I carried the letter to F. J.B. and she said it was not worth attention and for us to adhere to our original decision. I immediately sent him word that we would come and stop where we had originally intended as we had a cordial invitation to do so & were not disposed to throw over old friends without cause. Went to Mrs. K's concert & recited "The Letter Reading" & Sleep walking scenes from "Lady Mc Beth". The first was loudly applauded the last, given in my brother Hubbard was not so effective as I could have wished. Mr. B. seemed very cold & contrary that night and I wondered where the glamour of his presence was. Wednesday I washed & ironed at Mrs. Parmer's but did not finish in time to attend Mrs. Mosby's funeral. Expected Mr. G. out but he came not and

as I needed rest, I retired early. Proved some Thursday and served the rest of the day. Thursday eve D. M. B. came to pay his farewell respects. Or at least he started walking up stairs, but I was afraid he wished me to go to our usual resort and I affected to be very tired. Friday we went to Mrs Hill's and stayed all day and had a delightful dinner. We came home in the cool of the evening and found letters awaiting us. One from Mr. P. J. requesting the same as Mr. McGee about our stopping-place and informing me he had procured a place for us. Had he not spoken so positively and concluded by affirming that the Rector of one of the churches here had endorsed his motives and gone with him to procure us a place & if we would telegraph when we started would have a carriage in waiting. I submitted this letter to Mrs. Settle's judgment & she advised that we stop not at all. That was the best thing I saw to do and I wrote him to say we would not come at all and the same to Mrs. Bowser. Fan B. objected to my ruling and insisted that I send him a telegram and I did so, stating that we would be

there and for him to look for us.
Went to a social of the Golden Star
club Friday evening and enjoyed
myself hugely. Mr. Robert Lee accompa-
nied me. Recited "Hidden Dudd" for their
amusement. Mr. G. came before we
went to and informed me he had
been there twice before. Dr. Smith of
Marquesboro was to see me Tuesday
& very indignant over his bad treat-
ment by the deacons of the church as
he was not employed as he was led
to believe. I could offer nothing in ex-
=tenuation because I knew he spoke
truly. Mr. Moxely was in a few minutes
Wednesday evening on his way to church
& promised to come again later in
the week to bid me goodby. Saturday
morning first thing I went to town to get
my jewelry as a letter & card from Mr.
T. informed me was for me at the ex-
press office. It was his birthday gift
& I could not wait to get home before
I opened the box. They are just lovely
as my keys have been lost all of last
week, I took my writing desk to town
to have it filed open & when I return-
ed found my keys where I had
hidden them over a week before.
Drew $8. all the money I have in the

world from the bank and then came home. The rest of the day was spent in packing. As the convention was held on same day I expected & received no callers. To day I've been nowhere as I wished to keep my clothes all clean We start about four this afternoon. I sincerely hope will have a pleasant trip and every thing turn out all right.

Kansas City, Mo. July 8th. Thursday

Have been in the city four days and this the first opportunity I've had to record the sayings & doings of the people whom I've met & the impressions of the country I've received. We had the most pleasant trip as we took a sleeper with a chair compartment attached and we stayed in that most of the time. The gentlemen were attentive and kind, and my first experience with a sleeper was by no means unpleasant. Until we got to St. Louis all went merry as a marriage bell but at that place they put us in a dingy old car that was very unpleasant, but thanks to Dr. Burchett we at last secured a very pleasant place in a chair car & the rest of the ride was comparatively pleasant. When we reached this

place no one presented himself as Mr. Jones so we moved aimlessly about until Mr. & Mrs. Bowser came up and insisted on our going to supper if we returned to leave on the 10 o'clock train. We decided to stay till Wednesday & as Mr. G. got left he stayed till next day. The next morning or rather that evening we went down to the church to an entertainment and were introduced to hundreds of folks - remembering their names no longer than they were spoken. I saw Mr. McGee & had a long talk with him. I explained our peculiar position & the embarrassment I felt in accepting the hospitality of people who, he had assured me, bore a bad reputation. My constraint was natural & I felt indignant that their statements had caused me to act so aimlessly and disconnectedly. He was sorry he had written and etc. I found there had been a personal altercation between them Mr. J. & this family & Mr. Mc. is a spy or proxy for him as he does not come here. Then M. came again the next day trying to plaster up for him but I treated him coldly and insinuated that I thought it strange he

could accept the hospitality of folks he still contends are not socially correct nor morally pure. We met a great many at an informal entertainment Mrs. Bowser had that evening, and enjoyed ourselves hugely. But have not laid eyes on Mr J. yet. He sent an invitation to go carriage riding yesterday for Fan, D. and myself but I was advised not to accept it and I thought it a duty to my hostess to defer to her ruling as she is supposed to know people better than I. I did not, but requested my mail to be sent up to me & have written Mrs S. to not send any if she has not done so. I guess I'll go from K. C. as much of a stranger as I came here. For I hear he drinks & Mr. Fleming reported, as I forced him to do, verbatim the very rough conversation he held with him on my account and he has fallen steadily in my estimation. Have met Messrs Yates & Coles who have made themselves very agreeable. They are teachers in the schools. Have written to L. M. B., Mrs. S., and must write to Mr. F. tonight — also a letter to The Watchman. Mrs Bowser gave an informal reception to us Tuesday eve.

Topeka Kansas Tuesday July 13th.

After a whole week of excitement and dissipation in Kansas City we left this morning for this place and are here. Met many very pleasant acquaintances while there among whom were Messrs Martin, Nash, Commodore, Perkins, Towsen, Edwards, Pettiford, Mr & Mrs Peters, Mr & Mrs Blunk, Mr. & Mrs. Lucas, Mr & Mrs Andrews, Misses Jordan, Linwood, Warner, Moore, and Mrs Sprague were the among the most prominent we met besides Mrs B. B. Brown, Mr Fleming, Mr. Huyett and several others we knew before coming. Mr. Towsen took us the first ride thro' the city in a carriage, we also visited the cable line engine house & the Coates Hotel that day besides a ride on the cable. Next day we went shopping & had our pictures taken. Thursday evening we went to Mrs Andrews' to an entertainment, Mr. Cole accompanying me and we had a royal time. Received via Mr. Jones's forwarded letters from Aunt F. telling me to come to California, from Charlie sending my pictures, from B. F. Tanner.

Friday evening we went & the literary meeting & heard Messrs Coles, Bowser, and Yates debate; from there we went & an entertainment given by Mrs. Sprague and others at Mrs Robinson's. Mr. C. accompanied me and there I met & Dr. B & Mr. Love from our town. Was introduced & Mr. J. the same evening; his physical appearance does not prepossess me, and I perfectly abhor him since later developments. Mr. M. made an engagement & go with us riding on Saturday but when he came he brought Mr. J. & Fan would not go, & we excused ourselves. Sunday morning brought an insulting note from the cur accusing us for not accepting. I cared nothing for his denouncing our conduct as despicable but when he accused me of went further & say he had heard bad things about me when he was running to Memphis but had believed none of them until now. I was so angry I foamed at the mouth, bit my lips & then realizing my impotence ended in a fit of crying. Hyzette went to church with me that morning & the Episcopal service and we saw both

the miserable excuses for manhood. I answered his note declining further intercourse with either on the score of having discovered that neither were gentlemen. Met Prof. Vance of Indiana who was en route for Topeka. He is the "Otto" about whom Nellie H. raved a year or two ago. Mr. Fleming took us out on the most delightful drive we had while in the city Sunday evening and we returned to find the house full of company. We Met to church Sunday night with Mr. Patton, a friend of "Mumms" and had a nice time. He is a perfect gentleman. Monday we went calling first thing and visited a dozen houses or more, and found the people all comfortably situated. We got home about 1 o'clock. and all lay down for a snooze. I slept till about four & then attempted to write but five had so many interruptions five have only written the fewest number of letters since five been here. I wrote to Mrs. Mayo, Ella R., Charlie, My brother George & Mrs S. Mr. Huyette took me riding yesterday evening & we had a glorious time but I'm awfully sore from it today. From there we went to Mrs Lucas's entertainment. Remained till 2 A.M. Came home, went to bed & rose this morn

ing at 5 & bid Mr. Bowser goodbye as he leaves for his work early. He is a good quiet sensible, thoroughly good-est man. I am charmed by his very simplicity and unpretentiousness. I told them the whole history of McGee & Jones' scheming so they may know the vipers - but I would not have done so had they not loosened the bonds & I no longer felt honor bound. To M. B. sent a card declaring his lonesomeness & urging us to return. A number of the goodly residents of the place were down to see us off this morning and we were much affected by their thoughtfulness. We got here about 1 o'clock P. M. and have a splendid boarding place. Went down town this afternoon, to the headquarters of National Teachers Association, to the Capitol Building and while there called on Mr. McCabe the present auditor of the state of Kansas. He is an mulatto, a polished agreeable gentleman and has held the position four years. Prof. Sampson called on us this afternoon and left early saying he would bring some gentlemen later. He brought Dr. Boyd, Prof Lowe and a Mr. Cunningham of Indiana whom I had not met and we went out to the meeting at the opera house & the Methodist church where we heard considerable spouting.

Denver, Colorado, Tuesday July 20th, 1886.

Had a fine time in Topeka the three days I was there met many of the teachers from different parts. Prof. Sampson called on us as soon as he heard of our being in T. & later on he brought Messrs Boyd, Cunningham & Vance to see us. Pan T. & I went out with the latter to a speech making at one of the colored churches but left before it was over. Spent the remainder of the time visiting the capitol building where I saw McCabe, the present auditor of Kansas. He is a very polished gentleman, and the Grand Opera house & hear the different papers on different subjects. Such crowds and crowds of people! I never saw so many teachers in my life, but none that I knew. I heard of Mr. Weaver but could not find him. About 30 are of our own race. Wrote "The Watchman" & L. M. B. a letter about Kansas & it also several cards. Went to a so-called reception the night before I left the place and met many people. Among whom were Mr. Keeling of Waco Texas. who so wonderfully impressed me at a session of the N. E. A. by a spontaneous out

burst on the subject of The Bible in Public Schools. I congratulated him on his speech and spent sometime in converse. He is a quiet modest man, hesitating but expressive in speech. Mr. Coles wanted to go home with me but as he only did so because Miss C. had other company refused him, & Prof. Vance took me home. Mr. Marcus took us driving through town Friday morning before we left; as that was my 24th birthday & the first time he had so honored me I took it as a birthday gift. We left Topeka at 1 o'clock that day and traveled all of the afternoon & night and landed in Pueblo Col. 9 o'clock Saturday morning & had to remain all day; at 6 we started again & got to Colorado Springs where I got my first glimpse of the mountains. Went to Manitou Springs Sunday and spent the day in the mountains drinking of the different springs. Did not undertake the ascent of the Peak, which is clearly visible from this point, as I had not my shoes or was sufficiently wrapped up. Went

back to Colorado Springs that evening and went to bed early and had a good night's rest. Rose early next morning and wrote the Gate City Press a letter before leaving for this place where I arrived at one P. M. and found as much prejudice here as at Memphis almost. Mr. G. did not come with me as he stayed to go up Pike Peak but he followed later in the evening. Met Mr. Stewart a lawyer of Topeka, said to have the finest practice of any colored lawyer in the west. He is afflicted with asthma. He is a very entertaining talker tho', when well. A great many men I meet in this western country but so few ladies. Mr. Caldwell was ready to propose on the spot almost. Wrote Mr. G. a long letter while on my way here. Denver has some fine public buildings; the finest and most complete opera-house I ever saw The Tabor; a magnificent court-house, over which we were carried by Mr. Hackley one of the finest young men it has been my good fortune to meet. and the High School of the place. Mr. H. was

out D call tonight but did not tarry long. He will call again tomorrow.

San Francisco, Thursday July 29th, 1886.

