

**Journal**

**Written by**

**Elizabeth ("Polly") (Cross) DeCamp**

**Winter of 1903-04**

**When residing in St. Petersburg, FL**

This journal was among the papers and other family material saved either by my great aunts (Myra and Beulah Jackson) or their sister (Wilma (Jackson) Bates), and found in Emily (Bates) Haynes's (my mother's) basement after her death in August 2011. How it came to be in their possession is a mystery, since it was written by the mother-in-law of Myra-Beulah-Wilma's uncle Horace Keys.

In any case, when first read it proved to be a mystery, since it had no label and no authorship could easily be attributed. Clues contained in the text, however, led eventually to identifying its author to be the wife of Ezekiel DeCamp (1831-1919), now known through subsequent genealogical research to have been Elizabeth ("Polly") (Cross) DeCamp (1837-1915).

We have pretty good information regarding the DeCamps for about three generations starting with Ezekiel and Polly, but thereafter the trail goes cold. Their relationship to the Haynes-Bates-Jackson-Keys lines derives from Ezekiel and Polly's daughter, Antha DeCamp, well known to family genealogists as the wife of Horace Keys, younger brother of Eliza ("Lizzie") Frances (Keys) Jackson, my great grandmother. Horace and Antha are mentioned frequently in the journal, as are another of Ezekiel's and Polly's children, Charles, and his wife Lillie Betting.

Highlights from the journal:

- 1) Many references to Charles and Lillie's daughter Estelle and her husband, John Goodnough, who lived in

St. Petersburg in 1903-04, at least during the winters.

2) Polly's nickname for her husband was "De."

3) Reference to Polly's birthdate of 2/8/1837, and to Ezekiel and Polly's wedding date of 2/7/1857.

4) Mention of visits by LaMott and Amanda Bates and by Alma Keys, showing that Ezekiel and Polly were acquainted with the Bateses even before LaMott's son Bion married Lizzie Keys's daughter Wilma. (Ezekiel and Polly were long-time residents of Ovid, MI.) The reference to Alma is more understandable, since Alma was Horace Keys's half-sister.



*Elizabeth ("Polly") (Cross) DeCamp*

Nov 11 - 1933

I promised myself  
that I would certainly try and  
keep a journal this winter or  
living in Florida, so have gone  
we left Ovid at 5:30 and  
after partaking of a chicken pie  
supper at the Cong Church.

The ladies held Bazaar in pros  
of the church, from which there was  
was over a hundred dollars.

Artha said good-bye at the train  
we started from Detroit at 10 o'clock  
arriving at Cincinnati next morning  
then at Chattanooga Thursday evening  
Friday crossing at Jacksonville  
Friday evening St. Petersburg



John, Estelle, and Mrs Lawson  
met us, Mrs L invited us to sleep  
in his rooms (The one we occupied  
last winter) until we settled up.

Saturday 14

De walked out to  
grave this morning, and left me  
to go hunting for winter quarters  
looked at several rooms but will not  
decide today.

Sunday, Did not look  
clean enough to attend church, so  
went out to the grave, was somewhat  
disappointed that they had not grown more.  
Called on Mrs Miller, then came back  
and went out for dinner. Rested and  
attended church in the evening.



Sunday 14

Have found the rooms that suits our views exactly, are covered and partly settled.

Every thing in the trunk, came through all right, found some like any place will seem with our own belongings spread about, Our rooms are in the Duane block on 6 avenue, very central and pleasantly located, all such fine people, and of our own age.

Am sure we are in a way to enjoy the winter, Hope so at least and will try hard to make it the very best spent in Florida, and this will make the fourth in St Petersburg.



Wednesday 18

Pretty well settled, only  
keep moving things to find where they  
fit the best, Estelle has been here  
helping me out, Have two rooms,  
one for kitchen and dining room  
opening from the hall, the other for  
bed and sitting room, opening on  
front gallery, from which we have  
good view of every thing passing  
and every body, from the Towns  
down to the little bare-foot cross  
just from from prayer meeting.

Thursday 19

Estelle and I went on the  
river fishing, but had to buy some  
for dinner, no bite at all.



Friday 20

Miss Scott, Louisa, and  
myself got up first at day light  
and went shelling. The tide was  
clear out but no Panamas in sight.

Too cold I guess for them to come up  
out of the sand. Carn born and found  
The "Man of Wrath" still in bed.

One coriophore in net finding  
any shells, didn't have any to clean.

There is an entertainment at the  
Assey this evening. Can hear the singing  
now. I wanted to go, but can't.

De is in bed and snoring like  
while I am thinking of the little girl  
in my home, so far away, wondering  
the while, if her heart is lonely  
without a mother in the house.



Saturday 21

Had breakfast real early. Did up the work in no time. Had the whole forenoon for play. Took basket and started for the bay.

Played in the sand for a while, then went out in the Palmettos and pulled a trap for basket work. Came by the market to get something for dinner. With the order, bought one rasta-baga for which I paid 14¢, but it was fine.

A letter from Antha today saying the weather at home was very cold.

It is lonely here, We have been to the Baptist Church this evening to hear an evangelist.



Sunday Evening

The last one before  
Thanks-giving 1903. There is to be a  
service at the Assney building on Thursday  
we attended church this A.M. course  
my new ground for the first time, Doubt  
believe it attracted any especial attention  
for no one mentioned it. Had fine  
musicians, singing excellent. Edella came  
while we were at dinner, John came  
for her, then all went out to the end of  
pier where after-noon service was held  
on large ship anchored at the dock  
John assisted by playing his organ  
while the audience sang from the gospel  
books; The after-noon was glorious,  
and all in all it was a time to  
long be remembered.



Monday 22

Estelle and I took a walk down to the Bay this morning, waded around a while, came home in time to cook the other half of my 14¢ leg.

He thinks it a good job on me, I tell him it will offset his S, G. session in the Old Country. He goes out to his grave every morning, comes home at noon just tired out, but he will do it. After dinner he takes a long sleep and is rested.

He is fitting the ground for some trees. I often wonder if one be permitted to take the fruit of his labor in coming years.



