

The Private Journals of Florence Crawford and Arthur Capper, 1891-1892

Edited by HOMER E. SOCOLOFSKY

I. INTRODUCTION

THE JOURNALS which follow were written during an eight-month period from June, 1891, to February, 1892. Florence Crawford, only daughter of former Gov. and Mrs. Samuel J. Crawford, was almost 23 years of age when her journal was begun. Capper, three years older, had been a newspaperman and resident of Topeka since his graduation from high school in Garnett in 1884. The young couple had announced their engagement but the date for their marriage was indefinite due to Capper's desire to gain additional experience in journalism through an extended tour to New York, Boston, and Washington, where he had plans to work for a metropolitan newspaper and to serve as a correspondent in the national capital.

Before Capper left Topeka in mid-June, Florence provided him with a small blank book, bound in red leather, in which she asked him to write daily during the entire period of their separation. Romantically she inscribed the flyleaf with two quotations:

This book of gems, this book of gold,
Of wonders many and manifold.

Then come the wild weather, come sleet or come snow
We will stand by each other, however it blow.

In similar fashion Florence wrote in an identical journal which she kept for herself:

Hereafter!—And do you think to look
On the terrible pages of this book
To find my failings, faults and errors—
Ah, you will then have other cares,
In your own shortcomings or despairs,
In your own secret sins and terrors.

In editing these documents Capper's entries in indented bold type have been placed immediately following each Crawford entry for the same date. Further identification of the more than 300 persons mentioned or of the events recorded by the diarists has

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been enclosed in brackets.¹ All else is the same as it was written more than 70 years ago during a time span frequently referred to as the "Gay Nineties." Sentimentalists have pictured a leisurely mode of existence for that period which is not reflected in these journals. The hurry-scurry associated with the mid-20th century was apparently a part of the everyday life of these young lovers of the early 1890's.

The journals, now the property of the Kansas State Historical Society, were found among the books and memorabilia of Arthur Capper's personal library which was acquired by the Capper Foundation upon the distribution of the Capper estate. It is through the courtesy of the officers and directors of the foundation that these documents were given to the Society to be preserved with the other Capper manuscript papers.

II. THE JOURNALS

FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 1891

I open the first page of this journal with a sadder heart than I ever had in all my life before. He—Arthur—is gone, gone for eight long months—and the feeling of desolation and loss that now and then comes over me is almost unbearable, and far, far worse than I even thought it would be, although I knew I had a hard battle to fight. I managed to brace up fairly well until he had gone but gave up completely then (at the station I mean.) Mabel [Johnson] from sympathy began to cry also, and to an *outsider* it must have been rather comical.² From the R. I. [Rock Island] we went directly to the Santa Fe to see Mabel start and then Mr. [Richard H.] Lindsay brought me home in the rain. At five o'clock Geo. [her brother, George M. Crawford] walked in on us unexpectedly. His train had been delayed and he had passed Arthur at Lawrence. Julia and Tom [Pounds] came in this evening and Charlie [Charles B.] Thomas has been here most of the time so I have had no time to think and have only had that dull heavy weight on my heart all the time.

Friday evening on Rock Island train from Kansas City to Chicago. My first thought is of Florence. How good of her to think of this journal and to give me this little book. It will be one of

1. Information relative to the identity of most of the names mentioned in the two journals was obtained from Topeka, New York, and Washington city directories, the New York Tribune, Topeka newspapers, and general reference sources such as *Who Was Who in America*.

2. *Topeka Daily Capital*, June 20, 1891; *Garnett Eagle*, June 26, 1891; *Garnett Journal*, July 3, 1891.

my dearest treasures and her request that I write in it daily will be faithfully observed. This has been a sad day indeed for me. Never have I known until today how hard [it is] to part from friends and from one whom I love so dearly. I hope I may never have such another day. I could have stood it all very well but for the separation from Florence. I am heart broken and feel as though all my courage had deserted me. But I must brace up. I know it is all for the best. I am confident the time will come when we will both rejoice that this trip was taken. Mr. and Mrs. [D. O.] McCray and Lena came as far as Cameron [Missouri] with me, and made the trip much pleasanter. At Cameron Mrs. Stevens and Anna met the train and Mrs. Stevens kissed me, thinking I was Mc. Mr. Stacey came as far as Kansas City with us. He said several times that I was absent minded and couldn't conceal my sorrow.

This is my first evening away from Florence. How terrible to feel that I am flying farther farther away from her. But I cannot write of this any longer. Tomorrow I may feel a little more cheerful.

SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 1891

If Arthur was only settled in New York I could stand it better, but the knowledge that each day he is going further and further away from me is dreadful. I have felt absolutely sick since he left and last night could hardly hold my head up. I never knew before that anyone could affect me so strongly. Have stayed in the house all day, although the weather has finally cleared off. Have no desire or incentive to go any place or do anything. Mamma and I worked pretty hard mending the clothing Geo. brought home from Yale.

In Chicago. Arrived here this morning and first got my transportation on the New York Central extended. Found father [Herbert Capper] much better. Very chilly here today and when Edith [Arthur's youngest sister] and I went out for a walk this evening found it quite uncomfortable though I had my overcoat on. Mother [Isabel Capper] has been asking me a great many questions about Florence. She says she fears she will be a little bit jealous of Florence. I think I have nearly convinced her that Florence is the loveliest of girls.* Am so tired and sleepy. Slept very little on the train last night. Am going to bed at 9 o'clock tonight. Pretty early for this boy.

SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 1891

Sunday morning and the church bells ringing. How happy I was a week ago today and how miserable I am today. It is harder for me to keep up this quiet Sunday morning than it has been

yet. Why did he leave me when we were so happy together. I cannot see the lines of this page for the tears. I *cannot* stand it for eight months. No nor for one month—& Heaven help me—what will I do. What will I do.

Mamma and I were out riding quite a while this afternoon & Harry [C.] Ashby called this evening. He was quite blue over the departure of his mother and brother & in that way I derived some comfort, "misery loves company." He stayed until nearly twelve o'clock.

In Chicago. This morning went to the [First] Baptist church with mother and heard a grand sermon by Dr. [Poindexter Smith] Henson. No one can enjoy a good sermon more than I do, even though I may be something of a sinner. This afternoon I went with George Apperson and Mr. [Walter Barlow] Stevens of the *Globe Democrat* to Jackson Park to see the World's fair grounds. While there I unexpectedly came across Mabel and Madge Johnson and Mrs. [John B.] Johnson. Madge goes back to Topeka on Wednesday and then I know Florence will be happy. Upon Florence's happiness depends my own happiness. This evening I spent a good part of the time with Mr. Apperson in the *Herald* office.

MONDAY, JUNE 22, 1891

The night is perfect, not a cloud in the sky. Have been busy all day. Went shopping with Mamma this morning and made several calls this afternoon, so feel I have accomplished a good deal. This evening attended a small card party given by Mrs. [J. R.] Hankla in honor of Fred Rix. Nearly all were George's crowd with a few exceptions. The joke is, Geo. was to take me and Rob Furman his sister [Dora] and they traded, I going with Rob. He is between sixteen and seventeen years old, so I felt as if I was going with a baby.

In Detroit, Mich. Now I am in a city that I have never visited before and the remainder of my journey will be entirely new. Arrived here this evening and have just finished writing my first letter to Florence. It was quite hard today to part from mother, father and Edith and yet it was by no means so hard as the parting from Florence. Father goes back to Garnett tomorrow and I hope when I get home again he will be strong and well. The trip from Chicago to Detroit today was through one of the loveliest countries that I think I ever saw. Proud as I am of Kansas I must admit that so far as beautiful landscapes and scenes that delight the eye are concerned the southern part of Michigan is away ahead of my native state. In the vicinity of Ann Arbor it is especially beautiful. The swift flowing streams of clear water, the wooded hills, the lovely valleys made one never ceasing pic-

ture. I feel rather lonesome tonight in this big city but tomorrow morning am going to start out to see the sights.

TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 1891

The warmest day we have had. Geo., and I went the first thing this morning and had our pictures taken together. Our book club met this afternoon at Mame [Mamie E.] McCabe's to discuss Balzac—that is—we were to meet, but only four of us turned out on account of the heat. I fully expected a letter from Arthur this afternoon and was awfully disappointed in not getting it. If he only knew how I long to hear from him or even of him, he would be more careful about writing. Mr. Lindsay was here a while this evening. Left about nine o'clock to go to "lodge." He said he would send a telegram of congratulations to Madge [Johnson] & sign his name and mine as she graduates this evening.

In Niagara Falls, N. Y. My first visit to the great cataracts. Spent the forenoon in Detroit. Took a bicycle and went over a great deal of the city. Then crossed the Detroit river on a ferry boat to Windsor, an old Canadian city. I found in Detroit a great many fine residences and beautiful streets, but its street car service is not good and its business houses are not what I expected. Arrived in Niagara about 6 o'clock this evening. My first view of the cataract obtained this evening from Falls View I can never forget. Such a grand and sublime spectacle I never conceived of.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 1891

Am awfully tired tonight. Went to Ottawa on seven o'clock train with Julia Pounds this morning & was gone until seven this evening. Bernard [D.] Connelly called this evening and I had to entertain him, tired as I was.