Have been in this place two days and found people wearing jackets & overcoats and with good reason, for it has been as cold here in this one of our hottest months, as it is in December & March. The situation of the place accounts for that as it is directly on the beach or coast rather of the Pacific Ocean. I have not been to the coast yet and only caught a glimpse of the ocean thro' the Golden Gate as I passed across from Oakland on the ferry boat. As yet have only circulated around in the city looking at the shops and public buildings and going thro' Chinatown with its thousands of "Heathen Chinee" in all branches of industry. Went to the "Elevator" office yesterday and had quite a talk with the editor, who gave us flattering accounts of the negro, and claimed that there were several wealthy colored

men here who drove express & blacked boots. Went & see Dr. Rutherford yesterday who gave me such a history of their trials since they emigrated to this state that I became despondent and have not been able to shake it off since. He paints Visalia and the colored inhabitants thereof in anything but glowing colors and makes me almost afraid to go there and I heartily regret having sold my ticket (which I did yesterday for $15.) My heart is indeed heavy and I know not what to do. I can only pray to the Father of all mercy for guidance and help. Yet if all he says is true, its a mystery to me why Aunt T. says she will not return home. Poor Aunt T. she has had a burden to bear that was very heavy. I will not run and leave her alone. As I am so anxious to see her I will leave tomorrow for there. My journey to this place has been very interesting the scenery from Denver was beautiful in the extreme; there was something awful, majestic in the

height of the mountains & solitary grandeur of the peaks. We climbed over the mountains at night and did not get the full benefit of our view. The remainder of my 4 days stay in Denver was made very pleasant indeed by Mr. W— who took me out twice, once on the cars & once in a buggy. The buggy ride was something to remember as he took me over the whole city consequently the ride lasted nearly 3 hours. Also gave me a picture of himself which is a very good likeness. I like him, better than any one I've known so short a while. Met him also at the entertainment I attended the night before I left, & he was as kindly courteous as ever & when I bade him goodby he said he hated to see me leave & I can easily believe him, for I know I never hated so badly to bid a stranger goodby. I promised to write & really did leave him a note in Miss Julia's care, thanking him for his kindness to me & returning him some papers he left for my perusal. Travel without intermission after leaving Denver

until Salt Lake City was reached 12 o'clock at night 41 hours later. We went to a hotel and I spent a fitful remainder of the night on a cot, without covering, in the fitting room of the place. Mr. Y. found accommodation elsewhere. Strolled about the city next day especially to see the Mormons & visited their Tabernacle in the afternoon where I listened to a harangue from one of themselves. Was much impressed with what I saw and was sorry I had to leave before it was over. Left on the 4 o'clock train and came thro without stopping elsewhere to this place. tho' I had intended stopping at Sacramento City. My money was fast giving out & I thought better of it. Had my picture taken yesterday. Don't know if I shall like it, but the negative is good. Visited the Palace Hotel, said to be the largest in the world and has 1780 rooms. Went out to the Cliff House and had a magnificent view of the ocean and sat for hours gazing out on the billows that "break, break, break, on the cold

gray stones, and being faccinated with the white foam that looked like milk. The rocks in front of the house were lined with seals that looked like so many brown bags as they lay basking in the sunlight. Golden Gate Park, of more than a thousand acres, took up a considerable share of our time - with its broad smooth walks, beautiful parterres of flowers and conservatory with all manner of plants & flowers. Strolled home to find that I had had a caller but an unknown one, as he left no card and no one could tell who it was. Thoroughly tired out I shall retire as soon as possible. Sent a poem I found in a paper and consider peculiarly applicable to B. F. P. to him without a line but he will know who it is from.

Visalia Cal. Monday Aug. 2nd - Left San Francisco Saturday after procuring my pictures for this place & traveled all night. Arrived here at daybreak yesterday morning &

found all well and very glad to see me. The children have all grown as tall and Annie & Ida are near my height and look very much like women. I look at them in amazement and find the little sisters of whom I spoke, shooting up into my own world and ripening for similar experiences as my own. A letter was given me from L. M. B. that beat me here. In it he speaks very tenderly and declares his intention of going out as far as Denver to seek a competence and seductively seeks to know if he may return for me some time in the future. I wrote to him hurriedly in order to meet the morning's mail and did not enter on the question so broadly as I might have done, but I commended his determination and told him to do something that called forth admiration and respect and the rest would be easy. Wrote to Mr. G. also and, after consultation with aunt F., told him not to buy the ticket. Poor aunt F.! she wants me to stay the year with her anyhow, whether I get any work to do or not &

I, seeing how careworn she is with hard work and solitude for the children - know she is right & I should help her share this responsibility and God helping me I will! It is not enough to take them and go right away if I could, but I will stay with her a year. The election of teachers has not taken place yet in Memphis & all are undecided & I know not whether I'm on the list or not. It is very hot here during the day as different from S. F. I could not make up my mind to stay there after Dr. K's statement I wished to come & see for myself. Altho Mrs A offered to board me free until after the grand parade on the 3rd. Also received a letter from Mr. G. who writes very disconsolately. I don't know what to think of him. He says he always feels as if in a tight jacket when in my presence and wishes to know if I love him & will live with him. I fear I don't but then I also fear I shall never love anybody.

Wednesday Aug. 4th

Received 2 letters & ever so many papers yesterday. Mrs Bowser sent the group picture and a very kind chatty letter - Mrs Settle wrote a long interesting letter also that quite cheered my drooping spirits. Mr. Coles sent me a letter and the application for a school. I wrote to him sending it back filled out and a letter to Fan T. also one to Mr. Froman asking his advice a-bout staying out here. Washed my clothes yesterday and a weary all day job it was. Rested today & wrote to Mrs S., Mrs T., and started an article for the M. E. Church Review but made little progress. Wrote a card to Mr. Y. changing my mind about the articles in question. Lily brought me a letter from him when she came from the office & he was magnanimous enough to say he missed me more & more every day; also told me of two gentlemen calling to see me Sunday evening.

Monday Aug 9th, 1886.

Worked very hard all last week and had the usual swelling of the hands & feet that always attends me after a hard day's manual labor. Received no more letters during the week but wrote to Mrs S. & Mrs Turner Friday evening for the first time I went walking down the road with the children and was lying with my head in Lily's lap when Mr Yates walked up. We spent the evening in animated conversation and it slipped away so quickly. We had a very pleasant time in S. F. & enjoyed the parade. We met several of the people and of course enjoyed the chance of becoming better acquainted. We left next morning but not before coming down and bringing the things I told him to get & he did as before he received my card. I paid him for them & started down to the depot, but it was so hot & dusty & the people stared so, I gave it up & bade him goodby at the post office. He told me that if he wrote

for me anytime soon I might know he meant business, & to come right away. That assurance comforted me very much for I begin to feel lonely so far away from everything & everybody. Yesterday morning Mr. Hackley's letter was brought me & I eagerly devoured its contents. He writes in the easy, natural manner that he speaks & asks me to remember that "Iola" is my public name and not for private correspondence. I answered right away and told him many things. I also answered Mrs Bowser's letter & sent her a picture of myself to exhibit alongside the group picture. Have not answered Mr. G's letter yet, but will do so. Sewed a little today & will do more tomorrow. No mail from any source today. Took my first ride here, Saturday evening and enjoyed it immensely. School-board at home elects teachers today & if I am re-elected will return & take Annie, if not both of the children with me; for I've no books, no companionship & even an embargo is laid on my riding out with the only one who can take me. Have not met Lutie yet. She called on me in S. F.

Wednesday Aug. 18th, 18

Have just received a letter from Fan in which she informs me that Harry is dead. As I've not heard from him in some time I was very much shocked. Poor Harry! I wonder if he was prepared to go? I always felt that he had consumption, and was just thinking about him only this week, for the first time in quite awhile, and my heart smites me to think what a cruel letter I sent in answer to his last declaration of love for me! A better boy, with kinder intentions never breathed and when I think of the last time he came to see me two years ago, and declared he was going away to work and that he would come back for me I grieve that I did not treat him more kindly. I wish I could have seen him before he died, for one short hour. They brought him to Memphis a week before he died, and I know he would like to have seen me. May the Lord have mercy on his soul and may I remember to deal more kindly with the li-

der feelings of those who exhibit them. I always thought a great deal of him, weak and irresolute as he was, for he was the first to help dispel the dark clouds that had settled on my young life, and treated me with the courtesy and delicacy of a true gentleman altho' he knew the whole base slanderous lie that had blackened my life, and offered me his love even while his companions were rehearsing it the lie in his ears. Gentle, kind and tender as a woman, if he was not of a decided character, (he preserved my faith in human nature) I earnestly hope he has gone to rest. Peace to his ashes!

The letter gives me a great deal of news. Mr. Harris is dead & Lee Hext is not expected to live; the School Board as yet have failed to elect teachers. I wonder what they mean by it? Received a letter also from Mr. Counter in which he informs me that they are unable to employ me regularly as correspondent, which I knew before & can't conceive his object for writing, if that was all he had to communicate. We could hardly have received my postal when he wrote and

I can't fathom his object unless to inform me he doesn't want me to write any more for them. Received and answered a letter from Mr. C. he is jubilant & confidant of my securing a position there. Informed him of Mr. Y's promise to assist me. Also received a letter from Mr. Walker of Bakersfield who informs me of his house & stock worth $1200. getting burned up. Sent a letter to Mr. Y. to meet him when he gets home. I regret more and more every day that I sold my ticket. If I had it, it would not be a hard matter to borrow money to take Annie away. Sent a letter to the Gate City Press. Also received a tet Living Way with my first letter in it.

Sunday Aug. 22nd:-

Received a letter from "Charlie boy" on the very day I mailed him the pilot (?) of our novel and it has the usual platitudes & I answered immediately & told him of my hesitating between marrying and staying here to raise the children. I know he will be surprised at the tone of that letter. Did very little work last week but must do better next. Wrote to Fan T. & B.F.P. today, and told Fan to send me money to come

Thursday Aug. 26th:- Finished & at last mailed to the A. M. & C. Church Review on the 24th, my article on "Our Young Men". not because I was satisfied with it or thought it worthy publication by reason of the lucid exposition and connected arrangement - but as a trial to get the opinion of others. I never wrote under a greater strain, but kept at it until it was finished, anyhow. I think sometimes I can write a readable article and then again I wonder how I could have been so mistaken in myself. A glance at all my "brilliant?" productions fall on my understanding; they all savor of dreary sameness, however varied the subject, and the style is monotonous. I find a paucity of ideas that makes it a labor to write freely and yet - what is it that keeps urging me to write notwithstanding all? Messrs Brown & Graham have about received the letters I wrote them last week. Wrote a letter to Mr. C. asking the loan of one

hundred dollars. Received letters from Mrs Rice, Mr. F. and a card from "Charlie" this week. "Pap" tells me not to think of staying here, till my railroad suit is over then I can come back; that only intensified my desire to go back & I answered immediately telling him what I had done also a card to Mr. Rutherford asking him to find out the price of return tickets. Will take Annie back if no more - that is, if I get the money. Am making a dress for Aunt F. this week.

Wednesday Sept. 1st:-

Have received an answer from Dr. R. who informs me the price of tickets at the scalpers is only a little less than usual fare from this place. No letter from L. M. B. yet or Mrs. H. either. I can't imagine the latter so rude as to fail to answer my letter purposely. I would write again but it would have the appearance of eagerness. Sunday passed in the same dull way. Monday I sent a

letter to Mr. Y. & $3.00 subscription to C. L. S. for two persons at this place. Found a letter from him & Mr. C. also at the office; both of them assuring me of their assistance in procuring a place in the school. Mrs. Turner wrote also to say she had received my letter & had sold the things for $4. A letter from Mrs. F. F. S. yesterday morning acted like a tonic, it was so newsy & chatty. I wrote Saturday to Mr. F. telling him to use authoritative measures in regard to my return & see Mr. C. immediately & have him to forward me the money. I know not if he will do so but I am very eager to get back home.

I have not seen Mrs R. yet nor answered her letter. Have made two dresses for my aunt this week & want to do more sewing.

Today witnessed my first essay in story-writing; I have made a beginning - I know not where or when the ending will be. I can see and portray in my mind all the elements of a good story but when I attempt to put it on paper my thoughts dissolve into nothingness.

+ Saturday Sept. 4th; + Have finished the dresses I was making and answered Mr. C's, Mrs Rice's and Mrs T's letters.

Thursday evening brought a letter from L. M. B. very quiet and very manly in tone yet a hopeless one so far as love is concerned and signing himself as mine "to command to service". He is developing symptoms more to my ideas of what becomes an earnest man and I told him so, as well as that if he succeeded in his new venture & in winning my love in the meantime, I would help him prove to the world what love in its purity can accomplish.