Tuesday 23

The weather is perfectly lovely  
Warmer as summer, Girls in white dresses  
and kids bare feet, Had nice little wash  
for dinner, Took a Knaps, then entertained  
callers til supper time, went to church  
in the evening, special meetings, Baptist Church

Wednesday 24

Nothing particular today, only  
more callers, wrote long letters to Artha  
Glad fish for supper, now going to bed,  
Thankful for a good degree of health, for  
the blessed sun-shine, for our children,  
for our friends, for the singing birds,  
for money to pay our rent, for shoes,  
and clothes, for air and breath, and  
every mercy granted by a loving  
Father's hand



Thanks-giving Evening 1903.

The thirsty earth was blessed with a fine shower last night, the weather is much colder to day. Attended service this A.M. held in the Annex building, there were eight Ministers on the platform, Every body ought to be real good in St. Petersburg

De and I had dinner all alone, and no Turkey either, nor any children for Christ. Estelle came up in the afternoon with a basket of good things. Bless her heart, it seems so nice to have her run in often.

Have been writing letters all evening. Am yet thankful, for all I have, all I am, and I hope to be... One and Mrs. Cross came last evening, they said it was snowing so and when they left, Monday night.



Now Friday 27

They; it is cold though  
to night, some predict a frost, and if  
no, good-bye to our little orange grove.

An old fisherman promised me a piece  
of fish net, so this evening I went down to his  
shack after it. Oh dear, dear, and such a  
place, with a wife, &c. It beats me to know  
how any body can be so jolly, when soap  
is cheap and water free. The ceiling looks  
very pretty all the wall hung with pictures

This P.M. went to the bay for panamas  
It was too cold for their appearance, only  
gannet p. and a crab.

Estelle came, we called on Mrs  
Owen. Please excuse me from living where  
they are expecting to this winter, may-be  
I am partial to our surroundings



Sunday.

I attended church a lone this morning  
Dz said he was indeciphered, if you know what that  
means, when I came home found him writing a letter to  
Saddie Perry. Think it fine to be remembered by old  
friends, and she is such a sweet girl, we had such  
a good visit from her last summer.

The weather is still cool but pleasant, and  
we ought to be very glad to escape the cold time  
at home; we have <sup>just</sup> returned from Baptist church  
after listening to a very finely delivered lecture  
(more than a sermon) given by the evangelist.

His subject was: The hand arising on the wall,  
and destruction of Babylon, one thing he missed  
telling, how the armies <sup>of</sup> Cyrus entered the city.

The one part which always seemed so interesting  
to me. I must look it up and read it again.



Tuesday Dec 1 - 1903

The first day of winter,  
and yet we cannot realize, but what it is  
summer, Got up at 5 o'clock and had breakfast  
so Dr could take the early train for Deeds  
City where he has gone for more orange trees  
Dr tells all how much pride he takes in  
that little patch of Florida land. One  
would think it might be his first possession,  
and yet he has owned acres, and acres, of beautiful  
land in a much more desirable country than  
this, all but the climate..

Ran down to see Estelle this forenoon.  
Dish my little ironing, baked cookies, ate  
dinner alone, made handkerchief for  
Ladies Bazaar, wrote long letter to Anthea  
went to church with Mrs Scott, and now  
am waiting for the train to come



Thursday Dec 3

Had breakfast at 6, did up my work in a hurry, took my little basket called for Estelle, found her in bed, but she soon dressed and we went after shells.

The water was pretty cold, but we waded out, came home and made fried cakes before dinner. De said they were very fine. Gave some to Mrs Lawrence. De has walked seven miles to day, is tired out and gone to bed. We went back to little De Camp. Always this P.M., would like to see the little road, dressed up in it.

Been working on grass harkes to day, went down stairs and helped Mrs L want do her supper dishes.

Estelle spent the evening with us, gave her some fried cakes for this breakfast.



Friday 4

Been sewing nearly all day, trying to finish my green silk dress. Don't need it, but then, hate to have things lying around in the way, especially where one has to pay 15-20¢ a month for house room, and no closets at that, But our rooms are very pleasant, and I am very happy this winter, and so glad our children are coming after holidays are over. The city is filling up very fast.

Tourists arriving on every boat and train a letter from home saying the weather there was extremely cold. This whole week here has been somewhat chilly for Florida, but for me, I enjoy it, you see the crackers shivering around crumpled up in any old thing while our northerners do not think it at all cold, all in the bringing up I suppose.



Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> 1903 December

Think I must be getting  
hungry, for we ate breakfast by lamp light  
this morning, the moon was so big and  
bright, guess I must have taken it for the  
other side, and got up accordingly

Hadent very much to do so went fishing,  
brought home four on a string, took  
them for dinner, the boy was <sup>so</sup> calm  
we could see the fish 10 or 12 feet  
down in the water, It was a very real  
wicked to hook the dear little thing

It caught a mackerel which weighed  
7 pounds, right from the water.

Wish the children had them at home  
Mrs Scott and I have been to handkerchief  
sale this evening, they had over three  
hundred, some very beautiful ones



Sunday 9.

Attended church this evening. So many strangers there  
Mr. Harris preached a fine sermon.

I came home got dinner. Dr. went  
walking I went to sleep, did not wake  
until four o'clock. But I felt rested though.

This evening we have been to the little  
new Baptist Church, to hear Mr. Harris.  
They have no Pulpit, The minister stands  
right out above on the platform, with out notes.

Monday 7.

Dr. told me not to do any  
washing to day. He went out to the grove  
and I did not mind worth a cent, had  
it all done and dinner ready when  
he returned, and some the worse either.



Tuesday 8

Mr Durant made me  
the cutest little pressing board,

I tell all the Sisters on this floor, they  
can see it too, De and I took a long  
drive in the country this afternoon, He  
went for trees and I for the ride,  
called for Mrs. M., but she made  
several excuses and didn't go with us.

I have had lame back ever since, too many  
seats in the road, and De drove like John  
so as to get home before dark.

Mrs. Scott and I attended the social  
at the Parsonage, De slept all the evening  
so he said it was all right, How I wish  
I could go out of an evening, it would  
seem so nice. He says he had much  
rather lie on the couch and sleep.



Wednesday 9

Went out house hunting with a friend this afternoon, & he found a nice little four room cottage for 30 Dollars a month, down near the Bay.

Estelle spent the evening with us, & she seems very happy, is making Christmas presents & has just finished a pretty grape basket for someone, Ah I forgot to say I walked out to the grove today and made two calls on the way back, am getting to endure any amount of walking, and feel the better for doing it.

Some days my housework keeps me quite busy, I suppose some think about-hand house keeping don't amount to much, but it's three meals a day all the same.