In Niagara Falls. Have put in the day looking at the sights of Niagara. I could look for hours and hours at the mighty cataract. I wish Florence could have been here today to enjoy this visit with me.

THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 1891

Woke up to hear it pouring. As it continued to rain I did not get ready to go to the station to see Madge and Mabel. Mr. Lindsay came about twelve o'clock to say the trains were all several hours late on account of—of washouts. He came again at three o'clock and we took Billy [one of the Crawford horses] and went down. Had to wait an hour for their train. Madge went with us in the buggy and as she had had no lunch we took her to "Longs"

[probably the Commercial Hotel] and afterwards she and I left Mr. Lindsay. Took her home & she & May came back to dinner with me. Afterwards I went out & stayed all night with them. Madge looks thin and badly run down to me.

In Buffalo, N. Y. I have seen a great many things today. It has been a big day indeed. This morning I took the train at Niagara Falls for Lewiston [New York] and there took a steamboat for Toronto [Ontario, Canada]. It was my first trip of any consequence on the water. It was my first visit, too, to a large Canadian city. The ride across Lake Ontario was charming. I like the Lake breezes and the pure air. Arrived in Toronto about 10:30 o'clock and visited many points of interest including the old parliament buildings, the new parliament buildings now being erected, the Toronto university and other sights. I don't like Toronto. It is far behind the American cities. Its street cars are pulled around by one horse. Just compare that with Topeka's fine electric road. Its buildings are old, small, and unattractive. The parliament buildings, where the provincial government has its offices is a dingy tumbledown place which would be a disgrace as a court house in a Kansas county seat. Coming back this afternoon we saw millions of dead fish which had come from the salt waters and could not live in fresh water. Came back to Niagara Falls where I spent about an hour and this evening came down to Buffalo.

FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 1891

Am afraid Madge will get to be a tiresome subject before this book is filled. Stayed with the girls until half past four, loafing and talking and then Madge came in with me. Hoped to find a letter from Arthur but instead found one from Belle [Allison]. Was glad to hear from her, but it was a poor substitute for *him*. Harry Ashby came this evening and invited me to go to the Chautauqua assembly, but we afterwards decided to go out to see Madge instead, so we spent the evening with her. Only a week since Arthur left and it seems two or three months. If one week is this long—how can I ever stand eight months.

In Albany, New York. Arrived here this afternoon. Was disappointed in not finding Mr. [Charles C.] Randolph at home. The trip from Buffalo here was very fine. Passed through many fine cities including Rochester, Syracuse, Utica, Rome, etc. The country is rich and all along the route are many large manufacturing institutions. The Mohawk Valley is very picturesque. Saw many places on the way which are of great historical interest. In Albany I visited the state capitol, the finest public building I ever saw. Got a glimpse of Gov. David B. Hill.

SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 1891

Did not wake up until late and spent most of the morning writing to Bessie Capper [Arthur's middle sister] and Arthur. Minnie Ament came in about noon and stayed until three o'clock and she had just left when Madge came for me to go down town. May [also called Mabel] came a few minutes later. The two girls had a little scrap, as Madge told Mabel she needn't always rush down here as soon as she found she had come, & Mabel refused to take back seat. Said she had gone with me all winter & had as good a right to come as Madge had. Places me in rather an unpleasant position. In the evening Harry Ashby came to see about going to Chautauqua, as a bad storm was coming up. Decided it was too bad to go out there but went to Madge's to bring her in for the night. Had just reached Johnson's when a terrible storm came up, but afterwards Madge came in with us. She and Harry like each other pretty well. Arthur is in N. Y. tonight for the first time. I expect he is tired and a little homesick.

In New York City. Finally I have reached the end of my journey. I am in the great city and what a truly Great city it is. I am somewhat bewildered by my surroundings but will be on my feet in a day or two. The ride down the Hudson river is charming. Was very much disappointed on arriving here this evening not to find a letter from Florence. A letter from her would have cheered me up wonderfully. Tonight I visited Mr. [George H.] Springer of the *World*, and took a stroll up the Bowery. What a wild city this is.

SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 1891

Madge stayed with me until one o'clock this afternoon. It is so warm we sat around and talked. Received a letter from Arthur today. Only the second he has written since he left. Charlie Dick came about four o'clock and a little later Dick Lindsay called. They stayed until half past six & Mr. Lindsay asked me to go to Madge's in the evening as they were all going. We went about eight o'clock and found Harry [E.] Valentine there. Madge & I excused ourselves & went into supper & Harry went away mad. Charlie Dick and Holly Flower came & we had music, etc. Commenced to rain, so I stayed all night with the girls.

New York City. Florence's letter came this morning. Never was a letter more gladly welcomed. It has made the whole day a happy one. This morning I went over to Brooklyn to hear Dr.

Talmadge [T. DeWitt Talmage] but on arriving there, found that his tabernacle was closed until September. Just as I was leaving the church I met Jim Hyden [business manager of the Knoxville, Tenn., *Journal* and formerly with the *Kansas City Globe*] and spent a good part of the day with him. Took dinner at the Plaza Hotel.

MONDAY, JUNE 29, 1891

Cool and pleasant. Came home directly after breakfast and worked on George's pillow all morning. Madge had her palate cut off this morning so I went out there this afternoon to see how she felt. She said it did not hurt much to have it cut off but it had been hurting a good deal since. She came down town with me a little while. Wrote a long letter to Arthur this evening.

This morning I started out to look for a room. I tramped all morning and finally found one [47 West 12th St.]. My quarters are rather small but in this big town you have to put up with what you can get. I was down in the city this afternoon. What a busy place it is. Spent a half hour looking at the great crowd of newsboys in the *World* office. Called on Mr. [John] Francis [vice-president] of the Interstate National bank.³

TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 1891

Still cool and delightful. Stayed in the house all morning. Ralph [R.] Peterson was here quite a while. In the afternoon had a caller, Grace Crandall, a little later Gertie [Gertrude] Smith & a while after Madge, Mabel and Lulu Manspeaker. Went down town with Madge and while I was gone Mr. Lindsay came to see me. This evening have been to a small company at Mattie Jones with Ralph Peterson. Went because I could not get out of it, but things of this kind all bore me. I don't feel I am doing right to go to them.

Called on Mr. [Charles W.] Price today. He gave me letters to Col. [John A.] Cockerill, Mr. [Chester S.] Lord of the *Sun*, and Mr. [Foster] Coates of the *Mail and Express*, also Mr. [Edward Burwell] Phelps, secretary of the New York press club, whom I met and took lunch with. He gave me a guest's card entitling me to all the privileges of the club. They have fine club rooms. Called on Mr. Lord and Mr. Coates. I find that New York editors are very busy men, yet they are very pleasant to meet. Today I had another letter from the dearest of girls. If I could only see her tonight.

3. Although he rarely mentioned it in his diary, Capper wrote an article, several columns in length, for the *Capital*, almost every week while he was in New York, and they were usually printed in the Sunday issues.

Francis had been the state treasurer of Kansas from 1875 to 1889.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 1891

Went to Madge's soon after breakfast to get her to go to Mrs. [M. L.] Chamberlain's with me, as I was very anxious for her to do some painting for me. Afterwards went down town and got the pictures of Geo. and me taken together. They are horrid of us both. Our book club had the last meeting for the summer this afternoon at Miss [Katie] Gunther's. We had a very pleasant time with singing, banjo and guitar playing, etc. Madge and Mr. Lindsay came after me and we fooled around town in the buggy until nearly seven o'clock. This evening we, Madge and I, went to Chautauqua at Oakland with Harry Ashby and Cliff [Clifton B.] Holbert and afterwards went to "Hopkins" [Confectionery] for ice cream.

Called today at the headquarters of the republican league and had a pleasant chat with Secretary [Andrew B.] Humphrey. He gave me a letter to Henry Hall, business manager of the *Tribune*, whom I called on and found to be a very pleasant gentleman. Also called on Dow, Jones & Co., with whom I had had considerable correspondence. Took a walk this evening through Thompson street, one of the lowest parts of New York. It is settled largely by Italians and such a dirty looking outfit I never saw before.

THURSDAY, JULY 2, 1891

Madge stayed with me all night but went away immediately after breakfast. I was glad to have her go for I wanted to write to Arthur. I am determined that *nothing* shall interfere with my writing to him. I wrote him a long letter. This afternoon went out shopping with Mamma & Madge. The girls are going to have a few out on the fourth and I went with Madge to invite some of them. Have worked on my fancy work all evening and am awfully tired.

It has been very chilly today and I had to put on my heavy clothing. It was about as cool a July day as I have experienced for some time. This morning I spent about an hour in the office of Dow, Jones & Co's *Wall Street Journal*. It is about the liveliest place I have struck yet. The way they bustle is a caution. Money seems to be no object to them in getting the news at the earliest moment. While I was there he cabled to London and received an answer in ten minutes. Today I wrote to Florence that she must try to be in Washington this winter. I don't see how I could stay away from her 8 months. I visited the old Trinity grave yard this morning where Alexander Hamilton, General James Lawrence and many other prominent men of

revolutionary times are buried. Also visited the office of the "Journalist."