Exactly 13 days since I mailed my letter to C. and as I predicted the answer came immediately. I received from him last night the most lengthy letter I've ever gotten from him, containing an outline of our projected novel with which I am not much attracted it is too much on the style of other novels - rather sensational. There was also some good advice as to marriage only marred by a preface that reflected somewhat on my common sense especially after I had requested the advice and I naturally resent that. Have not answered it yet. Dreamed about Mr. S.

last night received a Dunver paper from Bro. H. containing an account of his nomination as a representative to the State Legislature, by the Republican party. Hurrah for Edwin! but as he has not answered my letter yet I don't know that I shall write to congratulate him. Wrote a dynamitic article to the G.C.P. almost advising murder! My only plea is the pitch of indignation to which I was carried by reading an article in the home papers concerning a great outrage that recently happened in Jackson Tenn. A colored woman accused of poisoning a white one was taken from the county jail and stripped naked and hung up in the courthouse yard and her body riddled with bullets and left exposed to view! O my God! can such things be and no justice for it? The only evidence being that the stomach of the dead woman contained arsenic & a box of "Dough on Rats" was found in this womans house, who was a cook for the white woman. It may be unwise to express myself so strongly but I cannot help it & I know not if capital may not be made of it against me but I trust in God.

Tuesday Sept. 7th.

Earthquakes have been shaking the south-eastern part of the U.S. ever since Tuesday Aug. 31st, and Charleston S.C. has been a great sufferer by them; many people have lost their lives & others their houses. I wrote a letter to Mr. Tipton apprising him of my intention to go back & asking what he thought of it. A. has said point blank that she will not go back & Lis not far behind. Will H. was up yesterday from Bakersfield where he is flourishing & wants every body to come & do likewise. Received letters from Fan. T. & C. F. P. last night & answered both today; to the latter I related my dream concerning him & myself & that in my quandary I was almost tempted to write to him & ask him to save me from myself. Fan. tells me George is thinking of marrying & was very impudent to her. I earnestly hope he will get over this season of infatuation safely & do nothing to his own or any one else's discredit.

Thursday Sept. 9th: —

How much can be compassed by twelve hours! The past 24 have been very stormy ones with me. At breakfast yesterday morning L. brought me a card from Fan. B & a paper from Fan T. both apprising me of the result of the election. After knowing for certain I was elected I went up town & telegraphed to Mr. G. to send me $50. & send immediately. I also saw Mr. G. one of the School Board at this place, and asked for the certificate I had sent in with my application. He promised to hunt it up and send me & I came home jubilant with the idea of soon again meeting friends. Wrote a card to Fan B. telling her I'd leave here on 15th, & for her to wait for me. After sending it a card was brought to me from Mr. Murphy, school superintendent, & the result of his visit was an offer of the school here to begin Monday & teach until the examination for nothing & if I passed examination to get $40 per month to compensate me for

the months I received nothing. He offered all the advantages possible & his eagerness to secure me backed with my aunts importunities made me yield, tho' very reluctantly. He had the contract drawn up and signed & delivered to me by three o'clock. It was all done so swiftly there was not time to think & when I realized it all I shed bitter tears of disappointment; but my calmer sober judgement coming to the rescue I see it will be a better money plan than if I go home. I'll have no board to pay for the children nor myself till after Christmas, & I'll have over $300. clear to take home; for I am determined to go to that railroad exit, if I come back. I see all that but don't like to acknowledge it & have been very slow in doing so. Wrote to Bro. F. today telling him all about it, & sending a petition for leave of absence, by him, to the Board. Received an answering telegram from Mat Y. today responding promptly to my request. Bless him! Must write him a letter tonight. I don't feel like writing to any one.

Sunday Sept. 12th:-

Have had another fit of indecision about staying but I believe I have entirely recovered now and will send the letters announcing my determination to Mrs S. & Mr. Hawkins that I wrote to mail yesterday but did not. I send Mr. H. my picture also. Wrote F.J.B. a card seconding my decree about leaving here 15th, & one to C.S.M. apprising him of later developments. I know Mr. F. will be disappointed but I can't help that. I feel more & more that my first duty is to my sisters & my aunt who has helped me when I had no other helpers, and I will stay this year if it were ten times more unpromising than it is and at whatever personal cost to myself. Once I've made up my mind, I will have little difficulty in adhering to my fiat. I will begin school tomorrow and not be so ungrateful for the ~~bel~~ blessings that come to me on every hand. Received a letter from Mr. H. written the day after mine of congratulation to him. He is profuse in apologies

and frankly acknowledge his fault, with the one excuse of politics to offer. I excuse him as requested but his apparent sluggishness has cooled my ardor and taught me a lesson: to make haste slowly. Shall wait for a return of the answer to mine of the 4th, which he will send to M and I will receive in about two weeks from now ere I answer this & then very coolly. It is a good letter tho'. "The Watchman" informed me of L. M. B's leave for K. C. to settle & practice; it also contained a clipping from Washington D. C. Advocate reverting to my being in the west & drawing conclusions thereby because L. had made known his intention of coming west & closing with a wish for us to live long & prosper. L's reply was just below & was intended as a rebuke. He also sent me the "Advocate" itself that I might see the original & wrote Mr. J's address at the top. He need not have bothered himself to do that as I shall take not the slightest notice of the cur. He would be

only too happy to have me do so.
I regret so much writing that last letter to B. F. P. What must he think of me? I gave way to a transitory morbid state of feeling and let my pen run riot. I shall occupy my mind with other things and let that matter that has occupied so much of my time rest in the hands of Providence.
Wrote to George today as this is the occasion of his birthday & gave him a good plain talk on the subject of marriage. I hope it may do him some good. Wrote also to Mr. Taylor & then answered Mr. Walker's letter.
Must get to bed as school begins tomorrow. God grant I may prosper and be led by His Hand.
Tuesday Sept. 14th:
Letters from "Papa" F & Mr. & Mrs Bowser yesterday upset all my resolutions and on the former assurance that Mr. C. had lent the money, I made up my mind again to throw up the school & came home bent on seeing Mr. M & resigning. Found Mrs. R. here and we pleasantly whiled

away the evening in earnest converse. "Lutie" is lower than I imagined and looks older and more settled. Her face, except when lighted up in converse is hard. She has a (to my eye or ear, rather) slightly affected drawl to her voice, and her continuous isolation has given her a more precise manner than she would otherwise have; also an unconscious tone of superiority and pride in a fact she often repeats; of living within herself and on her own resources. Her remark that it was too often the case that people could not do so, following my remarks of dissatisfaction and isolation seemed somewhat of a rebuke to me. Her advice: "to do the duty that lies nearest", and a seed let fall now & then about my aunts working so hard had the desired effect of reconciling me to my lot & I came home almost determined to stay & take the chances. Aunt F. talked very determinedly telling me to go & what she would never do again and then turned about and cried half the night & all the morning. I know I owe her a debt of gratitude but

she makes it so burdensome for me as to make it very distasteful for ~~me~~ Forced acts of gratitude are not very sincere I should say. I thought I had exorcised the demon of unrest and dissatisfaction but two telegrams from Messrs C. & Y. were brought me informing me of my election there that roused me with full force again. After a final conflict with myself I sent another telegram thanking them a thousand times but resigning & telling him it was impossible for me to come. I write a letter tonight explaining but will any explanation be acceptable? I know not if I will ever have another chance yet I try not to be rebellious but extract consolation out of the thought that My Heavenly Father will reward and bless me for doing what is right and just. and if I did nothing, sacrificed nothing in return for all that has been done for me, I could not expect his blessing and sanction. Help me & bring success to my efforts I pray.

Memphis Tenn.

Oct. 2nd, 1886.—

Nearly a month since I wrote in my diary and despite all my professions of resignation in the last entry I am back in Memphis again. I taught four days in Visalia & received the remittances from both Messrs Church & Yoke. On Thursday Sept. 16 I determined to come home & telegraphed Mr. Y. to that effect; I told him if too late for K. C. would come on to St. Left that night & this ticket was bought around by Los Angelos, Tucson A. & T., El Paso, Tex. across to Fort Worth, up thro' Indian T. & Kansas to the city of Kansas where I arrived with not more than an hour's stop Tuesday morning, 21st ult. I saw there was a spirit of constraint visible & of course was constrained myself.

I learned also that Jones & Co. foiled in all their efforts, & angered that others succeeded in doing what they offered to do — had published a card in the papers calling

a mass meeting of the citizens to protest against the employment of "imported teachers" & the exclusion of home talent. I immediately declared off & proclaimed my intention of coming on, but Messrs B & Y. would not hear of it, and urged me to pay no attention to it, but go on & teach next day as my room was waiting for me. I yielded & went but my extreme sensitiveness caused me to determine to come home & I told Mr. B. so that night. He was very angry & that grieved me because I did not want him to be or to think I was ungrateful but I saw him no more that night. L.M. B. came in shortly and he undertook to persuade me, but I was firm & he was in high dudgeon about it. He took one of my pictures. I had told Mr. Bailey, the principal that I would not return the next day so I occupied myself packing my trunks. Ha. M.B. came home about 10 o'clock and remained all the morning pleading but nothing he said moved me. Mr. B. came home at noon & we talked

and parted in a better frame of mind.
Mr. C. stood by me till the last and was the last person I saw as I left, but I breathed freer after it was all over & I turned my face to the only home I know.
I arrived here next day at 4 o' clock & found the people all unsettled on account of Mr. Matthews' death.
Pas at the teachers meeting next day & assigned to Clay St. building. Mr. C. informed me that a letter was sent to him to get information concerning our moral status as it was there rumored that we had been dismissed for immoral conduct here. Paul J. wrote it also one to Mr. Sanderson in the same strain. I had not expected anything like that & it angered me somewhat. I have sent a letter to Mr. B. telling him I would like to know if there was such a rumor afloat, that I might know if the K. C. people would attempt to blacken the reputation of those who desired to sojourn among them. Have written also Messrs Yates & Coles only in K. C. Found letters from Messrs

Hackley, Morris, B. B. F., Miss Barnes & have answered all but the next to the last. Met Rev. S. Simmons, Pres. of East Press Convention and he came home with me; he wheedled a picture out of me & a ~~promise~~ promise to write for him. He is very lively & jolly. Have been at work all the week with 70 pupils. Had three callers this week, Messrs Jackson, Graham, and a Prof. Wilson of Ohio. G. was here Tuesday night & was disappointed in me; he thinks I've lost my heart to some one else and writes today to tell me he is afraid such is the case. Saw Harry L's mother today & she says the first thing H. said was to ask where I was. O, I wish I could have seen him! Fannie H. came to see me yesterday & she will be married in two weeks & invited me to the wedding. Received an invitation to Mr. Moseley's marriage which takes place week after next also.

Have nothing to send. Have spent several dollars this week. & owe Henken $4.00 & Williams $.35.

Tuesday Oct. 12th, 1875

Mr. Mosely marries tonight. Have received several press comments and a very flattering notice in Mr. Simmons paper. I sent him the article. He returned it to me & he promises to print it in full. The Editor of The Indianapolis World wants to engage me as a gray contributor to his paper, also to engage in correspondence. My experience with P. J. & co. has been of such a nature I hesitate about it. They have written letters to others besides Capt. C. and even sent a forgery to get evidence to convict me of immorality. Mr. B. advises me to keep cool but when he tells me that McG. had circulated the report that Lily is my child, instead of my sister, I could not help getting furiously angry, but have controlled my anger. Received 3 letters from the same place, of the same date and at the same time. L. M. B. wants to know why I have not written. answered today. Fannie H. marries tomorrow night, but I've nothing to give her. I am not able. Dr. told me I had catarrh & I must attend to that. Stella will

marry next month & wants me to wait on her but I fear I'll not be able. Sent G. a short, unsatisfactory note in which I told him my feelings & I've not seen nor heard from him since. F. J. I. told me he wanted to send a message by her, but she thought she would not see me. It was to the effect that he could not go to the wedding tomorrow night. He ought to have sent me word sooner.

Wednesday Oct. 20th:

It rained so I could not go to Fannie's marriage but I sent her a pair of vases costing $1.50. Wrote to aunt F. (who has heard something I should say about the children & has not written) Mrs. K., my old friend J. T. Johnson, Ida Everall, J. D. B., and a note to J. J. G. asking to be excused from going to the wedding the day after the wedding was over. Mr. C. changed me to No. 3, yesterday and I've had a tough time with tough pupils ever since.

~~Last~~ The light went out at the Wrote a letter on The Knights of Labor demonstration at Richmond Va. but have misplaced it. Wrote

one to The Scimitar concerning the theatre here & it is publish-ed in this afternoon's paper. Mr. G. was married very unexpect-edly last week. I wish him joy. Have done no sewing yet this week. A letter from L. M. B. was answered this morning; also one to Mr. C. & a card to Mr. Sim-mons. Have received neither of my papers this week. J. Mann. came home with me from F. H.'s Sunday evening and stayed & talked a long while. George was in to see me Sunday & seemed somewhat constrained in his manner. I earnestly hope he is not thinking seriously of marry-ing.