Thursday

Took my coat and  
spent the afternoon with Estelle.

I have bought her a pair of Petticoats  
for her Christmas, they were only 2 dollars  
and her Grandfather says get her something  
more to make it 5.

Friday 11

Our bbls came to day have  
been unpacking them, every thing is all right  
not a bottle nor can broken, now for some  
thing good to eat, and how we will enjoy  
the lovely apples, I took a basket of  
them down in store to the clerks, some  
of the girls had never eaten a real  
northern apple before, and said they  
fainted as they imagined the cold weather felt  
real spicy



Saturday 12

Bailed a large piece of beef and made dish pan full of mince meat, canned a part of it to keep until the children come, Baked 2 pies and Johnny cake for dinner, gave the old lady in next room a piece of each, Poor old dear, she is all alone and I want to be real kind to her.

Went to the apron sale this evening great rush, pretty ones all gone, so I bought some Laffy and came home, on the way bought 5 lovely Grape-fruit for 25 cts. Bought Sorgan and flowers, Dollars worth.

Sunday 13

Ben to church twice.  
ate and slept the best of the time.  
Day warm and pleasant



Monday Dec 14

After my work was done. Thought I was sick, laid down and took a nap. Felt better, got dinner, then with four other ladies walked ~~walked~~ a mile and a half in the country to visit a friend. He says I beat all women he ever knew, but if I was a woman he would then think I did not amount to any thing and its better to wear out than run out.



Tuesday 15

Felt all right this morning  
Did my washing, and you would laugh  
to see me, one of the ladies in the house  
brought in two little wash boards  
which just fitted my foot bath pan  
Boiled my water in little tea kettle  
and boiled my clothes in dish pan

The whole thing seemed like play  
work, but it all helps pass the time

This afternoon went to the ladies  
prayer meeting held at Presbyterian Church  
led by I cannot have forgotten her name,

Then called on Mrs Smith from B. L.,  
found her sick with LaGrippe, so Florida  
is not wholly free from attacks after all  
and found Dr Smith a good fire crying  
for bicennial fee supper, of course to both  
them



Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup>

Did my ironing this morning  
made 2 apple pies gave one to Edella, and  
sent it to her from the market when I went  
for some steak for dinner, Winks John knew  
how to keep his market in better shape.

After dinner a gentleman gave me a  
lot of panamas if I would clean them and  
it was nearly three o'clock when they were  
finished. Was real tired, thought I would  
take a nap. but callers came and kept  
coming until around 10 o'clock when I  
saw of one glorious sunset I never  
witnessed any thing more beautiful than  
the after-glow on a clear evening.

It looks like the little angels were  
having a bon-fire and the whole heavens  
were helping carry on the blaze.



Thursday 17

The man who gave me the shells said the Tide would be out this morning at day-light. So I had breakfast and started for the bay before sun-rise. Left De to finish his alone even to bake his own griddle cakes. Guess he rather likes to have one so wonderful things for when got home he had bought on a pair of rubber boots to go shelling in, since went it.

Made a batch of cookies to day and baked them down in Mrs Durants big brick oven. He bakes about two hundred loaves of bread a day and sometimes more, after the bread is out the ovens can use the oven for any thing else like. This P.M. all the ladies in the house took another Tramp in the country.

Had lovely lime, was treated to cake, canned and Tangerson oranges, Had milk and milk for supper.



Friday 18

Worked all morning

After-noon all of our crowd went to the school for the Xmas exercises, given by the little folks. Very good indeed,

This evening made some holes for the ladies here in the house. Bought Estelle a lovely Table-cloth, Paid on Dolores a good bit its a beauty; Got a hat sack for John

The linen for the Trawling rolls for Antha and Gillie came today. Will have to work to get them made in time for Xmas. Every one does enjoy our apples so much, because they are from the north I suppose. They make our folks think of home too. Oh how dreary it must look all closed and covered with snow. But maybe Antha is there to night



Saturday 19

Did up my work in good season, made pies, corned beans and sliced apples, Mr and Mrs Hoies were here for dinner, They seemed to enjoy the whole thing, The potatoes, beans, sauce, butter, jelly, and honey was all from home

After they went away at three o'clock, I washed the dishes and had only just laid down when callers came, and then the afternoon was gone, The days are so very short, also very full, but then they will soon be growing longer.

Went out and did some shopping this evening, bought Tea and coffee.

The weather is warm and pleasant. Recd letter from Mrs Kellog saying it was below zero in Battle Creek, How different



Sunday 2d

This has been a glorious day  
The Cong people are exchanging their church  
So we all attended Baptist meeting morning  
and evening. Heard an excellent sermon, Subject  
'Noah and his Ark'. He didn't say there would  
be another Deluge, but that chastisement was  
surely coming in some form. When we think  
of life what a variable reality it is, away  
and yet how careful, as the days go by



Monday 21

Did my little mending this evening, after dinner took my sewing and went down to Estelle's to use her machine, Am making little Christmas presents, Am out doing as much for Xmas as usual, Have sent away several little boxes of Kumquats, to some friends.

The weather is very fine, new moon last night. Tides away out this evening, wanted Dr to go after shells, but he said the rough tides needed his undivided attention, and they get it to,

Thursday 24

Dear one, haven't had him for any thing except Xmas fixings, Baked nearly all day yesterday and was sick in the evening. Estelle came up, rubbed my head, bathed my feet and helped me to bed.



Christmas 1983

Here we are to the evening  
of this blessed day. Only glad to be here  
in this land of sun-shine, where God has  
made the winter so beautiful. Estelle and John  
Mrs and Mrs Bates, and Minnie were here for dinner  
Estelle brought me a large bunch of lovely pink  
and yellow roses. They all joined in saying  
my dinner was fine. The girls did the dishes

Then we all went to the Park to hear the  
Band concert. The weather is ideal, many  
were dressed in whites and bare-headed

Have received so many beautiful presents  
Dad gave me a pair of rubber boots for Chelling



Saturday 26

Been sick all day with a  
bad cold.

Sunday 27, Stayed indoors and  
nursed my cold. No better, cough continually,  
and what's the good any way?

Monday 28

A nice letter from Anthe came  
this morning, she is at the old home having good  
time. He has gone to station to meet the Hoops  
I have been reading his Texas book from Allen  
'The Southwestern'. The weather is lovely.