FRIDAY, JULY 3, 1891

Helped Mamma make bedding for Geo's room at college and for a wonder practiced by vocal music quite a while this morning. Received a letter from Arthur this afternoon with a full description of his trip. I will not be able to write him tomorrow as it is the Fourth & I am invited out to Johnson's to spend the day & evening. I hope he will not be disappointed in not getting a letter & think I am neglecting him. If he only knew how constantly he is in my thoughts & how I long for him to be with me he would be surprised and would realize that I only go into these different things to pass away the time. ~~(I hear other people constantly saying it is wrong to wish time to go more swiftly than it does—but until he is with me again I think I have a perfect right to want time to fly. The trouble is, when you have everything you want, time goes without your wishing it to or noticing that it does, and it only drags when you are waiting for something the dim future.)~~ ["RATS," wrote Florence in the margin.] Madge and Mabel came for me to go down street about four o'clock, & we stayed until after six, busy all the time. About nine this evening Cliff Holbert, Harry Ashby, Bernard Connelly & Ralph Peterson brought some little colored boys around to sing for me. Then they sent them way & spent the evening here. They were all tired, they have been flying around with the boys so much.

Today I visited the office of the American Press Association, an immense establishment which furnishes plates to nearly all the newspapers of the country. The editor Mr. I. D. Marshall, told me a great deal about the business and showed me the sketches of over 10,000 people which they have laid aside for use in their plates. Also had a pleasant visit with General [Michael] Kerwin, collector of internal revenue and editor of the *N. Y. Tablet*, to whom I had a letter from Captain [Patrick Henry] Coney [of Topeka].

SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1891

Have had a hard day of it and am glad the fourth is finally over. Madge & Mabel came for me at ten o'clock this morning & we were down town until noon, then went out to Johnson's. They had invited six of us girls to spend the day & evening with them & had some young men come in the evening. Was not a decided success. Came home with Seymour Davis, Jerry Black & Dick

Lindsay in a double seated carriage. Am so tired I can hardly hold a lead pencil.

Spending the fourth in the greatest city of the continent. It is a beautiful day. Almost everything is closed up and it really seems to me to be quiet for a big day like this in a great big city. Thousands of people, who never have any other opportunity, have gone to the country to spend the day. Went to the big Tammany demonstration in Tammany hall this morning and heard speeches by Senator [Alfred Holt] Colquitt and Congressman [Charles Frederick] Crisp and others of Georgia. In the afternoon I went to the unveiling of the statute [sic] of Sunset [Samuel Sullivan] Cox erected by the letter carriers and heard the oration by General [Thomas] Ewing.⁴ Then I walked down town by way of the Bowery and saw a great many drunk men. The drunkest man I have seen however, was a policeman who tried to interrupt the oration of Congressman [William] McAdoo at the Cox statue. Went out on Brooklyn bridge, where I could see all over the city. It was quite a beautiful sight to see the flags floating from the masts in all parts of the city and from the vessels in the river. Wish I was in Topeka today to celebrate.

SUNDAY, JULY 5, 1891

Wrote a long letter to Arthur and had just finished it when May came in from church. Mamma had gone to the country so she stayed to dinner with me. After dinner we went out riding until nearly six o'clock. This evening Madge and Mr. Lindsay came down. Had an exciting time. We tried to write a combination letter to Arthur, first Madge & Mr. L. which I tore up—then Mr. L. and I which Madge tore up. It ended in quite a lively scene.

This morning I went over to Plymouth Church in Brooklyn, where [Henry Ward] Beecher preached so many years and heard Dr. Lyman Abbott. It is one of the plainest churches in the city and the audience seems to be anything but aristocratic. Tonight I took a walk up Broadway and found it brilliantly lighted and crowded with all classes of people. It is a magnificent street. I dropped into a Salvation Army meeting and heard a very bright girl conducting the meeting.

MONDAY, JULY 6, 1891

Am so tired tonight I can hardly hold up my head. I have not done anything to tire me either. Had just finished breakfast when Mabel came for me and we were out riding all morning. This afternoon Madge came for me and we were out together. I am trying hard to finish George's pillow & when I am not interrupted

4. Ewing was the first chief justice of the supreme court of the state of Kansas.

work hard on that. Spent the evening by myself—as even Mamma was out.

Today I strolled along Fifth Avenue, the most fashionable part of the city, and looked upon the palatial homes of the millionaires of New York. Saw the residences of Jay Gould, Vanderbilts, Astor, A. T. Stewart, W. C. Whitney and others many of which cost over a million dollars. In the afternoon I met Patrick Ford of the *Irish World* and had a very pleasant chat with him for more than an hour.

TUESDAY, JULY 7, 1891

Gertrude Smith was here all the morning for me to help her learn a little on the guitar. She does not learn very easily but I like to teach anyone. It was pouring all the time she was here. Looked for a letter from Arthur this afternoon and was awfully disappointed at not getting it. Just because he has written to me every other day, I have gotten into the habit of looking for a letter regular, and I should know that he has other things to do besides writing letters. He is just as conscientious about writing to me as he is about everything else—and I cannot and do not complain. Madge came soon after lunch for me to go down street. It was so cold when we started that we returned for our wraps & even with those on we were cold & did not stay out long. One or two men had on their overcoats. To think of such weather on the 7th of July. Wrote one or two letters from necessity this morning, to people I have neglected until I am heartily ashamed of myself. I write to Arthur so often I have no inclination to write to anyone else.

This morning I had a pleasant visit with Allan Forman, editor of the *Journalist*, who has just returned from London. Also met Major [Jonas Mills] Bundy, a very pleasant gentleman who is editor of the *Mail & Express*. This evening wrote a letter to Florence. Received a nice letter from Mother. It has been raining all day and a rainy day in New York is very disagreeable.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 1891

It is more like Oct. than July, but the weather is delightful. Have worked steadily on George's pillow all morning. Am getting tired of it. George tried to show me how to use indian clubs, but I was not remarkably successful with them. Went out to see Madge this afternoon & she came in town with me. Was writing Arthur this evening when Harry Ashby came in & caught me. Told him I was writing to Belle [Allison] but he did not seem to believe

me. He showed me some more on the indian clubs. I wish—oh, how much, that Arthur was here tonight. Seven months & a half more unless we go to Washington. I am finding out—more than I did before—that I love him very, very dearly and I [*three lines erased*] & I will always try to be worthy of him and all the good I have.

Had another chat with General Kerwin and he gave me a letter to Hon. T. C. [Thomas Collier] Platt, ex. United States senator. Had to wait for Mr. Platt sometime and then found him a very busy man. Then I had a talk with Mr. Mulholland [John E. Milholland] of the *Tribune*, whom I found to be one of the pleasantest gentleman I have met in New York. He gave me some very good advice and said he came to New York under about the same circumstances which I came. This afternoon I had quite a long talk with Mr. Coates of the *Mail & Express* and told him I wanted to go to work. He put me through the usual examination made by the *Mail & Express* which is very different from that made by newspapers generally. Wanted to know if I was religious, etc. Also had a talk with Mr. [William Bradford] Merrill of the *Press*, who was formerly with the Philadelphia *Press* and said he remembered me as one of the correspondents of the *Press*. Visited the YMCA this afternoon. It has been raining all day and is very disagreeable.

THURSDAY, JULY 9, 1891

Still cold and pleasant. Went out to Madge's soon after breakfast and sewed with the girls. After lunch Mamma and I called on Mrs. Dr. [W. S.] Lindsay. She had a friend visiting her, Ada [L.] Venable, who she said was a great admirer of Arthur, therefore I liked her. This evening Mr. Lindsay came and we went out to Johnson's. Harry Ashby was there, & Mrs. King & Bessie are visiting there, so there was quite a party. Did not stay long. Mr. Lindsay stayed with me over a hour after we returned home and we had a very interesting talk.

Had a very pleasant visit today with Thomas L. James, ex-postmaster general and president of the Lincoln National bank. I found him an extremely accomodating gentleman. He gave me letters which would take me to points of interest and promised to steer me around the city in good shape. I took a long walk over the city and saw many new things.

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 1891

Have been reading over all I have already written & if I can possibly get out of it, I will not show it to Arthur. Once in a while I start off & rave about something in the most absurd fashion. It

is cold enough for a fire, & has been raining in torrents. Worked on that everlasting pillow all the morning & practiced about two minutes on the indian clubs, but I am so stiff I can hardly lift them. Practiced with them too long yesterday. Am inclined to feel blue and down hearted this evening & have to fight to keep it off. There is some comfort in writing in this book every evening—in knowing that Arthur is doing the same thing. Sewed all the afternoon and wrote a long letter to Arthur this evening. Aunt Alice [Mrs. George S. Chase] came up to show me an article in a Garnett paper with an outline of his life since coming to Topeka and part of a letter he wrote to a friend in Garnett.⁵ I intend to keep the article.