Monday Oct 31st:—

Letters from C. S. M. — J. G. T. — J. A. A. — C. H. H. — Aunt F. — L. F. B. — & P. Taylor. J. D. B. and have answered none. Mr. Johnson called last week & we spent a very enjoyable evening. Was elected editress of the Evening Star. Wrote a letter to the Scimitar concerning the theatre which they published & the Free Lance publish-ed. Have not joined the Chatauqua yet. Heard Bro. Hynes this morning, & went to Asbury Chapel S. S. this afternoon from there to Mrs. Lewis'.

Sunday Nov. 7th.

Few letters last week. Answered Mr. A's, E.H.N's during the week. & wrote to Aunt F., L.F.B., R.J.C. and Wm. J.S. tonight. The last published my article "Our Young Men" last week - wrote for several copies. Sent $1.50 for "The Chatauquan" & 50 cts. to the C.S.L.C. for membership yesterday. Broke my $10. to pay for my hat & get some other things yesterday. Bought $6.00 worth of lace to go on my dress last week & will have to pay about $4 to get it made over besides slippers, gloves etc - such a nuisance but it must be done, I suppose. Bought L.F. $1.35 worth of books last week also. Met Mr. Collier yesterday & he advised me to study up & get a principal's certificate & he would give me a school. I believe it's worth the trial. Am going to study in real earnest after this is all over.

I kept expecting Rev. Johnson back but conference has sent him to Clarksville. I wonder when I'll get my scrapbooks? I had begun to hope to hear from or see him often; he is delightful company. Heard George was going to marry B.P's daughter, so wrote him an urgent letter to come in today & he did so & talked to him long & earnestly.

Sunday Nov. 15th;

No letter from H. yet & think he is defeated tho' — by what I can get from the papers. Have not written D. C. yet. Will some time next week. Received letters from Mr. Johnson, L. M. B. — Am. J. S. Mr. Lawson & others. The Lyceum was interesting last Friday evening if there were only a few of us. Ripped up my blue silk dress & took it to the dressmaker to make over this week. Bought Lily a pair of shoes $2.50. Received a card from Miss Kimball notifying me my socks had been received, but no communication yet from the paper. Books will cost seven dollars. Mr S. sent me 4 copies of the paper, Imeany sent two of his own & two of another that had a sketch of his life. So far work is progressing pleasantly. To Cong. church this morning & Mrs Hill's to dinner, home late this afternoon & letter writing tonight.

Sunday Nov. 28th:-

Two weeks since die written & yet I was home all day last Sabbath, for it rained the whole day. I was occupied reading "Rienzi" by Bulwer Lytton. It is a fine book, finished it sometime during the week. All of the author heroes are learned, superstitious men at least - all ive read. I had no callers at all last Sabbath. Nothing of interest to write of the week before, except a misunderstanding that occurred at the Lyceum, at which I was very indignant. The School Board paid us for Sept. & Oct. Saturday ~~Oct~~ Nov. 20. $70 was my share. After paying Menken $12 - Bowenstein 8 - Williams 2 - Mrs Settle $17.50. Mrs Hawkins $3. - & Dr. Burchett $1. I had very little left & put in the bank or send for books. Have not sent for them yet but must next week. Received a paper published in Aug. from Chautauquan headquarters but no other yet. Letter from Mr. J. who was then at Clarksville instead of Ohio, which was answered immediately also

one from L. M. B. who wrote pages because I had called him, in my letter, "Mr. Brown" instead of "mon ami" or "Ma chere fisere" as I was wont. He rants about friendship when he didn't need it & friendship when he does need it and hastens to decline to do several things before they were asked of him. At first I was angry that so slight a thing would call forth such zeal & wax for sending him a cutting letter in return, but on reflection I did not — at least I should not call it one. But I manifested my displeasure by sending him a half sheet in return & told him I did not need to defend myself against the silly accusation of turning my back on a friend simply because he was "down in the world", had changed his occupation, & therefore would not at this time make an assurance one way or the other, & closed by telling him to "be a man, a strong, liberal minded man, or be none at all. Have no answer to it as yet. I suppose he is angry. Wrote a short

letter to C. S. M, asking for my pic-
-tures. Received letters this week from
Ida, L. F. B., who thinks of coming here
Christmas, Jas. J., who will be in the
city today & expects me to furnish him
a paying audience & lecture to-
-morrow Friday evening, according to
a rash promise of mine — The editor
of "The Indianapolis World" has at
last decided on the remuneration
I shall receive for the article I
sent him & given me 2 years sub-
-scription to his paper, sending
me the receipt for one - after placing
my name on his roll book as an
honorary subscriber! Cheeky, that
& last but, anything thing else but least
Mr. Hackley's letter came to hand
Thanksgiving Day. He enlarges on
the causes of his defeat & draws
valuable lessons therefrom. Visited
Miss Rosa Sheppard Thanksgiving
also went to the Straugus Church &
heard a good sermon & witnessed
practical evidence of "white folks'
christianity", in the haste with
which they passed us by when
choosing a seat. Wednesday evening
was the day of days, the night of

Norris & Stella's marriage. The church was crowded & the house was packed, and the presents were many & beautiful. There were three bridesmaids each, of which I was the first. Everybody said we looked "sweet" & I guess we did. The bride was simply lovely. Friday evening found me at home early to work on the "Star" & I found a letter from H. T. J. awaiting me, informing me of his coming & urging on me to secure the audience for him for the following Friday evening. I did so, but the notice was too short to charge any admission. Saturday I did not go out of the house all day but stayed home & finished my dress. Sunday I wrote to Mr. H. & then went again to see Miss Sheppard where I met Mr. Mc Alwee. From there I went to Stella's & remained all the afternoon. Had a pleasant time. Came home early & found the elder awaiting me. Quite impulse of the moment I simply

bowed & passed thro', but recollecting myself I went back and shook hands with the gentleman. He went to Fan's & from there went to church at Providence where he preached a very good impromptu sermon. He will come tomorrow night to take me to the lecture at Beale st.

Saturday Dec. 4th;—

Found a letter from "Charlie boy" when I came home Monday evening. He fails not to express himself at my waiting a month before answering him & supposes that I have a more interesting correspondent & have grown indifferent to writing to him or I have allowed my "love of repose" to get the better of me too much for my own good or the happiness of my friends. I answered two days later & told him my delay was intentional & why it was so, but sent him a good long letter. I don't imagine he grieved very much as he hardly had time. I concluded when he sent me that half sheet, that if he had time to visit etc, he certainly had time to write me a decent letter. Went to the lecture Mon-

day evening & was highly entertained & enthused. I never was so touched for Africa before, as when he pictured the thousands bleeding & dying in ignorance & sin, & their eagerness for the gospel, and susceptibility to learning. Mr. J. proposed that I join with him in the edition of a book & outlined his plan. I gave him no satisfactory answer & he grew warm enough to express himself as to what he would do in case I did not. I was surprised to think he would suppose such a course would have any effect with me & I answered him coldly in consequence of his temerity in thus addressing me. I worked all Monday afternoon for his lecture & was told by Prof. Sampson Wednesday morning that the gentleman would leave that night. I immediately replied that if he did, I would never speak to, or recognize him again. He came that evening and brought the African lecturer, J. L. Johnson, but I noticed that he was singularly reticent & brief in his replies & surmised that Mr. J. had told

him what I had said. Which was true as I found out. He concluded to remain & left to attend a lecture of his own. Next day in Mr. S's office he showed me a portion of a letter that greatly excited my curiosity, but he would not satisfy it. He then stated that I call a concourse of the members together & get them to agree on what they would give.

I told him that he had been undecided all the week we had not formulated any arrangements, & consequently must be content with whatever was given.

It was all a failure, tho, for it began to snow in the afternoon & continued so that when we started out, it was fully 6 inches deep. Of course nobody was there & after waiting a while returned home. He was disgusted & silent, I was cold & my nether extremities decidedly uncomfortable from contact with the snow. His visit has been something of a disappointment to me, for everything seems to have gone awry this week. I have not been happy in my expressions & several awkward things have transpired & I know he goes away with a greatly modified opinion of my wo-

manly equipoise & dignity; even my last speech was an unintentionally ambiguous one. Received a card from editor of C. S. L. C. informing me, my $1.50 had not been received but sending me the two numbers previous. The money is lost I know and all for my stupidity. I might have known it. My brother Jim came to see me Wednesday & talked fully and freely with me; he has been roaming around & has been following a passion for gaming. I talked long and earnestly with him & begged him to promise to quit. He said he would consider it. I told him of the depths to which he would sink & when he said the passion would never get such a mastery of him, I asked him to promise to quit & let that the adherence or the struggle be the test of the power it had already acquired over him; & he might judge of the future from that. O God, hear my prayer & help my wandering boy to come back to the innocence of his childhood!

Let me be a feeble instrument in Thy hands to reclaim him! I have thought of prevailing on him to stay here & help me with my project — i,e, to start a chicken farm; & for us to go housekeeping. We went out to see George & find out about him & his marrying, & promised to return yesterday, but it turned so bitter-ly cold, I guess he concluded to stay. Snow everywhere — an unusual sight for us before Christmas.

I do hope he will return. Letters from Annie & aunt Fannie. Have written to Dr. S. — Mr. T., — Charley — Cranston & Stowe, publishers (for my books)

Mr. Settle remained up town until 12 o'clock last night & tells me this morning that Gen. Turner, editor of the Scimitar, made one of the most eloquent pleas in behalf & defense of respectable colored people he ever listened to; that he declared it was not now as it had been that colored women were harlots etc, whose virtue could be bought or was a thing of jest — a byword & reproach, that there were as decent among them as among their own race; that there were some who were disgraces to their race, but that the white race had no room to talk. the same was true of them.

Tuesday Dec. 21;— Over two weeks since I wrote! I do not like to be so long as I am sure to forget some-thing, but it seems I cannot help it. Went to Essie's marriage Dec. 5th & received a severe shock of fright by the floor of the room I was in falling. Mr. F. came for me in a hack but I was gone; he brought me home tho'. Jim re-turned with George & they both went to Millington; he says there is nothing of George's marrying. They have concluded to make a crop up there this year & by that time I hope to be able to start my project. Received a letter last week from Mr. J. He was then in Bal-timore, had waited two weeks before he wrote in accordance with my request. Was in Chattanooga 4 days & showed my picture to Prof. W. Hoped I was get-ting on with my work, etc, etc. I answer-ed immediately so he might not depend on me, to let him know I could not do as he asked me & telling him I was seriously offended at his show-ing the picture (which, by the way, he has without my consent as Miss Nettie was so yielding to let him have it). There

has been time to answer but he has failed to do so. I know not what influence he left with Prof. K. and when he told me they "discussed me", my blood was afire. That reminds me of another picture episode. I took the picture I loaned Dr. B. from his album the night of the wedding & he says I did so because I was jealous of he and S. I gave him a piece of my mind concerning so untruthful & ungentlemanly a trick & he denied it every bit. The soft cake! Received the first of the series of books from Cranston & Stowe also the Dec. No. of Chautauquan. Am not keeping up as I could wish but will resume after Christmas. Have concluded negotiations with Simmons touching the ticket to Texas Convention. I am to write short-twice-a-month articles for him exclusively until August & the price of my ticket will be forthcoming. "The World" sends me a yrs subscription to the World as pay for my article. I sent them to Jim, & will write no more for them. They write to ask a communication for Christmas but they will not get it. I may write them something for New Years. Jim says it takes time to break up a habit that has

been forming for years, & signs himself "your wild & reckless brother". It is a good hopeful letter. Received my pictures & a long letter from Charlie Friday, & answered Saturday. My letter had a motherly tone that I suspect he will not like. Received a short note from Mr. Hackley also, who only wrote in answer to my inquiries concerning Mr. Humbert (who is dead, poor man) & yesterday brought me a fuller missive. Will answer soon. All of last week was occupied in soliciting money from the Lyceum to get something for Mrs B. She pin I got her cost $5. all of which I collected but 75 cts, which I paid myself. The presentation was made in good style, I think. Her sister was present & addressed us. Went out with Fan & Mr. F. to look at some property Sunday afternoon, & to church with the same young lady & her escort, the younger F. That night Ann told me will get no money this Christmas. L. M. B. has a letter in this week's "World". He doesn't write to me any more.