Wednesday 30

The Hosts are here  
and nicely settled, like St. Pauling ever so  
much, as every one does who come here.

Did my ironing, heard the house must  
cold is soon better, went Lillian and Ansha  
Dear old girls how I love them, and how much  
we are anticipating their visit with us this  
winter, Hope the boys can come with them

Thursday 31

Word has just been wired  
that 5-hundred people took their lives  
in the Irving's Theater fire yesterday P.M.  
Oh so how many hearts are sad while they  
look and mourn for their loved ones lost  
I hope and pray our dear one are safe



Friday January 1, 1924

A Happy New Year To All

At the close of the old year every whistle and church bell in the city began to shriek and toll, the sound seemed gladness and sorrow combined.

Our sympathies go out for the strikers ones of Chicago, for theirs is sorrow in deed -

The day has been lovely, sunshine and warmth every where, trees open; birds singing, and roses blossoming; little can one realize the cold and snow-drift at home.

Estelle and John were with us for dinner, otherwise, were very quiet and rather lonely.



Friday Jan 8 - 24

One whole week gone by and not one entry in my journal.

Have not been very well, and as it is the week of prayer have attended meeting nearly every evening. The churches have all united in union services which have been largely attended and very interesting. The new Pipe organ in our church will be ready for use Sunday morning. It looks very large for the size of the church.

Mrs. Winans took dinner with us then she and I called on Estelle, found her fixed up with her sewing. Mother has put it aside and go with us for a long walk. Did not attend church to night, father has gone to bed. I must say my prayers and do likewise.



Jan Saturday 9

Worked all forenoon, took a little rest after dinner, then began quilting bag which I failed to make for Christmas, hired a boy to take a basket of things down to Estelle, hope they will please her, Mrs. Hoil and I went for a walk. Then got supper and went to church, the meetings are very interesting.

Sunday 10 The cong church was packed this evening to hear the new pipe organ, more strangers than I have ever seen there before, mostly tourists I think.



Sunday 11 Jan

Two months today since we left our northern home, and how quickly they have gone by. The weather is no warmer and our ohing we sit out on the gallery reading or sewing most of the time, when not in the kitchen, or tramping. He goes to the grove every day rain or shine. I can't tell you the life of one what he can bring himself about all the time, but he says it must be looking its best when the children come. Then if they disappoint us, we have been to church evening the closing day of the season.



Tuesday 12

Hurried with my ownings  
work, then with the other ladies in the  
house went to help clean the church  
which is right next door to us. They  
have been enlarging it to make room  
for the new organ. Suppose it's all  
right but not half as pretty as it was  
before the change. Mr. Hait and I called  
on the Lanning and Quid people, then to  
ladies prayer-meeting. Finished out the  
trawling with, and wrote her a letter.

Had "snappers, tongues" for supper, they  
were perfectly delicious.

Esteban and called  
all the evening. served apples and  
oranges



Wednesday 13 Jan

Had fine shower with  
thunder and lightning last night, but  
this morning the sun was shining bright  
as ever, Home felt splendid. Baked mince  
pie for dinner, It is just gone that all  
our women folks can do all our baking  
in this big brick oven after Mr Duval  
takes his bread out. Mrs Hart and I  
took the boy's little red wagon and went  
to Mrs Fishers to get her punch bowl,  
for reception at the church tomorrow eve.

Began sofa pillow for Jais, one Lillian  
sent one for Tom with her own and Charles  
pictures printed on it, Mrs Miller called,  
Estelle came and brought half of a  
very fine white cake for me and  
so sweet in her to think of it.



Jan Thursday 14

This P.M., several of the ladies came, and we made "Fappe", a fruit punch of lemons, oranges, and Pineapples. It is a fine drink and is used so much here. Jim serving at reception. - Everything passed off very nicely at the church. Estelle's husband rendered a concert solo with the Pipe organ, played by Mrs Chambers, which drew forth much praise. Joe as usual, Goshen attended and seemed to enjoy the whole evening.

Friday 15

This forenoon sent Mrs To help clean up the church, not because I wanted to, only to keep good my New-Year resolution, in helping those who need my assistance. Mrs Scott went with me to return Punch bowl and glasses, came home got dinner, took a rest, called on Miss Lady



Jan. Saturday 19

It has been one of the finest days of the winter, warm and spring like, as usual Father went out to his grove, came home about 11, we had young beef given for dinner, sent a dish full with a conee pie down to Estelle, she is so happy that her mother is coming next week. Hope Anthe may come with her, Oh how thankful I am for my dear children, and my prayer day by day is, for their eternal well being and that we may be one unbroken family in the beautiful beyond. The Mid-Winter Fair opened last evening. Also a show at the Annex and to day a circus in town. Harriet attended any of them. She wanted Eva, Durand to take us children, but she said we had our grown half-fair tickets, so she could not

attend the afternoon



Jan. Sunday 17

Attended church this morning  
Had pork chop and round steak for dinner,  
read a while, Took a nap; Went for a  
walk, wrote long letter to Albert, am tired  
can't go out again this evening, as will  
say my prayers and go to bed. It has  
been a perfect day, warm and sunny.

Tuesday 18

Took down all my curtains  
and washed them, so to have every thing nice  
and clean when Lillian comes, Antha said I  
should not do any washing. Suppose I ought  
not, only the colored woman, changes such awful  
prices here. Mrs Hunt and I went for a walk  
I bought a gallon of water for 12¢ and some  
dried beef for supper. Had baked potatoes



Tuesday 19 Jan

Had early breakfast, De went  
to the grove to start a man working. He says  
every thing out there is now in complete order  
and he can take a little rest, and surely it is  
time he did, for he has worked nearly every  
day since we came. I want to go, but it  
doesn't seem to amount to very much  
only cooking, washing dishes, sweeping,  
running down stairs, and combing the  
oil in each other room and so men say  
goes a little, but it is no such a thing.

A lot more tourists came this morning  
the weather is fine, fogs are hanging  
in every direction. Behind the crowd,  
at home is two or three feet deep and  
weather below good.



Wednesday 20 Jan

Have just finished a letter to that dear little girl of mine  
Dor and I went over to prayer meeting. He  
gave a little talk on Majesth, as that was  
the topic for the evening. The weather is  
warm and fair. Peach trees in full bloom

Thursday 21

Attended the Silver  
offering party this afternoon given by  
Mrs. Howard at her lovely home.