This morning I visited the Manhattan Athletic club, which is the finest club in the city and is in a building which cost nearly a million dollars. I also went through the post office, where more than 3000 persons are employed. Went up to see the city editor of the *Tribune*, Mr. [Arthur] Bowers this afternoon. He put me on for trial, but tried to discourage me and said I would not like it. I started into work immediately and my first assignment was to a meeting in the West Shore saloon on the West Side about the New York Central tracks. My report of it was cut down to about a stickfull.⁶

SATURDAY, JULY 11, 1891

Still cold. Went down street with Mamma a while this morning & had just returned home when Mabel came. She stayed to lunch and afterwards I went home with her. Madge came back with me and stayed to dinner. Geo. played in the tennis tournament this evening. Have not seen him since to find out how he came out, but have no doubt he was pretty near the end. He and a crowd are going to Maple Hill to camp and fish tonight.

Today I went for the *Tribune* to interview Prof. [Albert S.] Bickmore on the steamer "Portia" and got about a quarter of a column. Then in the afternoon interviewed Coroner [Ferdinand] Levy which constituted my day's work.⁷

SUNDAY, JULY 12, 1891

Pleasant but warm. Did not go to church but stayed home and read. Soon after dinner, before three o'clock, Harry Ashby called. He stayed until four, then we took Billy & went to get Madge. We three then rode all over town until after six. Madge came home with me to stay all night, & at seven o'clock Harry came

5. *The Republican-Plainsdealer*, Garnett, July 10, 1891.

6. *New York Tribune*, July 11, 1891, p. 7.

7. *Ibid.*, July 12, 1891, pp. 4, 13.

again. A little later Mr. Lindsay came. I was glad to see him, for Madge and Harry are pretty badly struck on each other. We went to Hopkins and afterwards the young men stayed until late. Mr. Lindsay is not a man who makes me feel any better to have him around. He and I were talking of Arthur and he said he "didn't see how Capper dared go away & leave a girl he was engaged to. He himself would never dare do such a thing, for he would be sure to see some other girl he liked better." Now I have perfect confidence in Arthur & know he and Mr. Lindsay are not at all alike, but nevertheless I did not feel any the better for the remark. He often says little things like that that I should not mind, but which I cannot help thinking of.

This is the first Sunday I ever had to work on a newspaper. But my work today was very light. Went out to the residence of "The" [Theodore] Allen [notorious as gambler and "dive" keeper] to find out about his condition, but at his house they tried to bluff me by telling me no such man lived there. Found out from the doctor however.⁸ Have been writing a letter to Florence tonight. Don't believe I ever felt so lonely without her.

MONDAY, JULY 13, 1891

Had an awful hail storm in the night. Kept us all awake and when we did open our eyes this morning it was a quarter to ten, a nice way to commence the week. Worked on Geo's pillow all morning & most of the afternoon & am thankful to say it is nearly finished. Was down town a little while with Mamma late this afternoon. Wrote to Arthur & had an argument with Mrs. [D. C.] Nellis this evening.

I had very little work to do at the office today. Today I bought a ring for Florence and will send it to her tomorrow. I wrote her a letter tonight. No one ever gave a ring with so much love as I give this to Florence. I would give almost anything to see her tonight.

TUESDAY, JULY 14, 1891

Awfully cold again. Finished the pillow this morning but it took until noon to do so. Expected a letter from Arthur this afternoon and did not get it, consequently was much disappointed. Madge came after me late this afternoon and we went down town. She came again this evening for me to go to the band concert with her. There was a big crowd there. Charlie Dick and Holly Flower stayed with us & when the concert was over they came home with us. Holly has an awful voice & thinks it is lovely & I was obliged

8. *Ibid.*, July 13, 1891, p. 10.

to get out my guitar so we could have a quartette. Was so cold Madge & I had on heavy wraps. We did not go to the concert alone as Mrs. Johnson & Mamma were with us.

Was reminded today that this was my birthday by a letter from Florence another from mother and also a little birthday gift from Florence. I did not know that she knew the date of my birthday and was much surprised when it came. How kind of her to remember me in this way. Twenty six years old—getting along pretty rapidly. I am happier today than on any previous birthday for I have found happiness for life in Florence's love.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 1891

Was serenaded by the mandolin club last night. It was perfectly lovely & I would be willing to listen to such music all night long. Is cold as Oct. should be. This afternoon Madge and I made a number of calls & were both rather tired when we were through. At dinner tonight Geo. gave me a lecture about going fishing with only three others in the party tomorrow & I finally had a good spell of the blues to pay. I do not want to do any thing that would seem untrue to Arthur, but with Mr. Lindsay & Madge both against me, it is awfully hard to judge what is right, & they both insist on me doing one thing after another. If Arthur—as Dick says—asked him to show me some little attention I would far rather he had done no such thing, as I do not care to go to these different places. Well—I hope we will soon leave town for a while & I will be free of all this trouble. Ed [A.] Horner and Mary [his sister] called this evening and made quite a visit with me. We look for a telegram from Papa very strongly tomorrow morning.

This has been the warmest day we have had since I have been here. About noon it was very oppressive in the sun but all right in the *Tribune* office which is so high that it gets a cool breeze from the ocean. I went down to the docks this morning and watched the big steamships. What a great sight it is to a fellow who has lived out on the plains all his life.

THURSDAY, JULY 16, 1891

Threatened rain all morning but Madge came in about 10 o'clock to prepare lunch for our fishing trip. We put up a splendid lunch & at half past one Harry Ashby and Mr. Lindsay came for us in a double carriage and we started to Wakarusa. We had quite a nice time. Mr. L. caught one fish about two inches long which we threw back in the water, & Harry caught a large fish which slipped from his hands & went into the water carrying the hook

with it. Madge & I didn't catch a fish, much to our disappointment. The ride back by moonlight was very pleasant, only we were so tired, Madge & I, we could hardly hold our heads up.

Today I found Billy [R. W.] Rowles and had a pleasant visit with him. He wants me to come to see him often and says he will show me the town.⁹ Also called on James Herron with a letter from Charley [Charles Sumner] Gleed. Tonight I had my first experience on "the Tribune" with the night watch. Went on at 7:30 p. m. and had nothing to do until about midnight when I was sent out in the west part of the city to find out about the death of a man named [Joseph H.] Deane.¹⁰ Had to go through Bleecker street, one of the worst in the city, and saw some of the toughest places and toughest men that I ever saw in my life—enough to make me shudder.

FRIDAY, JULY 17, 1891

Four weeks ago today since Arthur left, one eighth of the time gone. Was so tired all the morning could hardly talk, but Madge had just left when Mabel came in with a sick headache & she stayed all day. In the afternoon Madge came back & we prepared our lunch for the picnic. At five o'clock we went out to Oakland & soon after the boys came. There were twenty four of us there & we had music dancing etc. It was so cold coming back we were all nearly stiff. Madge stayed with me all night.

This morning I found Captain Coney and wife at the St. Nicholas hotel—the [first] people from Topeka that I had seen since coming here and of course was very much pleased to meet them. This afternoon called on C. [Charles] D. Simonson the Santa Fe's agent, with a letter from Charley Gleed. He treated me very kindly. Tonight I travelled all over town nearly to find some people to interview for the *Tribune* about the International Copyright law, but could not find them.

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1891

Madge did not go home until nearly noon & I had just commenced a letter to Arthur when Mabel came. It seems as if people just hang around the corner until I commence a letter to him, then all rush in. She did not stay long so I wrote him and Ida Sharp each a long letter. Just after they were mailed Geo. brought home the ring Arthur sent me, the loveliest [*sic*] diamond. Mrs. Johnson gave a small company this evening for Captain & Mrs.

9. Rowles was manager of Topeka's Grand opera house, but he spent his summers in New York City planning theatrical tours, and sometimes he served as advance agent for a tour.

10. New York Tribune, July 17, 1891, p. 7.

Henry King [of St. Louis] & Mama & I went out there. It was very pleasant, the principal entertainment being music. I am glad to get home though, I am so tired from yesterdays picnic.

Started out again today on the copyright article. Saw [George Haven] Putnam the publisher and some others but was caught in a heavy rain and soaked through. Got up a pretty long article and took it to one of the editors who cut it all to pieces right before my eyes.¹¹ It came out Sunday morning however in pretty good shape, and was in a good position. Got a letter this morning from Mrs. [Joseph K.] Hudson which was quite encouraging and a very nice letter indeed. An awful good letter also came from Florence.

SUNDAY, JULY 19, 1891

A beautiful day. Wrote to Arthur to tell him I had received the lovely ring he sent, and also to Papa. Madge came in soon after dinner to spend the afternoon & we had a long delightful talk. Poor girl, she is so anxious to go back to Chicago, & says if we go to Washington this next winter she is going also, if she has to run away. Mr. Lindsay came in for a minute on his way past here, and ended by staying to lunch. Mama, Aunt Alice and I took Madge home a little while ago with Billy.

This afternoon I worked in the office helping Mr. Rhodes [Henry M. Rhoades], the assistant city editor, and found out a good deal about the way they get pointers on the news. Got through at 6 o'clock and this evening have been writing letters.