Mr. Carr came out to call tonight & we spent an enjoyable evening together. He promises me a Christmas gift.

Tuesday Dec. 28th:-

126 Christmas has come & gone & brought with it the good cheer incident thereto. I have had a good time but the pleasure has not been wholly unalloyed. I have heard things that causes the iron to enter my soul but I must learn to bear them & meet them in a more unmoved manner; to be more calm & philosophical. I rejoice in good health & fair prospects. Received a whisk broom, an photograph album from my brother G., a box of paper from Mr. C. Today's mail brought me a beautiful autograph album from Mr. J. & I am expecting a book from L. F. B. & my expectations of Christmas will have been fulfilled. I gave Mrs T. 1.00 Mrs Page the same, Mrs. M. a handkerchief & Susie a pair of stockings, George a pair of gloves. Received a letter from California Friday Dec. 24th, with a christmas Gift of $3.00 for Lily. Received a months pay the same day. I paid Mrs S. $20., Mrs. H. $2. and put $50 in the Union & Planters Bank. Will send Aunt H. $5 for her things. Had Miss B. here to supper that evening & we went to the Christmas tree. Went to

Episcopal Church service Christmas morning & was on the go all day. Mr. Mosby called in the evening; afterward Mr. R. & I went to Collins C. H. to a christmas service, & had a splendid time. Thursday went to church, remained to S. S., went from there to Miss B's to dinner, came home, then went to the Knights of Labor to hear Miss Lide Merriweather speak. It was a noble effort. Mr. Alexander accompanied me. I like him very much. Remained home all day Monday scribbling. Monday evening Mr. R. & myself went to call on Miss Baber & spent a very pleasant time. From what he tells me, I believe him to be a sincere friend of mine. I must try & curb myself more, and not be so indifferent to the young men; they feel & resent it. I will find less business up town & be more careful than I have - so I may give no cause whatever for uncharitable remarks. Wrote to Mr. H. & mailed the letter today. He is traveling thro' the north. Wrote a letter for the American Baptist.

Monday Jan. 3, 1887.

The new year is three days old ere I find time to make entries concerning its arrival. Mrs S & I had intended doing many things & paying numberless calls last week but the pavements kept so glassy the greater part of it, that we were afraid to venture. So the week passed & we went nowhere but to Florence's marriage Wednesday night. Messrs Carr & Mann & Mr. & Mrs Phillips were the only callers I had. Received letters from L. M. B. & Dr. S. The former in response to my card, the latter sending money, contract, etc & our compact is sealed; for I returned the contract signed & began to carry out his instructions immediately for I called his attention to his manner of signing his name "Rev Wm. J. Simmons D.D." as being superfluous. Don't know how he will take it.

Answered L. M. B. very stiffly requesting my pictures. Was at Cong. Church yesterday & took sacrament. While there I reviewed my past year of existence & I am so overwhelmed with the little

I have done for one who has done so much for me, & I resolved to connect myself with the S.S. forthwith & work for the master. I think I shall ask for a class of youths & see if I can not influence them in a small degree to think on better things. The bible & its truths are dealt with too flippantly to suit me. God help me to try. I shall begin this year with that determination, so that another year may find me with more to offer the master in the way of good works. God help me to be a Christian! So so conduct myself in my intercourse with the unconverted. Let it be an ever present theme with me, & O help me to better control my temper! Bless me for the ensuing year; let me feel that Thou art with me in all my struggles. May I be a better Christian with more of the strength to overcome, the wisdom to avoid & the meekness & humility that becometh a follower of Thee. Wrote to my brothers also to Mr. Johnson thanking him for the beautiful autograph he sent me, for Christmas.

Tuesday Jan. 18th:—

Received an answer from Wm. J. S. D. D. proving him to be in the right & I in the wrong. Have written two letters for him already & two for the Watchman here to which he has objected as being a violation of our contract. The Freeman & K. C. Dispatch & Living Way copied my letter to the Scimitar; the first named & the Detroit Plaindealer have an extract from the Watchman letter relating to The K. of L. Wrote nothing last week as I was sick all day Saturday. Spent the second Saturday & part of Sunday at Woodstock with friends. Mr. Harrison came to the school to hunt me up the week previous & I promised to go then & did for the first time in nearly 3 years. Went to see Mrs. P. & got her husband to promise to send their daughter in to school. He was here last week & says he will bring her Monday. I am glad of it. Promised Mr. A. to go to the theatre with him & went but I felt like a guilty thing for breaking my word. The play was Monte Cristo. Already Lie had it thrown at me for so doing, & I regret having yielded.

found a letter from Mr. H. awaiting one Sunday a week ago. & very interesting it was. I answered immediately. He has been having a gay time in Cin. No. letter from Charlie yet. A short letter from H. L. J. requesting his MS. Sent to him Saturday. Mr. S. wishes to know when I can come to N. Read a paper at the Institute Friday entitled "What Lack We yet?" Friday night we went to hear Bishop S. preach & Mr. Woodford came home with me. Mrs. Rickman has given me a tempting invitation to accompany her home this summer, but alas! I cannot on Lily's account. I like not the idea of sending her away from me & to strangers at that. No, that will have to go as many other such offers have done. I cannot accept it. I will teach this summer. She is a good woman tho. & I feel as near to her as to a mother. Saturday I received a letter that had I got it 6 months ago I would have been better off in pocket than I am if not experience. The letter Aunt J. wrote just before I left for California advising one not to come. Where it has been all these months is hard to say.

Sunday tho' still weak, I went to Avery Chapel S.S. & organized a class of young men or rather youths, just merging into manhood. I talked to them & got them to say they would come every Sunday. I am so thankful & more than delighted with my success, so far & pray for it to continue. But I seem to be a failure so far as my own brother is concerned, for I speak harshly or indifferently & repulsively to him before I think of the consequences. I can get along well enough with others boys but am too hasty & impatient with my own. God help me be more careful & watchful over my manners & bearing toward him. Let not my own brother perish while I am laboring to save others! Have heard nothing from Jim since I wrote him last. A number of papers & a letter from H. T. J. yesterday. A letter & my little picture ~~yeste~~ last week from L. M. B. He gratuitously declines to do many things that were not asked of him as well as refuses to send my other picture. As there is a repetition of the same old gasconade concerning qualifications of friendship, I'll treat it with the silent contempt it deserves.

Tuesday Jan 25th;- The week passed swiftly & pleasantly if not profitably Wednesday evening Mr. M. came over & we went to hunt up Sam whom we found at Mrs S's, to go with us to Miss B's. We went but she was gone to the theatre. Returned to Mrs S's & made a night of it. Thursday evening Miss S & Mr. Carr called & spent the evening agreeably. Friday remained at the Institute till late but went nowhere that night. Received & answered a letter to Mr. Yates giving him a good scolding for waiting so long. One to Prof. Johnson also one to Eli. Received letters from Mr. T. & Aunt H. Sunday. Went to Sury S. S. & had a class of eleven; our name is Excelsior.

Tuesday Feb. 1st;-

Expected to attend a party given last week but my escort did not come. He not only did not come but has told others that I wrote his name on the invitation & intended subjecting it to an expert to decide if it was my handwriting. I spoke to him about it this morning

and he acknowledged that he said some of it. I thanked him that he had so early shown me my mistake in supposing him a high-minded gentleman who could discriminate between the false and the true & would scorn to lend himself to wrong and injustice. I feel so disappointed in them all! He made no excuse last week & I asked for none. Thursday eve, Fan. & Jim came by & played parcheesi till late. Friday was occupied in finishing the examinations. A letter from Mr. C. that evening wishing to engage me on the Dispatch staff. Vickie O. was married Thursday of last week. I am the only lady teacher left in the building who is unmarried. Letter from H. S. J. Saturday. Went out to Mrs Hill's & stayed all night Saturday & came to church next day. Went to Avery Chapel S. S. after church & had three members in a class! I hope for the best tho. An account in last week's Sentinel of a woman who mashed a white man's face to a jelly that was trying to enter her house & shot her husband in the attempt. He was so badly hurt, he died in a few moments. Wrote to Messrs C, P, H. S. J. and Eli.

Wrote to Mr. P. in answer to a letter I received from him yesterday wishing to know if I was married declaring how he was affected by it & conjuring me to tell him, "by memory of what had been" if it were true.

I sent a few lines merely stating that if he desired my happiness to come home & help make me happy. I know not what he will think of it, but I feel singularly lonely & despondent and wrote on the spur of the moment. I stayed at Mrs Hill's L & I, last Saturday night & came to church Sunday morning. Had one caller in the afternoon in the person of Mr. Dunlap, who took me to church that night at the Coug.

Tuesday Feb. 8th:—

Another week has slipped away & I've done nothing. Interest has been & is still centered in the Godwin case that has brought forth some shocking developments concerning the morals of high life. A silly woman forgot her marriage vows for an equally scatterbrained boy; who boasted of his conquest in Nashville, St. Louis, Marianna as well as

here, as a result he lost his life. The brother of the woman taking this revenge one him. It seems awful to take human life but hardly more so than to take a woman's reputation & make it the jest & byword of the street; in view of these things, if he really did them, one is strongly tempted to say his killing was justifiable.

Letters from Messrs Simmons & Hackley who was in K. C. at the time. Answered yesterday. Went to church at the eleventh hour ~~yesterday~~ Sunday; from there to Avery S. S. and 8 of my class came back again. My Sabbath evening callers were Mr. & Mrs. Henderson, Messrs Lee & Phillips, Fan & Jim who wanted me to go to church. Mr. C. was out Friday & made arrangements that we go & see Booth play Richelieu. But I am afraid he will wait too long to get the tickets & thus we be crowded out. Mr. Mann promised to see what he could do & let me know last evening but he came not. Mr. Settle is sick with pneumonia & Lily has stayed with him while we were at school. Am going to speak to Mrs S. about her next pay time. Letters from Eli & Nathan.

Mr. R. has said nothing about going to see B. & I will say nothing to him

Monday ~~Jan~~ Feb. 14th.

Wednesday evening went up to Fan's & spent a pleasant evening, in company with Mr. C.A. Thompson playing parcheesi. Thursday night Mr. C. sent a note to say he could not get the tickets but would go to the Odd-fellows entertainment. Was much disappointed but I went to the latter place with him; & spent a miserable evening there. Wrote to Mrs. Bowser & Mr. Smeaux congratulating them on his success. Next night, Friday I went in company with Miss Baber & her cousin to see Booth play "Hamlet". It was a superb rendition & as the first time I saw either the man or the play I could form no comparison between other actors & "the greatest living actor". I saw him also the next night, in company with Miss F.J.L. & Mr. Froman, play "Iago". I do not like that near so well as the former. There was an incongruity as well as an ordinariness about it, that showed little if any of his genius. Came home thoroughly done up as I was out all the night before. Miss Baber, Mr. Woodford, Turner, Jackson & Mame & myself went out to Fan's after the theatre Friday night

as Miss B. expected to leave the next night, and spent the rest of the night in fun & games. Enjoyed myself nicely but have felt very badly ever since from its effects. A caller Friday at school, Mr. Balay, by name, with an introductory letter from Dr. Wm. J. S. He was at S.S. Sunday and accompanied me home. We spent the afternoon in pleasing converse & I was loath to see him leave. Had my class as usual and tried in my feeble way to talk to them. I earnestly pray for faith, wisdom and patience to accomplish what I have undertaken. Let my work prosper in Thy Hands my Father & let me not trust in myself, nor forget the lessons of humility Thou hast taught. Bless me in all undertakings my Father & O guard my tongue from evil. Answer to my mad letter to B.F.P. today & he asks if his coming will really contribute to my happiness. I know not what to write; he seems so surprised at my writing so & that I have not forgotten him. Shall write & ask him to forget & send me back those letters. Letter also from Aunt F. Wrote to H. S. J. this day.

Sunday Feb. 20th:-

Letter from J. A. A. of New York City in answer to mine of congratulation; he presumes to familiarity. Did not answer. Wednesday evening went to Bettie B's funeral & that night to the wedding of Miss L. Bright. Thursday morning I met Mrs. Carr came to see me at school & brought me a ticket. Friday the suggestion entered my head to get up a storm party among the teachers & I believe it will be a success.

School Board paid for two months yesterday. I also drew out $20 from the bank in order that I might pay Mr. Church & have enough to foot my other bills also. Bought L. a pair of shoes $3.00. Paid Menken $5.00, Mrs S. $2.50. & the rest belongs to Mr. C. I regret it but it is not to be helped now. If I could only take that money as my own!