There were 70 ladies present  
Chalk cake and wafers were served

Mr. Smith and Biggs called, while  
I was away. But Dr. Embury had them



Friday, 22 Jan

Have been busy all day long getting every thing in order for Lillie's coming. Washed and ironed all my window curtains, swept every thing even to the cobwebs. Gasher calls me Mrs Noe. Thinks I am getting all the gasher for rice, Estelle, and John were here for supper, she can hardly wait until train time, so see her mother. It is now time to go to the train.

Saturday 23 Jan

Lillie came, is looking fine, we are glad to have her with us and hope to give her a good time. Our table was much a little one we have borrowed Mrs Durants extensive ones.



Sunday 24 Jan

Lillie, Estelle, and John  
Took dinner with us, we all came  
from church together, Father built the  
fire, that is just as far as he ever goes  
towards getting a meal, I have been  
for a long time in the country, Lillie  
is so delighted with every thing  
she can get. The very idea of grass growing  
and Peach trees blossoming in January  
When she left home snow three feet  
deep, and thermometer 16 below zero.

Wednesday 26 Jan

Miss Briggs called  
and invited us to Lisa Friday and spend  
the evening, Took sofa pillow to the fair  
from Mrs. D. and I went to Estelle's for supper



Mrs. Winans also was there. Every thing  
was lovely. All attended fair this evening.  
Ethel has a pen full of chickens she is  
fattening for the market, every time she feeds  
them she is obliged to stand with clubs  
to keep the Buzzards from eating the food.

Thursday 27 Jan

Been raining 20 days  
Lillian is with us to night, sleeping on  
the couch, as we have but one bed  
here, while in the old house there were  
seven lying idle. yet I am thankful for me  
and this climate



Friday 28 Jan

Had very nice dinner  
at Miss Briggs, after tea played the  
new game called "comes on wheat".  
Father became so excited his head swam  
and he had to go out of doors to cool off.  
One week of Lillies time is gone by  
and this month will pass very rapidly.  
Had green peas for supper.

Saturday 29 Jan

Made Cowlasse cake  
instead of nicotark, Father bought  
the finest Red snapper fish & even  
cooked a part of it for dinner. crop  
Mrs Minn here for supper. Had skin  
biscuits, shortcake, new butter and  
baked razor back loaf.  
Weather chilly



Sunday 31 Jan

Rained continually all day

Didn't go to church, De went to home

Lillian, Estelle, and John came for dinner

Had remainder of red snapper, new potatoes,

lettuce, and Pineapple, all went down in

the parlor, Lillian played the Organ

and we had good old fashioned sing

It seemed like an evening at home

Dear old home, <sup>now</sup> closed and soon ~~closed~~

while we are 18 hundred miles in the  
crossing Southland doing "Shut-hard house  
keeping, in two rooms

A letter from Anthe saying they  
expected to leave Chicago today, am very  
happy to night, and thankful to you all  
the good gifts that come to us, all through  
unworthy we, and ours, are blessed above many



Monday, February First 1904

To make in the new month, got up and had breakfast by lamp light. Didn't tell the 'Man of Wrath, what was doing until he saw me pull in my rubber boots. Then he knew that I was off from the bay.

Went out for the breeze then for shells. Had good wade, came home refreshed had lunch, then rested, after supper went down to see the girls, brought coffee and my horn, Read aloud all evening 'now will say my prayer and go to bed



Tuesday Feb 2

The men say a woman  
is never content without making a change  
So this morning I turned the bed around  
then the commode was in the way so  
moved that armoire in the kitchen  
what we call our living room as well  
Am glad it's done, for it makes lots  
more room. At three o'clock to Baptist  
church to ladies prayer meeting. It was  
led by a Finnish as was nearly every  
lady present. The residents here  
seem to think the Finnish can sing  
prayer and pay so much, they leave  
it is pretty much left on their shoulders  
It is a perfect day



Wednesday 3

Mr. Hoist and I went  
down to Estell's to cut out my new dress  
came home and the Lord's dinner with us  
attended prayer meeting. Evening beautiful

Thursday 4

Telegram from Hoscoe  
at Jacksonville saying they would be  
here tomorrow morning. Have secured  
a room for them, as we have but one bed  
and a couch. He attended the Paschion at  
Largo today. Baked four corn pie, made  
batch of cookies, did my week's ironing  
and attended saloon tea at Mrs. Fisher's.  
Lillie is staying with us tonight.  
It has been a most delightful day.



Friday Feb 5

Lillian and I just finished the work this morning. We get ready for the train, then it comes on time late, but they come and we are all so happy. Arthur is looking fine and Horace never looked better. After dinner we all walked out to our orange grove. They are delighted with every thing. All attended fair this evening.

Saturday 6

Not very much done but visiting. The children are still delighted with every thing especially the weather which was sixty in the shade at noon, while at home it is below zero, and roads are blocked with snow and coal all gone.



Sunday February Seventh

This was our wedding  
day, forty seven years ago, and Oh how  
it did rain that evening. The snow was  
very deep, next morning every thing was  
glaciated, and snow all gone.



Sunday Eighth Feb

This is my 67 Birthday, am  
here in St Petersburg Fla, the weather  
is warm as summer time, Antha and I  
went wading in the bay this morning  
enjoyed it very much, caught no fish.  
Recd very pretty collar from Lillie, gold  
chain for glasses from Antha and Estelle  
How fast the years are going by, it seems  
but yesterday since I was fifty.



Thursday 9 Feb

All hands met over at Tampa on the Cresmaid, this morning took in Tampa Bay Hotel, both grounds and building are beautiful. Five hundred rooms, from 4 to 50 Dollars a day for board and for guest in nights. Spent day in riding around city and night meeting.

Bought new tea kettle and 2 white coats. Dinner at restaurant and much a dinner.

Sillie bought presents for the boys. All had lovely times. Day given to

Thermometer 73 in shade, called on Mrs. Cross, Got home at 6 P.M.