MONDAY, JULY 20, 1891

Trying to rain. Geo. looked rather blue at breakfast, for his crowd intended having a straw ride out to Hudson's place and a canvas dance on the lawn, & of course the rain spoiled all their plans. Went to see Julia Pounds & stayed nearly all the morning. Madge came soon after lunch and I went down street with her. This evening Harry Ashby called for me to go out to Madge's with him. He had had a fight with her & wanted to make it up & I had to go and keep Mabel out of the way. I firmly believe that is what he wanted of me. They had a long talk & she forgave him & promised to go to the dance to be given out at Vinewood Monday evening. Harry stayed & talked to me after we returned home until twelve o'clock.

Called today on Dr. [Albert] Shaw, editor of the *Review of Reviews* and had a very pleasant chat with him. He is from

11. *Ibid.*, July 19, 1891, p. 13.



Florence Crawford and Arthur Capper (center) about the time of their marriage in December, 1892.



Arthur Capper (white arrow), as a reporter for the New York Tribune, attends a Tammany Gettysburg reunion in 1891. Although the photograph is inscribed in Capper's handwriting, he erred on the year.



The Samuel J. Crawford home at 435 Harrison, Topeka, in the 1880's. Florence is seated on porch, in center. Her mother, brother George, and grandfather Enoch Chase are also in the picture.



Beth Shalom Jewish Temple later occupied the site. The east (right) portion of the Crawford home clearly shows as part of the Temple building.



KANSAS AVENUE, TOPEKA, IN THE 1890's

Looking south from 7th street (above).

Looking south from 4th street (below).





The Crawford building, owned by Samuel J. Crawford, still stands at 501 Jackson, Topeka. Seymour Davis, the architect, is mentioned in the diary. The fire of October 25, 1891, described by Florence, was reported in the press as a \$3,500 loss to the building.

THE CRAWFORD BUILDING.
SEYMOUR DAVIS, ARCHITECT.



The College of the Sisters of Bethany as it appeared in the late 1880's. It was located in the 800 block on Polk, on the Grace Cathedral grounds. Florence had attended classes there and mentions cultural events at Bethany.

Minneapolis and says that any young newspaper man who is doing well in the west makes a mistake if he comes east. Also visited the Cooper Institute building. In the evening spent a pleasant hour with Billy Rowles. Had a good letter from Charley Gleed.

TUESDAY, JULY 21, 1891

Wrote Arthur a long letter before breakfast, and not very long afterward Laura Fortune came to see me. She stayed a long time & did not leave until Madge came for me to go home with her. I went out there & right after lunch she & I went to sleep & did not move until six o'clock. Madge & I in one buggy, Mama & Mrs. Johnson in another & Marie & a friend of hers in the little cart, all went to the band concert this evening. Harry ran across us & stayed by us until quite late. He did not leave our house until quite a while after Madge & her mother went home. Received a telegram from papa this afternoon wanting to know how we would like to have a cottage at Martha's Vineyard this season. Mama answered that it would be all right if papa would stay with us.

Tonight I was on night duty again, going on at 7:30 and remaining on watch until 1:30. Was sent to interview George Vanderbilt, the millionaire. Went up to his magnificent home on Fifth Ave. but did not find him in and had to wait until after 11 o'clock. His home is furnished like a palace. Today met Mr. Coleridge [A.] Hart, a friend of Fred [O.] Popenoe. Also visited the steamship Alaska, the first time I was ever on board a steamship.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 1891

Mama & I spent most of the morning down town shopping. After lunch I had such a bad headache I went to sleep on the sofa & George awakened me by bringing me a letter from Arthur, the sweetest way to waken me possible. Afterwards I was lying down until near dinner time, I felt so very bad. Commenced to rain about six o'clock & did not cease at all during the evening. I would have a good spell of blues tonight if I gave up to it in the slightest degree. My longing to see Arthur's dear face is so great sometimes.

Not very much today. In the evening went up to Harlem to interview a banker named [Henry] Buckhout but did not find him at home. Then went over to Brooklyn and interviewed another banker named Henry Chapin, Jr.¹²

12. *Ibid.*, July 23, 1891, p. 5.

THURSDAY, JULY 23, 1891

Madge came in during the morning & stayed to lunch. Afterwards I took her out home to get the things she needed for Gertrude Smith's tea. We went over there about six o'clock. The girls, eight of us, were invited to tea and some young men were invited for the evening. Much to my surprise Seymour Davis was not among them. Madge and I reached home at twelve o'clock and are awfully tired.

Had a good letter this evening from Florence. Don't know what I would do without her letters. My work has been very light today.

FRIDAY, JULY 24, 1891

Cool and pleasant. Madge stayed with me until near noon & I did not do much but read all the morning. Received a letter from Arthur this afternoon. The Jones girls [Mattie and Delia] and Miss Johnson called & a little later Mrs. Johnson & Madge came for me to go down town. This evening Ralph Peterson came to invite me to the Vinewood dance Mon. evening. I did not accept the invitation.

Today I was sent by the *Tribune* to investigate a case of destitution in the fifth story of a tenement building in Rivington street. I found my way through dark and dirty stairways, and through filth and misery, to the little room on the fifth floor where the mother and five children were huddled together, the children with barely enough rags to cover them and almost starving for food. It was wretchedness and poverty such as I had never seen before. I gave them \$3.00 sent by the *Tribune*, which made them very happy indeed.

SATURDAY, JULY 25, 1891

Cold. Not cool but downright cold. Was down town a while with Mama this morning & thought I would freeze before I came home again. Madge was down with a bad headache this afternoon, so I spent the afternoon with her and Mabel. Mrs. [O. T.] Welch & Maud called soon after dinner this evening and they had just gone when Gertrude Smith came. She stayed until eleven o'clock and I showed her a good deal on the guitar.

Today I was sent out to report a yacht race. [This story was later remembered as Capper's initial assignment with the *Tribune*.] I first thought I had better resign and go back to Kansas. I knew nothing about a yacht and hadn't the least idea how to make a report of the race. I made a bluff at it, however and got

along pretty well.¹³ I expected to have the editor turn me over, but my report went through all right.

SUNDAY, JULY 26, 1891

We slept until very late and I did not go to spend the day with Madge as I promised. Went directly after dinner though Mama came for me at six o'clock & we had only been in the house a few minutes when it commenced to rain. Geo. had a letter from papa today in which he said he intended to start for home tomorrow evening and for us to be ready as he would only have to stay here three or four days. If we go to Martha's Vineyard I will see Arthur, for we stop a little while in New York. I hardly dare think much of that, for the disappointment would be terrible if I once made up my mind we would surely do it & our plans were changed. I wonder if Arthur would be as glad to see me as I would to see him. A man has so many different things to take up his mind I don't believe he feels a separation from anyone, even if he cares for the person a good deal, as keenly as a woman does.

Governor [Samuel J.] Crawford came here today and I have been with him nearly all morning. We took a ride up to Central Park and then took a walk down town. This afternoon I was working at the office of Mr. Rhodes.

MONDAY, JULY 27, 1891

Have done a good deal of sewing today in spite of the fact that we have not had a minute to ourselves since breakfast. First one person & then another has come in and interrupted us. Madge came down at five o'clock so Harry would not have to go to her home after her for the Vinewood picnic. Mama is afraid I am going to be sick and she went to the doctor's this evening. He says I must be careful—gave me some medicine and said if I was no better tomorrow we must let him know. Papa started home from Washington tonight.¹⁴

Went up in the World building, a height of 375 feet. The view from the tower is the finest I ever saw. Could see in every direction for miles and it was a grand picture indeed.

TUESDAY, JULY 28, 1891

Madge stayed with me all night and I took her home this morning. As usual it began to rain about noon & kept it up until after

13. *Ibid.*, July 26, 1891. There were two yacht stories: p. 2, and p. 3. The latter sounds like Capper wrote it.

14. Samuel Crawford had served as state agent for Kansas in Washington from 1877 to 1891, prosecuting claims against the federal government on behalf of the state. At the conclusion of his service as agent, he opened a law office in Washington.

dark. Have been busy preparing to go away. Had a telegram from papa this afternoon saying he would start for home today instead of yesterday. Was serenaded this evening.

Took a letter from Charley Glead to Colonel [Anson G.] McCook today and had a pleasant visit with him. He took me through the Equitable Building, probably the finest office building in the world, and also through the Lawyer's Club, a magnificent place. Had a pleasant visit also with Coleridge A. Hart, a friend of Fred Popenoe. Tonight I went to Bath Beach to report a dinner given to Governor [John N.] Irwin of Arizona.¹⁵

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 1891

Warm. Did not do much but loaf this morning. We cannot start into the regular work of going away until papa comes tomorrow. Mama and I did a little shopping this afternoon. This evening Madge and her mother came and a little later Dick Lindsay. We went around for Gertrude Smith and Eph [P.] Kopley and then down town for cream. Afterwards went to one or two places to hear the phonograph.

Went out to the Catholic Protectory today.¹⁶ Had very little work at the office.

THURSDAY, JULY 30, 1891

Papa came earlier than we expected and we had to fly around getting ready for him. Was out with Madge all the afternoon. She feels rather bad at our going away. I wish she could go with us. Papa had company from dinner time steadily until bedtime—sometimes five or six being here at once. Harry Ashby came around to see me tonight. He heard somewhere that we intended to start east tomorrow and he came to see what it meant.