Was to have gone to Le Moyne last night to practice a drama in which I have taken part, but I had no one to go with, so went up to Fan's & stayed all night. Mr. Hunter came after I had gone, but they did not tell him

where I was. Miss B. sends word there will be a rehearsal tomorrow night & I guess I'll have to go. Went over to Mrs H's this morning & met Fanny there. She looks very badly; I fear she will go into consumption. Came from there to S. S; had 10 in the class & our collection was 65 cts. Mr. Dardis Jr. walked home with me & read me a severe lecture on going to the theatre; he showed me how his father Prof. Thompson, Mr. Greenlee, Mr. Selectman, Dr. Burchett etc regarded it, & that he now considered that I was one who failed to practice as I preached. I regretted it more than I can say all along, but not so keenly did I see the wrong, or think of the influence my example would exert until then. I had not placed so high an estimate on myself. He certainly gave me food for thought and hereafter when I grow weary or despondent & think my life useless & unprofitable, may I remember this episode, and may it strengthen me to the performance of my duty, for I would not willingly be the cause of one soul's being led astray. O thou Help of the weak & helpless! help me be firm and strong for the right & watchful for my own conduct. Guard me aright, and grant me success.

Tuesday March 1st:—

Paid at last

I went up to Mr. C's this morning before breakfast and paid him one hundred dollars, leaving 45 cts. still unpaid. Did not call for a receipt or think one necessary. Now when I pay Mr. Yates I will be all right. Had I only been ready could have gone to housekeeping this week, at a location just suited to me, but I had no furniture & there was no time to consult Mrs. Matthews. I am dissatisfied here, and much as I dislike the way things are arranged, I have decided to make no other break until I start out for myself. I believe in everybody's saving what they can, but I don't believe in one's being too parsimonious & when it comes to a point of offering to sell a pair of shoes to a child - that might easily have been given away & taking dimes promised them & paying their way on the street cars when going on errands for them. I'll not rest till I am out of the house, as

dive lost my interest in it. Not many letters last week — in fact only one of special interest & that was from Mr. H. He writes with his usual happy style & proposes to introduce me to a lady friend. Have not replied as yet — will wait & curb my impatience. While I received none, I wrote more than for many a day. To Mr. P., Mrs Bowser, Mrs. Wells, Messrs Ousley, Harrison, Lewis (& a bundle of papers) Morris, and Mrs. M. Later I wrote to Mr. B. & Rev. Wm. J. Summons.

Still owe Messrs Taylor & Cole a letter. We had a holiday last week & Mrs. S. & I went calling a thing dive not done before since dive been in Memphis. We paid 22 calls in all & came home in the evening tired out, & then did not get around. Monday night 5 of us — all that came of the large number expected — went down to Ellen D's & spent a very pleasant time. Tuesday night, the Messrs Bryant came & spent the evening playing Parcheesi — they left next night. They are very pleasant. Mr. Carr came that evening also &

brought a Mr. Stewart with him. He seemed somewhat constrained in the presence of the others, but said he would be here the first Sunday in the month. Practiced Wednesday night again, & the rest of the week tried to make up for my loss of sleep. Spent Saturday in writing for the American B. Sunday went to church after a call from M. W. Dogan who took a picture I sent by him to Mrs. Rather. Had 10 in the class Sunday & my contribution was 75 cts. I am so proud of my success. Father help me, I pray be more thoughtful & considerate in speech, and in action be consistent. May my labors be attended with success & guide my pen in ways of wisdom & peace; and may My prayers be answered & may I be submissive to thy will.

Sunday March 6th:—

No S. S., no church, no nothing today but a steady downpour of rain; so no one had been out but L. Letters from Mr. H. (nearly two weeks ago) Mrs.

2. Friday and "Charlie" yesterday. He started to write in answer to my peremptory card but was taken sick & the letter was concluded in a different handwriting & stated that he was sick. All anger & resentment dies away & I write him immediately solicitously inquiring for his health.

Was out every afternoon & night last week practicing my drama. We are getting along nicely. Bought a pair of shoes for myself yesterday for $4.50 and a writing desk for Lily for 90 cts. Want to have my dress made soon but have no money to spare.

Have not made Lily's dress either & tomorrow is her birthday. She will be 11 years old. Fan. T. Mr. Mann, and Mr. Carr came & called this evening. Have not moved yet & hardly think I shall now until school closes anyway. Will have to put up with it, and if the Father prospers me will go to housekeeping on my own hook. No letter from Jane Matthews yet. Mr. Cuzley was in to see me yesterday & agreed to go out when school is out & stay a month.

Monday March 14th:-
Letters from
Mr. B. Mrs A. M. M., Eli, Jim,
Mr. Yates. Wrote to Messrs John-
-son & H last Monday. Every-
afternoon last week we practic-
-ed and Friday night the long
expected event transpired &
was an artistic & financial
success. Wrote the American
Baptist Saturday. I find
myself running out of subjects.
Will have to check up if I
expect to hold out till Aug.
Called on Mrs. E. H. Mosely who
with her husband has been
in town two weeks, in compa-
-ny with Mrs Cooper Misses
Thompson & Felton, week before
last. Last Tuesday evening I
went to the first named lady's
to a sociable to meet her, Had
a pleasant time. Mr. Marcus
was my company. Our preacher
is here and I heard him preach
first Sunday. So far I like him
except he assumes too much for a
stranger. Went to Mrs H's to dine &
was too late to meet my class.

hated it badly, as I had to miss last Sabbath. Mr. S. went to the office yesterday & brought me a letter & card from B. H. & Dr. S respectively. The former sent my letter & talks as tenderly as usual. I wonder if there is nothing to him but words. Heaven knows I would gladly help him, but he seems content & remain as he is, despite his tone and I cannot show more anxiety than he. Wrote to Mr. Saylor, Jim, Mrs P. and Mrs M. last night. Took my dress & trimmings today and spent $3.27 in the store besides the money I'll have to pay for my dress. Dr. Braden of Nashville visited the school today — also had a call from Mr. Fleming.

Tomorrow is the day of the drawing — I wonder if 71,786 will get anything, or if my approaching case in the Supreme Court will bring me anything? A little help now would do wonderful things. I trust I may be prospered.

Sunday March 20th :-

I am not happy & nothing seems to make me so. I wonder what kind of a creature I will eventually become?

A letter from Aunt Margaret last week that informs me grandma just died March 1st. I was very much shocked to know she had been alive all this time & I never knew it or where she lived. I wrote immediately asking for particulars. A letter from Aunt F. who still wishes to know what it will cost to have the place "probated" to her. must find out what she means before I write. One also from Mrs Rice who has a little girl. The new preacher called & we went to prayer meeting last Wednesday evening after supper. I like him rather well save a few mannerisms. Tuesday night Mr. Greenlee called. Friday night went to the Lyceum & was re-elected as editor. Learned that George is at Mr. Payne's. I fear I've driven him away with my tongue again. Will write him. Mr. Carr was out calling Friday eve & went to the L with Tus. Mr. H. came home with

me from the Institute. He's a nice little fellow. Added another dollar to my already long account at Menken's this afternoon. Am determined it shall be my last. Can buy things cheaper at other places & I'm going to do a cash business after this so help me.

Monday March 28th:—

Letters last week from Aunt Fannie, Mr. H. T. J., Mr. E. H. H. and "Charlie" & Mr. Lawson. Wrote to George, Jim, Aunt A. Mr. Taylor, Bowser & Simmons. Bought a hat costing $3.50 that I am sorry for now. Han & I were over one night & played parcheesi. Friday night went to Lyceum & Saturday made a dress for Lily. Must make her some skirts. Mrs Matthews was up yesterday and I went with her to her church & missed my own service, but we had a very affecting meeting. Mr. D. preaches with such fervor. I wish to attend the series of meetings there this week, but I have no one to escort me. Went to meet my

class in S.S. at every at one o'
clock. Father help me to have
some influence over them and
use that influence for good!
I want to be of use to them,
show me the way, I beseech thee.
Mr. Jones preached about our re-
-ligion costing us something
& I thought of the beautiful
Easter time coming, that my
thoughts had strayed away from
the true significance of the
time to less important matters
of dress; that I have made no
preparation for an Easter of-
-fering, but must do so and
instead of spending my holiday
in fun & pleasure for myself
will fast for my many sins &
dereliction & remain home &
work, watch and pray, and
praise for the wonderful goodness
my Father to an unworthy ser-
-vant. Went to see old man Bostic
who has been sick so long, last week &
was greatly refreshed by my visit.
Mr. Carr brought a good motherly lady
Mrs White from L.C., to see me today at School.
Paid Judge Greer $10. Today to continue
the case; with what he has, make $15.

Monday April 4th:—

Last Tuesday evening Mr. Marcus took me to call on Mrs Means & we spent a very pleasant evening. Wednesday night Messrs Carr & Woods called to take us to call on Mrs White. We had a fine time going thro the rain and spent a very enjoya-ble evening. Mr. Wilkins was out to see me Tuesday evening. & borrowed an American B. Thursday evening went up to Mrs Hooks to meet the "Hon J. Pennoyer". He's a gas bag if not worse. Friday night to the Lyceum with my work unprepared. Was excused till next time. Saturday sewed most of the day, went to Hall's in the afternoon and stayed quite a while in company with J. Mr. B. called that evening & we went to Mrs. Turner's for a moonlight walk. Hall, Abbie, J. & Ike D. came by and serenaded me as a last goodby from J. for he left yesterday morning before I opened my eyes. So take a morning walk we went out to Mrs Lord

Fan & I - and I spoke about moving as Mr. S & Lily don't seem to get along well together. Made hurried call on Mesdames Page & Turner & returned in time to get Lily ready for S.S. To church in the morning, from thence to S.S. then home where I found Lula Stanford awaiting me. Before she left Mr. K. came & I spent a very pleasant afternoon in his company. Mr. Orr came home with me & made an engagement to call next week. Fan & I went to church at night alone.

Monday April 11th:-

Nothing of especial interest to record for the past week. Tuesday evening went to Mrs. Love's & from there went to prayer-meeting. Asked the prayers of the church for my aunt. Went again Thursday night in company with Mr. & Mrs Sale & Mr A. Mr. Orr came but he did not come on to the church as I requested him in a note I left for him. Received a note since, in which he says he went to the Christian Church instead. Letter from "Charlie Hoy" Thursday

answered immediately. Letter from Mr. S of Nashville. He intends coming this way soon. Friday night Mr. Hart was in and informed me of Louis Payne's death & Fan & I went out there next morning, but were too late for the funeral. Sunday was Easter — the day celebrated for that on which our blessed Lord was risen. Went to morning service S. S. and back home — the usual routine except that I went to Mrs. Hermann's for dinner. No callers in the afternoon but read or began to read the novel "She" that is creating such a stir. Letter from my dear Aunt who was packing to move when she wrote. Will write her before I send the money; I think I can see my way clear to paying back the money if I borrow it. The G. C. P. brings the sad intelligence that Louis B. is paralyzed. I was very much shocked on reading it; and will write him a letter tonight. The Supreme Court reversed the decision of the lower court in my behalf, last week. Went to see Judge G. this afternoon & he tells me four of them cast their personal prejudices in the scale of justice & de-

cided in face of all the evidence to the contrary that the smoking car was a first class coach for colored people as provided for by that statute that calls for separate coaches but first class, for the races. I felt so disappointed, because I had hoped such great things from my suit for my people generally. I have firmly believed all along that the law was on our side and would, when we appealed to it, give us justice. I feel shorn of that belief and utterly discouraged, and just now if it were possible would gather my race in my arms and fly far away with them. O God is there no redress, no peace, no justice in this land for us? Thou hast always fought the battles of the weak & oppressed. Come to my aid at this moment & teach me what to do, for I am sorely, bitterly disappointed. Show us the way, even as Thou led the children of Israel out of bondage into the promised land. To Mr. Ople Taylor, Johnson, Bonner, and Count I must write when I'm able to buy stamps.