Had fried eggs for supper, Anthea and Honora have gone to their room. Father is in dream land, and owing



Feb 10, Wednesday

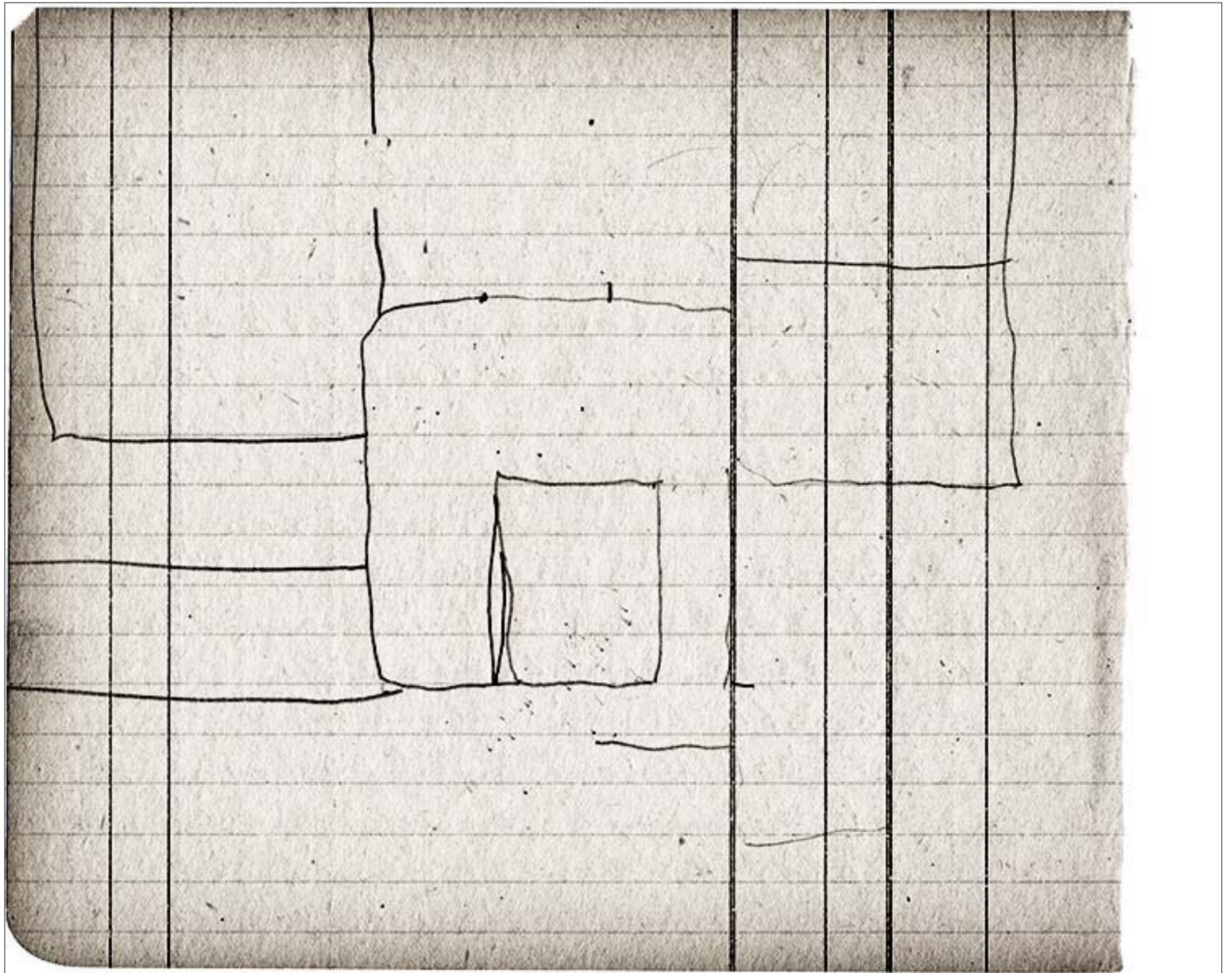
Took all day to get rested from  
tramping yesterday. Every day is full  
and flying rapidly. These weeks  
since Lillian came, she took dinner  
with us today, had Strawberry short  
cake.

Thursday 11

Been raining all  
day, growing colder, will need another  
blanket. Last night the mosquitoes  
were so thick could not sleep. The next  
bug's trouble Anthea dreadfully every  
time she walks out in the woods

St. Petersburg is lovely. The climate  
is delightful, but it has its drawbacks.  
The same as other earthly habitations







Friday 12

After breakfast the party excepting myself started in a tramp walked about 2 miles out in the Bartlett gunn, all returned laden with oranges & baked pies and cookies. Had dinner all ready. Mr and Mrs Hoyt also dinner with us. We also have made nice time exchanging meals, when the other ones are tired after taking long walks as some of the home party do nearly every day. The children are having a delightful visit, they all say it seems so natural to be with Father and Mother that it is hard to believe they are in Florida. The weather is glorious.



Feb 13 Saturday

Fair closed this evening with Jim Program and very large attendance, met many Michigan people, took supper with Estelle, Horace and Artha met me at the fair building, came home, found Father in bed, even all hungry, ate crackers and cheese, kissed me good night, have gone to their rooms, I am tired and sleepy so, so good night  
Old Journal, here goes

Sunday 14 All attended church

Lillian here for dinner  
Had green peas, combed Father's hair  
All took a walk, came home had lunch, bed time again, Day fine



Monday 15<sup>th</sup>

Been packing up from a  
trip to Passaquilla. All going, will  
stay several days. are expecting to  
have fine time. weather warm  
and pleasant. Just come home from  
organ Recital at Cong Church. finest  
thing I ever heard, was given by  
Mrs Dunlap of Chicago.

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>

Will be on an  
in the Island, bringing a bear, and  
being a bear, every one tries to be  
the first on the back. I don't come  
so they in and get breakfast



Thursday 17

Evening hungry than ever.  
Herman eats pork and beans like an  
working man. There is a party  
all over having glorious time, I shall have  
them and every when, had picture taken  
today, doubt if it will be presentable.

The Min. haul caught a fish yet.  
Estelle went home this P.M. hoping  
to meet her father tonight. The bay  
is perfectly calm, weather delightful.