It rained very hard this afternoon and I had the pleasure of tramping around through a good deal of it to get some interviews about ocean mail contracts. In the evening I reported a Salvation Army wedding where the ceremony was performed by Mrs. Ballington Booth.¹⁷ Also found Charley Randolph at the *Times* office.

FRIDAY, JULY 31, 1891

Been rather busy all day. There are so very many small things to do before going away that take time. This afternoon went down town with Madge and Mabel and had not been gone more

15. *New York Tribune*, July 29, 1891, p. 7.

16. *Ibid.*, July 30, 1891, p. 4.

17. *Ibid.*, July 31, 1891, p. 5.

than fifteen minutes when it began to storm and we were drenched through. Julia and Tom Pounds spent the evening with us.

I think this has been the most beautiful day I ever saw in July. It was as clear as could be—something unusual for New York—and was as balmy as spring. This evening I visited with Billy Rowles and on my way home stopped at the hotel and wrote a letter to Florence. Sweet girl, I would give anything to see her. I am glad this is the last of July. When August is over I will begin to see the end.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 1891

We are interrupted so much we hardly have one minute to ourselves. We have done an immense amount of work towards going away today & are all tired. Madge, Mabel & Mr. Lindsay all called this afternoon & Madge said Harry was coming this evening & wanted her to come down. Seymour Davis came in the evening, then Harry & finally Al [Albert T.] Evans & Mr. Lindsay and Mabel & her mother so we had quite a party. We went downtown & started for Oakland but did not go clear out & in fact did a good many things. Madge is staying all night with me.

This has been rather an uneventful day—had very little work to do. I would give almost anything if I could see Florence. I do hope they will conclude to come east and stop in New York.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 1891

Am so tired tonight I can hardly hold up my head. Madge did not go home this morning until late and afterwards I did an immense amount of work. At two o'clock went out to Johnson's to dinner. The girls had Al Evans, Mr. Lindsay & Harry Ashby there also. Clarence [S.] Bowman & Ed [Edward] McBride came out in the afternoon to take our pictures. Hope they will be good. Madge & Mabel brought me home this evening & we went down to the jail to see a man [Wesley Davis] brought in who tried to kill his wife & himself. He did not succeed but was brought up to the jail.¹⁸ Must stop & go to bed or I will drop to sleep while writing.

Today I went to hear Rev. Dr. [D. Brainerd] Ray [of the First Presbyterian Church of Topeka] preach at the Fourth Ave. Presbyterian Church. He was quite surprised to see me. Worked at the office afternoon and evening.

18. The jail was a short distance from the Crawford home.

MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 1891

Have not had one minute to ourselves since we arose this morning. I only wish I had counted the people who have been here today. Had an invitation to a subscription party which May Wasson & Lu [Lulu C.] Brewer are getting up. Madge came in about four o'clock & stayed to supper. This evening we rode quite a while with Billy, then Holly Flower & Charlie Dick came. A little later Harry Ashby, then Mr. Connelly & finally Mr. Lindsay. Tom Pounds was here to see me a while also. Mamma had company in the house & papa on one end of the porch. Mr. Lindsay invited the whole crowd of young folks to go & get cream, so first he went for Gertie Smith and then we went for the Jones girls & Miss Johnson & we had a good deal of fun. We start east tomorrow.

Was on night duty again and was sent to report a meeting of the Italian Republican Club.¹⁹ It was a very hard outfit and met over a saloon.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 1891

Am on the train between Kan. City & Chicago & oh so sleepy. Had a hard time leaving home & would not have gotten away at all had not Mrs. Nellis, Mrs. [W. W.] Curdy & Madge all joined in to assist us. Grandma [Mrs. Enoch Chase] made an awful fuss about our going & made Mamma nearly sick. It is awful for one person to cause another so much unhappiness. Quite a crowd came to the train with me. Gertie Smith brought Madge, Mr. Lindsay & me down & there was a crowd waiting at the depot. Bur Lakin & Daisy are on the train. Have been with us ever since we started. Geo. also brought in a young man, a Mr. Taylor & he stayed quite a while with us. So far it has been pleasant.

I am getting impatient for the time when I will see Florence. I hope they will come this week. Every hour will seem like a day until she comes.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 1891

We have a stop of five minutes here at a little town. I don't know the name, so I will improve the time by writing. We reached Chicago this morning at nine o'clock & Bur & Daisy Lakin, Mr. Taylor, Geo. & I immediately deserted papa & mamma & went to the lake. There we engaged a sailboat & for an hour & a half had a delightful sail. We went directly out on the lake between four & five miles. Afterwards coming back we went to one or two other places & finally met the folks at the Palmer House for dinner. At

19. *New York Tribune*, August 4, 1891, p. 2.

three o'clock we parted company with the others & started on our journey again. I am awfully tired but am so glad that I will see Arthur again tomorrow.

This evening I was sent up to interview Secretary [of the State Board of Agriculture] Martin Mohler of Kansas who is at the Grand Central hotel. He was much surprised to see me as a *Tribune* reporter. He gave me enough to make about two columns but I had to put it in about 20 lines.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 1891

Florence and Mr. and Mrs. Crawford and George came this evening. How happy I was to see them. Seven weeks since I had been with Florence. Sweeter and lovelier than ever. What a happy meeting after our long separation.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 1891

This morning Florence and myself went to the Statue of Liberty. In the evening, with Mrs. Crawford, we took in some of the bad streets and then rode up Fifth Avenue.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 1891

I have been very neglectful of this journal the last day or two, but will try to catch up tonight. We are on the "Pilgrim" one of the finest boats running between New York & Fall river. It is perfectly lovely, this boat. I don't know how long &—well perfect in every description. There's a brass band on the boat & sitting on deck watching the water in the moonlight & hearing the band near us it is hard to realize it is real & not some one of the beautiful pictures one sees so often. Well it is true & so is the fact that I am once more separated from Arthur. Thursday was a hard & disagreeable day. We had breakfast at Buffalo early in the morning & then instead of our train starting at the proper time, it waited an hour & a half for a G. A. R. crowd who were to go on with us. That put me in a bad temper to begin with & the day was hot and dusty—so none of us were able to rest much, tired as we were. We did not reach N. Y. until a quarter to ten & Arthur was waiting at the depot for us. Friday morning Arthur came before we had finished breakfast & we, papa, mamma, Arthur & I, started out to go to Wall street. Geo. went to New Haven with a box of bedding. We went to the stock exchange which was wonderfully interesting to me who had never seen the like before, then we separated & Arthur & I went through Castle Garden & the place they now land immigrants, & then took a boat & went over to the Statue of the

Goddess of Liberty. It was great & we climed [sic] clear up to the top of it. We did not get back until nearly three, had dinner & then Arthur, Mamma & I started out to paint the town again. We went through the "World" building, through the Italian quarters, on the Brooklyn bridge & then climbed on top of a sort of coach & went out Fifth Av. way beyond Central Park. It was a delightful ride & took us until nine o'clock. We then went back, had supper & Arthur spent the evening with me. This morning—Saturday—Arthur did not come as early as he promised but as soon as he appeared he, Geo. & I went on the boat to Cony [sic] Island. It is a perfect fair but not what I expected. Afterwards we had to come directly to this boat. Carrie Korony [a cousin of Mrs. Crawford's] was here with Mamma but I did not see much of her. Oh how I hated to see Arthur go again. Every time it is a little harder. I don't believe he knows how hard it was for me to say good-by. My hope now is in his promise to come & spend a week with me soon.

Today Florence, George, and myself went down to Coney Island and then at 5:30 they started on the boat for Nantucket. It seems like they had been here only a few hours and how I dreaded to leave Florence. The separation from her is my only misfortune. If I could be with her I would be supremely happy. Without her it is terrible.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 1891

Were awakened by a man knocking on the door at half past four and we hurried up, not knowing how soon our train left. We had breakfast & then had to wait until 7:35 as the trains run an hour later on Sunday. While waiting saw what looked like an accident across on the shore. We decided a train had run over a man & killed him. Every one on our boat thought so. At 7:35 we took the cars & were an hour coming to New Bedford. Here we stepped from the cars right on another steamboat & started for Nantucket. The trip takes four hours & it being Sunday there was an awfully large crowd on board. Mr. Furman & his brother [W. S.] of Topeka got on at a small station to go to Martha's Vineyard for a few hours. At half past one we reached here & found Mr. Willard waiting at the wharf. He had engaged rooms for us & brought us to Ocean house at once. The town is overrun with people. I am disappointed in it—but perhaps will feel better when we are settled a little bit.

Today I was to go down to Coney Island with Cliff Holbert and Talmadge Hand, but could not get away and in the evening went up to see Mr. Mohler.

MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 1891

This journal is getting to look worse and worse as I proceed. Only a few more pages, if I continue the way I am going now, and no one will be able to read it. I am supremely indifferent to that—as no one but Arthur is to read it but I am not particularly anxious to have him see such disgraceful looking pages as these. This morning I did not open my eyes until eight o'clock and as I retired before nine last night, I had eleven full hours of sleep. Directly after breakfast Mr. [Albert H.?] Horton invited Geo. and me to join himself, his sister and a friend, a young man, and go across to Coatue, another point of the island where there is a great deal of bathing. We went in a little boat used for that purpose. The three men went in bathing, as did a number of others, but Mrs. Beecher and I looked on. There is a toboggan slide into the water which is amusing to watch. After dinner I tried to write a letter but was too sleepy to gave it up and slept for two solid hours. It is awful I am a second Rip Van Winkle, I want to sleep all the time. Met a girl [Edith Snow], a daughter of Prof. [Francis H.] Snow of Lawrence this evening. She knows Paul Hudson, Joe Shellabarger and in fact all the boys who attended the University from Topeka. She is with Mr. and Mrs. Horton. I have been out today to see this quaint old town. The houses are all so old fashioned they look as if they were built two hundred years ago. It must be a desolate place in winter, cut off as it is from the mainland. In bad weather the boats do not attempt to run across and since Mr. & Mrs. Willard have been coming here, a storm has kept the steamer from coming for five days, and in that time they had no mail nor any communication with anyone except those stranded on the island like themselves. They have a town crier here, a man who goes through the streets ringing a bell and calling out anything that happens. I have heard him today. It seems very odd.

Today I went with Cliff and Talmadge to see where the Immigrants land. In the afternoon we went up to the Pasteur Institute. In the evening we visited some of the vile streets with Billy Rowles and saw depravity that was awful. It was one of the hottest days I ever knew.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 1891

Slept late and afterwards wrote letters nearly all the morning. Papa was obliged to go to Wash. on the noon boat much to our disappointment. It is bad enough with him here but horrible without him. This afternoon I went out to a ball game with Mr. Horton & Edith Snow. Had a long talk with her, but don't know much about ball games. Played cards in the evening. The town interests me more and more in a historical way. I am going to get books written about the island and read all the legends I can find. They have an old Spanish bell which rings every hour, & at seven in the morning, twelve at noon & nine at night, after ringing the proper number of strokes, it rings for five minutes. There are a number of stories told about different things on this island & every new person you meet tells the same things until they grow rather tiresome. Another thing they show you are the little balconies on top of nearly all the old houses, built that the women might go up there & watch for the vessels in which their husbands were returning from sea. Poor women, their lot was not exactly a happy one.

I went up to Willetts Point today on the Government boat Chester A. Arthur to witness a test of the Sims-Edison torpedo.²⁰ We had a splendid time—a lunch on board—and the trip was a pleasant one.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 1891

Moved into the Nesbitt cottage this morning, & then went to the post office thinking of course I would get a letter from Arthur, but found nothing. I guess he has deserted me entirely. At ten o'clock a party of eight of us went in the train to Surf Side to see the ocean. The surf was very high & for an hour we watched it. I never tire of looking at the ocean. I think we will like the cottage ever so much. Read a cheap novel all the afternoon and a little after five o'clock went down to see the ocean for there was a bad fog. So heavy it looked like mist & it was most peculiar to look over the water. I never saw the ocean in a fog before.

Went on the Schnorer Club excursion today to South Norwalk, Conn. There were about 500 Dutchmen on board, and about 100 kegs of beer. It was about the most hilarious crowd I ever struck. Their capacity for beer and sandwiches seemed to be unlimited. When we reached South Norwalk we had a clam bake, which was tiptop. We arrived home about 8 o'clock, and in the evening I was sent to Brooklyn to look up the barge disaster where 13 people were killed. I tramped all over Brooklyn until about 2 o'clock in the morning.²¹

20. *Ibid.*, August 12, 1891, p. 2.

21. *Ibid.*, August 13, 1891, pp. 1, 4.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 1891

Truly this is a most wonderful city. Mamma and I learn new & exceedingly entertaining things every day. This morning after walking around a while we took a carriage & started out to see the town. We had for a driver an old man who was born here & who was once, before the town lost its importance, quite well off. We did not have any trouble in starting him to talking. There are some really beautiful cottages here in Nantucket, but they are mostly away from the main part of the town. We visited an old grist mill, kept only as a curiosity now, & went to the top. I do not see how they ever made it serve its purpose, it is so crude & rough in every respect. Then we went into the fire station. The engine they use has been on the island over fifty years. We asked if they used horses with it and our driver said, "Yes, if a horse happened to be handy. If not—men pulled it." Afterwards Mamma & I went down to see the boat come in. It seems to me to be the only thing that connects us with the rest of the world. After dinner Mrs. Karns asked us all to go to 'Sconset [Siasconset] for a trip so we went. Ten of us were in the party, mostly old married people. The train is one which has the power of running off the track on every occasion and it takes an hour to get to Sconset, seven miles away. Still it pays after you get there. The houses are all *very* old, & now nearly all turned into cottages for summer visitors. Only thirteen families stay there during the winter. A number of the cottages have the figure heads taken off ships & put on the top, & are in fact just as the fishermen left them. We went into one house called "Martin's box" & a funny little place it was. I spent this evening writing letters until I am heartily sick of writing.

This evening went way up into Harlem to investigate a complaint against a hospital but did not get anything.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 1891

Have been more quiet than usual today. Started to go to Coatue on the little steamer this morning & after waiting a while found it had been attached for debt and not allowed to run. A good many were disappointed. Finding we could not go then we went into several of the little curiosity stores and at noon went to watch the boat come in. Wrote several letters this afternoon but did not go any where and intend going to bed early tonight.

Went to Manhattan Beach this evening to report Gilmore's annual jubilee.²² It was great too. Did not get home until after midnight.

22. *Ibid.*, August 15, 1891, p. 7.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 1891

I don't know what is the matter with Arthur, he is getting so careless about writing. I intended to write tonight as is my custom, but will wait until I get a letter. This morning a party of us went to Wauwinet, seven miles away in a sail boat. It was awfully rough, and we were thoroughly wet through by the time we reached home. It has rained all the afternoon & evening. Played cards a while this evening.

Had a letter from Florence for which I had been looking so anxiously. Don't know what I would do if I did not hear from her regularly. This afternoon I went to the Italian fruit venders festival.²³ Nobody but Italians were there.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 1891

We looked forward with a good deal of dread to Sunday fearing it would be a long dull day, but it has passed very pleasantly to me. I happened to think last night just as I was going to sleep that perhaps there might be a letter from Arthur at the Ocean House, so while the others were dressing this morning I went there and sure enough found one. That made me happy the whole day. We spent the morning reading and writing letters and this afternoon went over to Mr. Willard's. After supper May Karns, Francis Matterson, Geo., Mamma and I called on the Hortons as with the exception of Mrs. Horton they are all to leave early Tuesday morning. Mamma happened to mention that I am wild to go bluefishing & Mr. Horton could not get over it. He regrets so much he did not know before so he could have gotten up a party for me. He kept bringing it up. I wish he had known too. We made quite a long call on them, then Miss Matterson & I walked over to Sea Cliff Inn to get her mail. It is a beautiful place where the hotel stands & the night is perfect.

Went down to Coney Island to write up the crowds and the Gilmore Jubilee.²⁴ Such a wonderful crowd I never saw before. There is certainly no place in the world like Coney Island on a Sunday afternoon. While at Manhattan Beach I accidentally saw Frank Sparks of Garnett. I did not know him but he knew me.

MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 1891

Rather warm for Nantucket. Mr. Willard came for me & we went out to find a spinning wheel directly after breakfast. We were successful in getting an old one & I had it boxed up and sent

23. *Ibid.*, August 16, 1891, p. 8.

24. *Ibid.*, August 17, 1891, p. 2.

to Kan. Afterwards Mamma & I went to the Cliffs the most popular bathing beach here & watched the bathers. We were quiet all the afternoon but May Karns, Francis Matterson, Geo. & I had an early supper & then went to Sconset to an entertainment given by Miss Furniss & some friends for the benefit of the base ball club. We went in a three seated carriage & the ride was the strangest I ever took. The fog was so dense we could not see two feet away & the dew so heavy it ran down our faces like rain. . . . It seemed as if we were on top of a very high mountain above the clouds. We did not reach home until near midnight.

This evening Cliff Holbert, Talmadge Hand and myself went to Tony Pastor's theatre. Some time during the day I lost my key and had to stay all night with Cliff at the hotel.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 1891

Wrote a long letter to Arthur this morning. It seems as if the next three weeks would *never* go. I am all the time planning-planning. Arthur & I will do this—and—Arthur & I will do that when he comes. As usual went to see the boat come in. It is the main feature of the day. Read a novel & worked fancy work all afternoon. This evening one or two of us took a long walk. Saw the ship owners houses, fine old places nearly all of them & went through several streets I have not seen before.