Monday April 18th:-

Have just returned from what I consider the best thing out. The Negro's Mutual Protective Association had a public meeting at Avery Chapel tonight and Mr. A. escorted me down. I was very much enthused as I listened to the speeches and saw the earnestness of the men present. The object tonight was to draw up resolutions concerning John Sherman's action and touching also the competitive drill to be at Washington next month. The Negro is beginning to think for himself and find out that strength for his people and consequently for himself is to be found only in unity. The earnest scholarly enthusiasm of Mr. Imes, the dignified patriarchal stern demeanor and bearing of Mr. Shaw - show that the men of the race who do think are endeavoring to put their thoughts in action for those and to inspire those who do not think. A note from Miss H. informed me Mrs Graham has returned home & I went

to find out where she was. Mr. Hilkins & I also called on Mrs. C. and got her consent to sing for us. Went to Meeker's & paid him $10. bought a pair of shoes & a dress for Lily. $3.25 & came very near buying a cattern; but refrained. No letters today. Mr. Fleming & Miss P. called on me yesterday afternoon & spent a pleasant afternoon. My Sabbath School class was quite interesting. Must go to S.S. at my own church. Saturday the school-board paid me $120. $50. of which I immediately sent to Mr. Yates $25.00 to Mr. Johnson for my pictures. Paid Williams 90 cts on acct. & bought 30 cts. of stamps, & Mrs. Settle $40. Owe her 5 more; Mrs. H. $4.00 for last & this month's washing. & that about exhausts my pile, but I am thankful it is as well as it is. Ridie M. sent for me Friday afternoon I went to see her & she told me a horrible tale of cruelty & mistreatment & said she was going home next day. Have not seen her since so can't say if she did. (185) The Lyceum met as usual Friday night, Mr. A. accompanied me

Wrote Aunt F. Messrs S., Orr, Bonner
gates. Wrote to Mr. B. last week - after
the G. C. P. informed me of his afflic-
-tion & received the answer Saturday.
Glad to know he is better.

Sunday April 24th:- (186)

Have not heard
from Mr. Arneaux since I sent him, at
his request, my picture and sketch. If
he published it, am anxious to see what
sort of figure I cut. Wednesday evening
Messrs Carr, Jackson & Hunter were out
to call. Went to see Mrs G. Tuesday. She
looks very thin & poorly. We formed ourselves
into the nucleus of a Dramatic Club
& wrote out a list of names of those who
we thought would take part - to meet here
next Wednesday night. Thursday evening
a letter from "Jim" and a call from
Mr. Orr. We spent a most agreeable &
enjoyable evening. He promises to call
again. Friday afternoon brought a letter
from Mr. H. L. J. who will send my pic-
-tures this week. Mr. A. & I went out
to Mrs Henderson's to tea the same even-
-ing & returned to the Lyceum. A
letter Saturday from The Conservator man-
-agers (Chicago) who wish me to write.
Almost finished a dress for Mrs S. Mr.
Carr brought me a note from L. M. B. &

came back this morning early & went with me to the conservatory to get some flowers to send him (L. M. B.) after sitting up over half the night, was up by six this morning & enjoyed my walk much. The basket of flowers I bought were both lovely & fragrant. I sincerely hope they will help to cheer him in his loneliness. Back for breakfast, dressed, went to Cong. Tabernacle, Beal sts. & personally requested they announce our entertainment. Also sent notices to Avery & the Episcopal Church. Then to my own church to service, from there to Mrs. Herman's, thence to Avery S.S. Went to Mrs Henderson's & ate another dinner, from there to Dr. Phillips' with another notice. Home — to church tonight & now to bed. Met Lewis Speigle when on the way & he went back with me. Have spent for the week: Box of berries for Mrs. G. 35 cts. Flowers for L. M. B. $1.25, calling cards 25 cts, church 25 cts. May all the mistakes of the past week be forgiven & the good deeds repeated. (18)

I want here to speak a word of my delight in our preacher. He is the most energetic man I know. He has made the waste places blossom as a rose and the church is beginning to look up. He is also a hard student and good preacher. The way he handles the delegerents is admirable, for they are becoming as quiet as lambs, and yet they all stick to him and respond when he calls on them. They yet remain his friends. He is certainly a splendid judge of human nature & Mr. M.

Monday May 2nd:—

Last Monday nothing unusual occured; went to the church meeting & everything passed off amicably. Miss P. & Mr. Gaillard called for me. Tuesday eve Mr. A. called & invited me to attend Mrs. S's concert but I had engagements at home that prevented. Messrs Woods, Carr, & Woodford called & we spent a pleasant evening. Each of the gentlemen bought a ticket for our concert. Wednesday received a letter of acknowledgement & thanks from a L. M. B. That evening in response

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to invitation nearly a score of young ladies & gentlemen met to form the dramatic organization, & appointed a committee of which I am chairman to draft a plan for permanent organization. Went out to Mrs H's with Ella & stayed all night. Came home early next morning. Thursday evening called on & solicited the Hon. P.B.S. Pinchback to lecture for the Lyceum. He promised to be there & I published it so. The result was we had a nice crowd out & while they heard nothing extra as a speech, we got a crowd to make the announcement concerning Judge Douglass. Saturday finished the work of the previous S. Had an enthusiastic session of my S. S. Class yesterday. Mr. & Mrs. S. went to my church both morning & evening. Letters from Mr. Yates, Gus. Nabers, Mr. Fleming, Mr. Orr. Spent for the week ending $4.90 at Menkens. 25 cts. at church. Received my pictures which do passably well & exchanged with Miss B. Wrote Prof. H. T. J. etc. Tonight after a good deal of worry, comes our concert & entertainment. The clouds lower but I sincerely hope it will not rain. Last Thursday the pictures of the school were drawn; today we had a sample of them:

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Tuesday May 3rd:- The concert which was a grand success every way is over & done with. Our program was good (as they say) & they sold out nearly every thing. I recited "Le Marriage de Convenience" for the first time here and every one admired it. Indeed Judge Latham paid me a very high compliment when he said it was the most artistic piece of elocution he had ever heard. I felt greatly flattered. Jimmie W— Mr. Carr — & Mr. Trowan were my especial helpers. The last named gave me a basket of flowers costing $1.10 Taken all together it was a big success, for I learn we made clear nearly $60. Thank the Lord for His blessing! Letters from my aunt & Mr. Bowser today.

~~Friday~~ Thursday May 5th:- Part of the Dramatic C. met last evening but we did no work. Adjourned to next Tuesday night. Bought 65 cts. worth at Meekins yesterday; received my bill with the same mistake on it. Lily & I had a pitched battle this morning for some of her felonious practices. My father help me guide her aright.

Monday May 16th:—

went by without a ~~any~~ letter from a whole week any one. Finished Mrs. S's dresses & begun on one for L but had to go to town to be paid one mouthes Sat. so got up early & finished ironing in time to go. Put $40. in the bank, paid Mrs. S. $5. remaining on board, spent $4.30 up town to finish my dress this evening & I will have to pay $3. for the making. Mrs S. has been sick for three days & I've done the cooking. Mr. Jack was out one evening last week. Went to the L. last Friday evening but no meeting. Letter from L. M. B. Saturday. One from H. T. J. today. Wrote to my aunt & instructed her to send a clear deed. Consulted Mr. S. about it & desired him to work it up. I owe so many letters & am getting too lazy to answer them. Messrs Woodford & Hunter came as callers yesterday.

Monday May 30th; — 192

Two weeks since I scratched a line! Since then we have had our concert — was caught in the rain — Charlie sent me home in a hack. Very few letters from anyone. Mr. A has not called for some time. Mr. Spain was up from Sardis last Sabbath & Mr H. called as well as many others. Mr. Greenlee escorted me to church that evening. Messrs Carr & H. were out Thursday evening & the latter perfected arrangements to take me to Raleigh the 29th (yesterday). Friday evening Mr. Froman was out & escorted me to the Lyceum also engaged my company for the concert two weeks hence. Ironed, sewed, went for my dress, — all Saturday & made preparations for lunch and all for Sunday and it rained until 12 o'clock. We went to Raleigh tho' our stay was necessarily short.

I enjoyed the quiet of the place very much and the drive was splendid! The Cemetery is a beautiful place. It all had the beauty & novelty to me. Am very grateful for

the opportunity to do so. To church last night we went at Avery but I did not enjoy services much. Letter from Fayette Saturday & he is in Colorado Springs, Colo. He is certainly a rolling stone as is also L. M. B. who, I see by the K. C. Dispatch is en route for Baltimore.

School out tomorrow. I cannot say I am sorry. I don't feel glad. Expenses go on just the same and I don't wish to leave town yet. I wish to get a school this summer if possible.

Friday June 17th:-

The school board paid its last indebtedness today. With $60. I paid Menken in full ($19.) Sent Aunt Hannie ($10) Paid Mrs. S $15. and she brings up a months indebtedness of which I was not aware, & shows me to be in debt to her $18. I don't know how it came about, but of course I'll have it to pay. They have been very exact & hard on me in the money way but I'll not say anything about that. But try & do better next year. And I shall also keep strict account of all

my expenditures if I live another year. I feel that I have paid but have nothing to show for it & must pay again. I wish I could have managed better for this month but could not.

I wish I could feel that my money was not so persistently sought after. I wonder if I shall ever reach satisfaction in this world. My Father prosper me in my undertaking I pray thee.

I have secured no school as yet, & fear I shall not.

Wrote 10 letters at a stretch day before yesterday: Messrs Hackley, Morris, Lawson, J. H. Alexander, Simmons, D.D., Wells, McAlwee, Mama, Aunt Fannie, Miss Overall. A card to Mr. Ousley & a letter to Mr. Armeaux last week. Answer to the last today brought a picture in costume, of the writer. Attended the Institute all of last week, & went to the picnic Friday evening where I remained till late. Was at Mrs. Hill's both yesterday & calling at about 5 other places today. Am very much dissatisfied about the way money matters have paid out.

Had to whip Lily severely this morning for her second speculation. I earnestly pray such may never happen again.

Hendel's Farm 4 miles west of Woodstock.

Wednesday July 13th, 1887.

Nearly a month has elapsed since I scratched a pen in my diary! Four days only is lacking to make it out; during that time I have seen much and got about briskly. On the Tuesday following my last entry, I came out here, and with the exception of last week spent in town, have been here ever since. Sunday June 19th, an omnibus full of us went to Raleigh and spent the day very pleasantly and on Tuesday shook the city dust from my feet. Returned the following Saturday for my trunk, the next Tuesday for a side saddle and went to Millington July 2nd in response to a postal from my brother Jim stating that he was sick & asking me to come to him. Returned here Sunday & left Monday for Memphis where I went to meet Mr. Yates and help make his stay a pleasant one. With the exception ~~that~~ of having drawn 5 dollars every time I have gone in town, I have nothing otherwise to regret. I have only $35. in bank now, and with no school to teach this summer,

there is a strong probability of its being again diminished before school opens.

Dr. S. has placed me on the program of the Press Convention against my consent, and promises to send the wherewithal so I guess I'll go there & of course will have to prepare, and preparation takes money. Last Monday July 4th, Mr. Y. & myself spent the day talking over old things; that evening we went to the Asylum & had a very pleasant time. The Cadet, Mr. Alexander's brother, was out with Miss Church and I was glad of the opportunity to meet him. I also met President Burrus of Alcorn University that evening. Talked to "Charlie", "Mark" and Jimmie H. Tuesday Mr. Yates spent part of the day with me, he and Dan; then came Matt, and after him came Mr. Fleming. We went to Mrs Hooks' concert that Evening. Wednesday ate dinner with Mrs Wallace, afterward we took a drive, then home to meet an engagement that was not filled. That morning we called on Miss Church and found her the most pleasant companion; from there to Mrs Hooks, thence to Mrs Cassels. Thursday went to Mrs Cooper's and that evening Mrs Hooke gave a quiet entertainment for him & we had a pleasant time with some good music from Miss McCullough

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Friday morning we went to the office of the schoolboard but Mr. Collier was out. Mr. Hill though was present & entertained us nicely. Our parting was peculiar to ourselves as we said our goodbys on Main Street while waiting for my car. Miss Mollie was down Friday evening to call and said she wished to have a talk with me. Her ambitions seemed so in consonance with mine that I offered to come up the next morning. I did go and I came away after about two hours chat - very much enthused with her. She is the first woman of my age I've met who is similarly inspired with the same desires hopes & ambitions. I was greatly benefited by my visit and only wish I had known her long ago. I shall not let the acquaintance slack. Indeed I shall write & invite her to come out here to see me.

Wrote to Dr. S. - Aunt F—, Jim & George & aunt M—. & rode out to Woodstock & mailed my letters Monday. Have gone about so constantly, I've not had time to settle down to regular work yet. I must do something to show for this summer.