Friday 18 Estelle came back  
this morning. Her father with her. We all  
took a bath in the gulf this afternoon  
lots of fun. So nice we can all be  
together, but this good time is over and  
we must pack up for home, Lilla's Birthday



Saturday 20

The ride home was  
delightful, scarcely a ripple on the  
water, the only excitement was watching  
the Porpoises, Had jolly good time but glad  
to be home again, Anita and I have worked  
nearly all <sup>day</sup> to get things put to rights

To night am tired and sleepy too  
It has rained all day, The children  
were all with us for supper, To eat bran  
short cake

Sunday 21

An all day raining  
Sunday, Did not get out to church  
awfully <sup>tired</sup> and nearly sick



Monday 2-2

Washington Birthday

The exercises have been very fine indeed  
Three hundred and fifty children all  
dressed in uniform carrying bills flags  
marched on street then gave drill at  
army building interspersed with songs  
and speeches, Day has been lovely

Tuesday 2-3

Arthur, Horace, and

Charlie, took boat ride to Tampa

I sick out some washing this A, Mrs  
Lillian was here to dinner, After noon  
Mrs Hoyt went with us to make calls

Rec'd letter from Jay Bennett, saying  
his mother died last week at Pasadena  
California, Two years ago this winter  
she and Mrs B were here, now they are both gone



Wednesday 24

Mrs. Hoyt and I have been distributing bills advertising the silver party to be held tomorrow. The people here just think the Towns can do every thing and they are willing to let them,

sometimes I think, oh show, what's the use doing things any way. You know who play most seem to get most and have the earliest time.

Thursday 25-

All the social was a success very lovely, 78 ladies present, I'll rec'd prizes for largest number, a picture of St. Petersburg, eleven fifty for organ fund, served Grappas and wafers



Friday 25

All went down the Grand  
river on the steamer, magnificent day  
came home just after sunset. Took our  
lunch and ate dinner on the boat.

Hanacia took a picture of the crowd

Sunday 28

All went to Estells for the  
evening. Ansha and I gave Lillian a very  
pretty china plate with an orange grove  
painted on it as a reminder of her  
visit to Florida. The children are  
all enjoying their visit so much.

But Linn flies so rapidly their  
stay with us will soon be over.

Father has been gathering oranges  
and pine apples for them to take home.

George Lill and wife came today



March 2 Wednesday

The Chautangua opens to night. Bought a course ticket, went to attend all I can. Charlie left for home at six this morning and Lillie at 4 this P.M. as they did not come together, their tickets were on different routes. It seemed too bad it were so. We all went with Lillie to see her off on the boat for Tampa.

We have enjoyed this being here so much. Arthur and Horace will remain some time longer.

The weather is perfectly delightful. Alma Keys came this evening, is spending some time at Winter Park, and came over to see the Gammas. St. Petersburg is delighted with the City and people as is every one who comes here for any length of time.



Thursday 3, March

Been to Chataugus

Twice, am afraid my journal will  
come in second, if this child trusts  
all the sessions, and attends to all her  
household cares and duties.

It is going to be very interesting indeed  
will be sorry to miss even one of the  
good things, am awfully tired to night  
am writing this after the onset of weather  
is in bed and answering, will say "new & long  
one, and I skip

Friday, 4, March Chataugus

Saturday 5

Humid with sun, left  
Antha to get dinner, started for Chataugus  
met Mr Cornell's people coming from Iraism  
They are from Battle Creek, Antha's friends



Sunday P. Church

The City is so filled with Latins  
To day, one hardly knew where to attend  
in order to hear the best sermon, one finally  
brought up at congregational, at Two P M  
a meeting in Fair building for everybody  
and again in evening, all fine, well attended

Some of our homo-holds went on pier  
to see few-fish, weight Two hundred  
and 60 pounds, all fine, no fish at all  
except the like mail bag, to swallow every  
thing in its reach, therefore its name

Tuesday Church P

Mr and Mrs Cornell

Hosmer, Antha, went to Passagrilli To day  
He and I ate dinner alone, first time in  
6 weeks, very humorous



Thursday 10

Go to Chalouque Three

Times are only every day, De can't spend  
time from his garden, other rather be  
out in our skins, Every one to their liking

It often occurs to me, that my real life work  
is very poorly done, There is lots of love  
condensed up in my heart, but somehow I  
fail to give it out to others, but the Good  
Father knows the desire

Friday 11

Attended Cha. This

morning, after dinner the boys rented a boat  
we all put on bathing-suits, rowed a long  
way up the bay, jumped in the water and  
paddled around to our boat's content, came  
back, went in bathing at the pier with  
about twenty other swimmers, Fine! Well.



Saturday 12, Mrs Chantanger  
and help work, The Cornells are with us get  
make six in family, Antha is a hustler

Hosann is getting fat and black as an Indian  
I weigh a hundred and 2 pounds, John has  
sold out his market and goes in the Post office  
on a salary, commences next Tuesday

The weather is perfectly lovely

Sunday 13

Another perfect day, among  
worn thin white dressed, attended Presbyterian  
Church this A.M. Good sermon, P.M. To  
Fair building to hear S. W. Hawks, one of the  
best on Program, The speakers are all fine  
but Oh dear one gets so tired go all the time  
Therefore am resting this evening.



Monday

The young folks have been to Pops-a-grille today, had good time only it rained and kept them from shelling, I found so much to keep me busy, did not get to Chacangua until this evening, Home crowded lecture fine, am sorry to miss a session.

Tuesday 15-

Well this has been closing day of the first Chacangua held in St. Peter'sburg, and a complete success from start to finish. Sasser James of Georgia, gave the closing address, to which every one was anxious to receive a hearing, To tell the truth I did not like him, He is too slangy. Of course naturally makes him great and he commands a hundred dollar a lecture



Wednesday 16

Just four months to  
say since taking up our abode in this house  
The winter has passed very quickly, and I  
enjoy very pleasantly too. Having the dear  
ones with us has added to the enjoyment, they  
are so delighted with Florida, and especially  
the Bay for bathing. Da brought home a  
bucket full of the loveliest caulimies I  
ever saw, some were more than an inch long  
and so ripe, Had pie for dinner, it was fine

John has sold out his meat market and gone  
in Post office to work, Da is sick with cold

I am all O.K., The others have all been shelling

Well this is my last leaf, will have to begin  
at the front again and take the other page

That is possible with a book, but not so  
with our daily life, when once passed is gone



March 18,

As my last entry took me through  
the journal, must begin over again  
so will take this cross letter for  
a hint, word from home to day  
saying that last Monday they  
had the heaviest snow storm of  
the winter, and here, the weather  
is perfectly lovely. To day all parties  
have been in bathing, and this  
evening while I am writing the  
doors are all open, young folks  
on the gallery visiting. This A. M.  
<sup>was</sup> Crossell and I walked about a mile  
\* To gather wire grass for basket work  
De has very hard cold, quite sick  
Fresh cracked for supper



Saturday 19

Mr Cornell left for home today  
We all got up early to see him off  
Mr C. will remain until we return  
unless she gets "bum-sick". It is better  
and every thing is flourishing. Hannah  
and Antha happy as new lovers

Hannah just heard Estelle is sick,  
am sorry for she will be packing  
next week, and will need all her strength

Think it will do her and John  
both good to go south for the  
summer, if no longer.