Saturday July 16th:-

This morning I stand face to face with twenty five years of life, that ere the day is gone will have passed by me forever. The experiences of a quarter of a century of life are my own, beginning with this, for me, new year. Already I stand upon one fourth of the extreme limit (100 years), and have passed one third of the span of life which, according to the Psalmist, is alloted to humanity. As this day's arrival enables me to count the twenty fifth milestone, I go back over them in memory and review my life. The first ten are so far away in the distance as to make those at the beginning indistinct; the next 5 are remembered as a kind of butterfly existence at school, and household duties at home; within the last ten I have suffered more, learned more, lost more than I ever expected, again. In these last decade, live only began to live - to know life as a whole with its joys and sorrows. Today I write these lines with a heart overflowing with thankfulness to My Heavenly Father for His wonderful love & kindness; for His bountiful goodness to me; in that He has not caused me to

want, & that I have always been provided with the means to make an honest livelihood. And as I rehearse these measures my soul is singing the glad refrain "Bless the Lord O my soul and all that is within me, Bless His Holy Name for all His benefits." When I turn to sum up my own accomplishments I am not so well pleased. I have not used the opportunities I had to the best advantage and find myself intellectually lacking. And excepting my regret that I am not so good a Christian as the goodness of my Father demands, there is nothing for which I lament the wasted opportunities as I do my neglect to pick up the crumbs of knowledge that were within my reach. Consequently I find myself at this age as deficient in a comprehensive knowledge as the veriest school-girl just entering the higher course. I heartily deplore the neglect. God grant I may be given firmness of purpose sufficient to essay & continue its eradication! Thou knowest I hunger & thirst after righteousness & knowledge. O, give me the steadiness of purpose, the will to acquire both. Twenty-five years old today! May another 10 years find me increased in honesty & purity of purpose & motive!

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I have not heard from him & am acting on that belief. If he disappoints me it will not be the first of its kind. However I shall leave nothing undone on my part. A letter from Mr. W. yesterday. He is very stiff — the result of the cold water douche I threw on his first very gushing epistle. I don't like that style & I might as well say so. I won't encourage it.

+Aug. 3rd:

Came in town Saturday and have yet received no letter from Mrs. S. Sent him a telegram today. Mrs S. is very sick & I have been cooking etc. these very warm days. Drew #10. out of the bank Monday & had my book balanced. Find that I am #5. richer than I thought for as I still have #30. in bank. Got my new corsaket yesterday as well as made a #2.72 bill at Meyken's. I didn't want to do it but my money was running too short.

Louisville Ky, Friday Aug. 12th
Have been in this city since
Monday evening. The Convention
is over, my paper read, many
men of prominence met, many
visitors received, my picture
(God save the mark) in yester-
days Courier Journal and
I am still here. On answer
to a second telegram came Friday
evening Aug 5th, telling me
my pass was on the way &
on Saturday I had everything
to do, as Mrs. S. was still very
sick. Sent for Fan. who staid
all night with me & helped
me all next day. Mr. H. drove
me down to the depot. Messrs
Savage & Froman came down
to see me off & I got here to
find no one awaiting me but
I found them. And stopping
with a pleasant lady on
Centre St. No. 631 — Mrs
George Murfree, by name. The
Convention was but poorly
represented north of Mason's &
Dixie's line — none of the north-
ern grands were present, but

we had a very pleasant session and an earnest one. There were some able debates by P. H. Murray of St. Louis, Bragg & Mitchell of Virginia, Alexander Clark — D. A. Rudd, — Anderson — C. M. Wade and others. I think it accomplished much good and I am glad to be here. Was called on to respond to "Woman in Journalism" at the banquet Wednesday night and was so surprised that I omitted to say many things I should have said. Offered no word of thanks in behalf of my sex — for the flattering encomiums bestowed on them by our editors and the hearty welcome accorded our entrance into this field. I wished & may never have a more favorable opportunity to urge the young women to study & think with a view to taking places in the world of thought & action. The suddenness of the thing drove every thing out of my head but I will remember next time. For visitors I've received Messrs McKinley of this place, Jones of New Orleans, Allensworth of

the N. S. A., Bragg & Mitchell of Virginia, Alexander Clark of Chicago, F. J. Simmons for President, Wade of Nashville — and last but by no means least — Mrs Harris the mother of "Charlie". Mrs. Fitzhutter & Mrs Froman called in the afternoon while I was away at the University where I took supper. So also did Mr. Wade. Wrote to Mr. Ousley & Lily today also sent papers to Mr. Wilkins. Must slop & prepare a toilet to go out. Later: Had a dozen photographs ordered today after we returned from New Albany, Ind. Messrs Bragg & Mitchell called & together with Miss Cook we went over the river to Indiana. Took in the town & returned on the dairy line. Paid $1.25 for my pictures & am afraid for that reason I shall not be satisfied with them; they are too cheap. Will not receive them till I get home. Have already exchanged with Mr. Mc. almost against my will. I hardly know him well enough. 204

Lexington Ky. Wednesday Aug. 17th

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One can never tell one day what he will do the next. I had no dreams of ~~going~~ coming here twenty four hours ago, but here I am domiciled in Bro. Ayres' house. Arrived at noon today after leaving this morning at 6.50 A. M. and have had a good sleep since. Have already met "Meb" the correspondent for the paper here & sister of Mrs Hooks of my town. She & a younger sister called soon after my arrival. I was very much pleased that they did so. Am going to Millersburg tomorrow to see Dr. Berry & think of returning to Louisville Sat. I will have company if I return then, as Messrs Parrish & Gibson who came up this morning with me, will return then. Messrs Bragg & Mitchell, after going down with & having a group picture taken Saturday, left for this place that evening and Mr. B. preached here last Sabbath. They have gone home now & I am not sure they have not taken a great deal of my

P.S. Wrote to Mr. Wilkins & Bertha tonight.

interest with them. Bought Lily a pair of earrings $1.50 and Mr. Dusley a volume of "Robinson Crusoe." 70 cts. Myself a Norfolk Jersey jacket $3.00. Had any number of callers last Sabbath, many of whose names I can't remember. Miss Booker, a one time friend of Charlie's, was the only lady. Messrs Perry, Nixon, Childress, Apshaw, Bennett, McKinley, Minor were a few of those I remember. Dr. Simmons & Miss Cook spent the evening with us. Monday morning in company with Mr. Mc. I visited the City Hall & ascended to the cupola — only 147 ft. high & had a splendid view of the city — which is roughly estimated as being seven miles square.

Spent the afternoon at the University but went nowhere at night.

Tuesday morning wrote & mailed two letters — to the Headlight & Sun, respectively of Ark. Monday evening, sent a card each to Messrs Settle & Dusley apprising them of the fact that I had decided staying longer as my ticket was extended to Sept. 10.

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Mrs. Dr. Williams is trying to get me in the notion of attending visiting Mammoth Cave. I might do so if I had any clothes.

Louisville Ky. Wednesday Aug. 24th:

Returned here against the earnest expostulations of Lexington friends, last Saturday night. Went to Millersburg last Thursday from L. to see Dr. Berry & wife. My visit was a pleasant surprise to them. Returned that evening & Miss B. brought her married sister, Mrs. Franklin to call. Spent the next day with them at her country seat & the finest dinner, and most superb I ever ate was served at her house. The cream was excellent. Spent the evening at Miss B's (who had a few friends there) and the night with her. She is a sensible pleasant girl & gave the best recitation of Ostler Joe' I've heard. Visited Misses Ross, the younger of whom played splendidly, also at Mrs Nelsons. then home to see if any one had come. Packed my trunk & received a telegram to come on. Had fine fun; coming back. Visited the Christian church Sunday morning, the Episcopalian that night. Came home by Fifth St. Church & met a number of people, among whom was a Mr. Hadley who is cousin to

my Denver one-time friend.

Monday morning bright & early I went to get my pictures & change my jersey, the neck of which was too large. The pictures were ruined & I would not have them. A $1.25 thrown away, but came down to another gallery and ordered another dozen. Plenty of money. Came home then went out to the University & remained all day — Got here about 3 o'clock & found half Louisville had been to call. Mrs M. & I then went to the Orphans Home and spent the remainder of the afternoon.

Went to Miss Jordan's to a rehearsal that evening & came back by the University. Borrowed 5 from Mr. S. that day. Went buggy riding yesterday morning with a Mr. Jones of New Orleans. A visit from Mr. Gibson & the gentlemen during the day — an excursion up the Ohio River last night, by the light of the new moon & the day for me was done. Miss Bryant called to see me while I was down town buying gloves (69 cts) but I came before she left. Misses Jordan & Davis called today also the Misses Hadley & J. Went to look at the proof of my pictures, which was very good. Then went upon the tower of the City Hall. Sea at Mrs Sam Jordans tonight. Home & bed.

Woodstock, Tenn. Tuesday Sept. 6th, 87.

Have been back from Louisville 11 days and am just making my first entry. Was made to feel badly on my arrival and have been busily hunting a home ever since - but am unsuccessful as yet. Have only stayed at the house two or three of the nights since my return & then my things were locked up, and there was such an air of constraint visible that I have only tarried long enough to write to Dr. S. Mr. G., & Miss Jordan. Ive had no heart to write to any one else, Ive been in a state of such depression.

Left L. Friday Aug. 26th, at 5 o'clock P.M. accompanied by Miss Britton and arrived in M. next day at 1 P.M. The friends did not want me to leave apparently & were very kind to me. Quite a number met at the house and entertained me with songs and Messrs Harris and Childress gave very fine elocutionary renditions and the whole body adjourned down to the train with me. Messrs Harris & Gibson & Miss Jordan rode to the last station with us. Thursday

15 Wrights Ave. Sept. 9th – Friday.

Moved here yesterday – at Mrs. Spilman's but don't know how I will like it. Only did it as a last resort. On coming back I found every other place objectionable on some account & I had knocked around as long as I cared. Stayed at Bert's that night went out to see Mr. Mayo also. Letters from Lottie, Lem. St. S. and Mr. Mitchell (his picture also) Have answered all but Lem. Also wrote to Charlie, "Meb" & Aunt F. Lily is at Mrs H's. I earnestly trust we will pull thro' the year all right.

Everything & body is stirred up over the school matters. Mr. H. had a fine article on the question in Sunday's Avalanche that is stirring up a lot of sand. I hope it will be successful.

No letter from Mr. G. yet. I guess Mr. Jones must have been mistaken. I thought I'd write & acknowledge the receipt of the confectionery but on second thought I won't.

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#20 Gosler St. Sunday Sept. 18th, 1887.
Stayed at Mrs. S's 5 days & moved

morning Mr. J. took me another buggy ride & I returned & had a chill almost there was such a change in the atmosphere. Mrs. G. took me to see "The Burning of Moscow" that evening. The next day I went nowhere but received visitors at home. Monday August 7th I drew $5. from the bank. Tramped all the week but have no boarding place - yet as I had not seen Lily, my dear little sister - I came out this morning and am here. Mrs D. greeted me so coldly I was rather hurt and will return tomorrow instead of staying the week as I had intended. Am firmly resolved to go to housekeeping on my own account next year. If Mrs Hawkins will take Lily & learn teach her how to cook I will be able to do so and have her to keep house. I am sick & tired begging people to take me to board, and if the Father prospers me, I'll do it no more after this year. Received letters from Meb & Charlie Saturday. Enjoyed & must answer them today.

ere on Tuesday 18th, The
ore room, better facilities every
nd so far am doing very well. Liz
is still at Mrs. H's. Couldn't borrow
the money to buy aunt F's place so shall
try to save for it if she will wait.
Wrote a statement to her & await her
answer. School began the 15th, on
Thursday. Went to see the Dr. about
a bill of $13.50 he sent me as charg
es for attending George & he told
me George had never been to ge
the instrument. I wonder if
that money goes for nothin
My pictures came Wednesday a
had written Miss G. on Tuesda
ey are very good - the best I've
ad & think. Strange to say, n
letters from L. yet. I sent a ver
formal card to him yesterday.
also a letter to Mr. Y & one to Ridie
An invitation to Dr. Bragg's wed
ding came to me last week also.
He is to be married next Tuesda
I don't know how to understand
my Louisville friends. I've
not heard a thing from Mrs. Murphe
yet. I'm anxious to know if she's got
her shawl. Must answer Lem's letter

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Sept	4th	Bought basket at Menken's	1.
"		Stationery at Hixon Act.	1.
"	16	Blank book	.4
"	10	Toilet articles @ Menkens	2.1
"	16	Shoes	2.5