Sunday 21

Hosoo sang solo in  
Cong. Church this evening. Did nicely  
We all attended except Father, and  
he did not have dinner ready either.  
Could not make the strawberry shortcake

Tuesday 22, All went in  
bathing. Bay perfectly delightful  
Sun awfully hot, swim in shade

Wednesday 23

Brother Bathing, Hosoo  
and Anka have decided to leave  
on Friday. They saw head by Fair  
Thurs. alone away after having such  
a good time

Say they never will forget the fine  
old bay and its surroundings



Thursday, 24

Street cars began  
running today after a six months  
lay off, seem like old times  
Party out to Casino this P.M. some  
of our household attended, I am sick  
and the others rather go in swimming



Friday 25-

Well after a seven  
weeks stay with us the children  
have gone, left on 6 Train this  
morning, all got up, had an early  
breakfast, and went with them to  
station, but from one, I could  
only wave them, as Train went  
by, We have enjoyed their visit  
so much, Mrs. Cornell will remain  
with us for some time, so it won't  
seem quite so lonely

The weather is very very hot here

Sunday 26

Was not well enough  
to attend church



Sunday 28

Have been around  
happening things a little today. Estelle  
and John came here for dinner and lunch  
Then left for their mother's home  
on evening train. Gave them a pretty  
good send off. Their old friends seemed  
loath to let them depart. They will  
spend to-morrow at St Augustine, then on  
to Chattahoochee for a day with Anstra  
My cold is some better, only about  
four weeks more, until we must bid  
good-bye to Florida. Don't want to go  
home looking this way for every one  
to say, my how poor you are.



Wednesday 3d

The Ryan party left

(this evening, The Towns are going  
very rapidly, think an account of but  
weather, The floods through Michigan  
are perfectly terrible, many houses are  
completely washed away, It being so  
warm and pleasant here, it seems hard  
to realize the situation as described  
in paper and home letters.



Thursday 31

Mr. and Mrs. Hoag

Took their departure this evening.  
We had an early supper for them, then  
all went to train to see them off.  
Was sorry to have these go; for they  
have helped to make a very congenial  
party here in the house, not even  
unpleasant feeling among us the whole  
winter. From different families and  
every thing lovely, in one house, seems  
quite wonderful. I am feeling much better.  
greatest trouble is on my hands. I sleep  
with Dr.'s leather gloves on for they  
nearly dress my hands, so much  
worse than some productions.  
Mr. Cornell has gone with the girls for  
a. on a light sail on the bay  
Evening perfectly lovely



Friday April 1

Have not seen nor heard

of an April Fool to day. The natives  
are too slow for any game, or much  
of any thing else. I dislike to go in a store  
to buy any thing, it takes them so long  
to comprehend what you are there for.

They say its the climate that puts  
the dulness in to their brain and  
huddles. If so, believe me <sup>you</sup> are all  
year round in Florida

Walter Pugh, she is wishing  
she were back here in the sunshine  
It is so cold and unpleasant in Chattanooga



April 3, 1934

This is another Blessed Easter  
Blessings all day, called Doct's

The very thing should have  
been <sup>done</sup> two weeks ago, think I will  
be better soon, don't know what  
would be <sup>of</sup> us, but for Mrs.  
Connell, she does every thing that is  
done cooking and all, says she  
is trying to fill Arthur's place

she is good as can be  
It has been a beautiful day



Wednesday 9

Have walked out  
a little to day, but very strong  
yet, - A letter from Ansha saying  
she would return if I needed her  
to sit in Chatterunga, but of  
course I could not recall her own  
- life I get names, she is always  
so worried, Have written her  
the book along I said to under  
the circumstances



Thursday 7

Buss sewing, cut & trim  
off black dress, trimmed bottom  
with braid, looks finer, how  
much it adds to an old garment  
to trim it a little. Bought cloth  
for baby blanket, white and pink  
sold Antha's old suit to my wash  
woman to day, for three dollars  
may be she never will pay for it  
as we learn so soon she can't  
work it out and there is our  
dependence on their word  
I feel sorry for them all the same



Saturday 9

Finished breakfast

but am very late, for the baby  
came last night, next this eve  
with compliments, Mrs. Winans,  
game Mrs. Cornell and me a ride  
in Street Car, we also gave



Sunday 10

Back Lamin

could not go to Church, have to be  
helped up and down, would not  
make very good appearance in  
public. Sunday 11 The last of

the sick people except ourselves  
have gone home, Mr and Mrs  
left on pocket train, Mrs Minors  
also, she looks supper with us be-  
fore starting, The weather is delightful  
for traveling, had such fine rain

Tuesday 12 Mrs Cornell is lovely  
seems she cant do enough for both  
of us, dont know what I would  
do without her since I have been  
sick she is so good.



Apr Wednesday 13

Had breakfast

at six this morning, I went to the  
gunnery to count, one hurried around  
and as soon as Lee man came  
we started for the bay, Mrs C went  
to Arthur's while I counted in her  
basket, one sat on the "Misselton"  
a small steamer lying at the pier.

On way home brought fish for dinner  
and saw tanks of little alligators, one fifty  
of them, some fresh hatched, The owner  
was feeding them fresh meat, He wanted

to sell us one, I said no thank you;

For our supper had fried and fried  
oysters, This evening been reading  
aloud with the "man of war"  
on the couch and Mrs Cornell sewing



Apr 18

Had breakfast early. Mrs. Corwell  
blasted for hours. We will be leaving  
with her. She did not want to go  
like St. Petersburg so much. Every one has  
letters from Arthur. She is still  
in Chicago having good times.  
I am feeling much better.  
The weather is perfectly lovely.  
Oleander in full bloom.



Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>

Began packing today

Both like a mountain but became  
not feeling well. guns will get through  
with it. They taking it back they will  
be paid out to a given and brought  
half here orange and 18 grape fruit to

Friday 23, more packing  
and putting away the things which I leave  
in the room. Will see some again next  
fall. If we are permitted to do so

The good Father only remains what  
a year may bring forth