Went over to Jersey City today to meet President [Benjamin] Harrison's train enroute to Vermont.²⁵ Saw the president, Elijah Halford [his public relations man] and a number of other prominent men. [Among them were: Assistant General Passenger Agent George W. Boyd, Russell Harrison, E. F. Tibbett, John A. Sleicher, editor, *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Weekly*, General Superintendent C. W. Bradley of the West Shore Railroad, and Train-master Fessenden.] Wrote up a half column for the *Tribune* about it.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 1891

The time is going rapidly and the people are going rapidly also. A large crowd left from the Nesbitt cottage today, among them the Karns, for which we were very sorry. This morning Mamma, Miss Willis and I sailed over to the bathing beach in the "Dauntless." It takes half an hour to go each way & is a lovely sail. Miss Willis amuses me. She is a—well—maiden lady, with the most remarkable hair. They say she is very smart & teaches three different languages at some school in Mass. & I imagine her learning is pushed on the top of her head until it has made her hair stand

25. *Ibid.*, August 19, 1891, p. 2.

upright. I am thankful I don't know much. Spent the afternoon as usual doing nothing but reading & sewing. There is another young lady here who amuses me. I don't know what I would do without those two. Her name is Kilburn & she lives at Rutland, Vt. She guys the other one awfully. This evening we offered to get the mail for the house & had to be a regular mail carrier, taking a number of letters to the office & getting letters & papers to bring back. We are going, a few of us, to Wauwinet tomorrow & Miss Willis is coming out in a yachting costume with a white yachting hat and the rest of us expect to be startled.

Attended the laying of the corner stone of the *Mail and Express* building today and wrote up three quarters of a column for the *Tribune*.²⁸ In the evening I saw Sam Gardenhire, Bill Rowles, Cliff Holbert and Talmadge Hand.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 1891

Went to Wauwinet again this morning. It was a delightful sail & I am getting as red as an indian. Expected a letter from Arthur this evening but did not get it. I have been very good, unusually good for me, about writing to my friends & now I intend to quit, for they are perfectly horrid about writing to me. Francis Matterson & I went to the Sea Cliff Inn & to the Ocean House for mail & not a letter for either of us. We have turned into post mistresses for the cottage.

A letter from Florence always cheers me up. The one that came tonight was gladly welcomed for I had been feeling rather lonesome blue all day. I don't know what I should do without Florence's letters.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 1891

At ten o'clock we, Mama, Florence Nightingale & her sister, [Mamie] Miss Kilburn & I went over to the Cliffs in the sailboat. It was awfully rough especially on our return & several times the boat tipped until I thought the water would certainly come over the side. It splashed & wet us pretty thoroughly. Mamma was not altogether delighted. I intended to stay at home this afternoon & work on the tie I am making but someone proposed going to Surfside as the wind was from the South west & very strong, & they insisted on my going until I gave in & went. It was worth the trip. This evening I came up to my room soon after supper & stayed here, it is so hard to have one minute to myself I made up

28. *Ibid.*, August 20, 1891, p. 4.

my mind I would just run away & come up here before anyone could stop me.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 1891

Was so very disagreeable this morning no one cared to go out on the water so the two Nightingale girls & I walked up to the old mill. We spent nearly the whole morning there, for there were two men there who were very anxious to start it going & we wanted to be there if they did. The owner refused to let them touch it though. Have been quiet all the afternoon & played cards all the evening.

The big disaster in Park Place occurred today and I was sent with a number of other reporters to write it up.²⁷ [This disaster was an explosion, followed by fire, to the five-story buildings at 68, 70, 72, and 74 Park Place.] It was a terrible scene. The mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers hunting for the missing ones was a sad sight.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 1891

Awfully warm. Miss Willis & Mama, Florence Nightingale & her sister & I went to church this morning to hear a minister from Brooklyn, N. Y. It is a queer old church like everything else on the island. After church Miss Kilburn & her brother & Mr. Percy of Boston invited us to go to Coatui for a sail, so we went, we three girls & Geo. We first went to Coatui where part of the party went in bathing then went six miles straight out into the ocean for a sail. The ocean was very calm but we had a delightful sail. We did not get back until after five and had had no dinner, so Mr. Nesbitt taking pity on our starving condition gave us some blue berry pie & some ice cream & we sat on the grass & ate it. Had a fearful storm in the night.

This was the saddest Sunday's work that I ever knew. I was sent around to some of the homes of the missing ones and found many a good old mother and father crazed with grief. Two weeks from tonight I expect to start to see Florence. What a happy day that will be.

MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 1891

The storm we had last night was one that even Kan. need not be ashamed of. Two or three places on the Island were struck by lightning & one clap of thunder shook the house. In the midst

27. *Ibid.*, August 23, 1891, pp. 1, 4. The Park Place disaster was extensively reported through the remainder of the month.

of this fearful din a bell commenced ringing & in a few moments another joined in & a man ran through the streets crying "fire, fire." Then a whistle began to blow & with the thunder, rain and these bells it was awful. I was scared. Not only our family but every one in the house was up, & with the exception of ourselves, every one was dressed. They say if more than one house should get on fire there is great danger of the whole town going & from the noise we imagined we were all in danger. At last Geo. went out & came back disgusted. The fire was a deserted barn between here & Surfside & two or three miles away. They kept the bells ringing a solid hour. I hope they won't have any more fires while I am here. This morning Mr. Kilburn & his sister & Mr. Percy expected to go on the early boat but yesterday that boat went off on an excursion & on account of the fog it had not returned, so they were obliged to stay here until noon. They invited us to go bathing & seven of us started from the house, Mama & Miss Willis to follow later. On our way to the boat we stopped at a billiard hall and had a game of pool. Being interested in our game at ten o'clock, the time the boat for the bathing beach leaves, we sent Miss Kilburn on ahead to hold the boat until we had finished our game, and she succeeded in doing so, another instance of the good nature of these people. We had a lovely time in the water, my first experience & I really learned to float. We did not get back but just in time to catch the boat they were to leave on, so we saw them off. Were lazy all afternoon and played cards this evening.

Am still working on the Park Place disaster. This evening 35 bodies had been taken out.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 1891

Another day gone. Nearly the first of Sept. We are on the go all the time, trying to do as much as possible before the Nightingale girls go home, which is next Thursday. Directly after breakfast this morning we three girls & Geo. went over & played pool again. I will not say who comes out ahead, not from modesty however, but we enjoyed the game. Then we, with Mama & Miss Willis went to the beach where we went in bathing. The water was colder than yesterday & much to my sorrow I find I have forgotten how to float. I can't imagine what made me forget. We came home in the "Dauntless" & Mama & Miss Willis, of course, were frightened, for the steamer came in right behind us, & we were all around her before she reached her landing. The Capt. kept saying we need

not be frightened for we had right of way. But that did not console Mama & Miss Willis much, nor to tell the truth did it me, for if the "Nantucket" choose [sic] to ignore the right of way business, I don't think the penalty would have helped us much. At two o'clock the same party of us went to Sconset in a carriage. We went all around the town & through the "Pantice" again & saw some lovely and valuable china, then went to Sankaty Light, two miles further on & went up into it. The light, the glass alone rather, cost sixteen thousand dollars, & every morning they have to clean it & it takes them between four and six hours. We returned at six o'clock & as usual passed a quiet evening.

Spent the afternoon and evening at the ruins of the Park Place Building and saw them pulling out the distorted corpses of those who perished in the wreck.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1891

We intended going in bathing again but have been going so much lately we were all completely tired out so decided to keep quiet for one day. In the morning we stayed on the porch and read aloud, and ate popcorn, we three girls. This afternoon I wrote a sixteen page letter to Madge and this evening we played cards. Miss Willis and the Nightingale girls are to leave on the early morning boat and I am awfully sorry to have them go. Mamie Nightingale wants me to visit her at her home in Quincy, Mass. and Miss Willis who is a teacher in a young ladies' college, she teaches three languages there, intends to write a book to be called "Nantucket Scraps" and she says I will have a prominent place in her book, that she has not kept quiet when I teased her for nothing and she will get even with me in that way. I know I have gayed her fearfully we girls simply could not help it, and I feel a little bit sorry now, for I sincerely like her.

Was at the Church st. police station all afternoon and saw some of the most miserable specimens of humanity that exist in this city. It was rather an interesting day's work [with friends of the missing and dead identifying personal property].

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 1891

Have been on the go a little too much lately I guess, for I am hardly able to hold up my head today and have not much to write about this evening as I was not outside my room from half past this morning until half past five this evening. This afternoon I received

a large envelope with three letters from Madge, Mabel and Harry Ashby, all very entertaining. Had a letter from Julia Pounds also, so am not down on the mail as much as usual. Intend going to bed early tonight and see if I can't feel a little better tomorrow.

Am still working on the Park Place disaster [where at least 61 persons lost their lives] and am getting very tired of it.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 1891

I have still felt the bad effects of yesterday all day. Went in some of the stores with Mamma this morning but was so warm we soon came home where we stayed quiet all day.

Tonight I was sent up to report a labor meeting but found it was secret. Two other reporters and myself had to wait until 11 o'clock and so we sat down in a beer saloon and played cards all evening.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29, 1891

There was a sudden change in the night & it is delightfully cool today. Went to Surf Side this morning, as there has been a hard storm at sea & there was a heavy surf. Billy Clark was around calling it out at seven o'clock this morning. This afternoon went to Wauwinet with Mrs. Horton and some friends visiting her. We were two hours coming back and it was so rough I put on a slicker or rather "oiler" as they call it here. It was one intended for men & with a shawl over my hat & this long yellow coat I must have have been a lovely sight.

Florence sent me a handsome four-in-hand tie which she made herself. What a darling girl she is. Tonight I went to see De-Wolf Hopper with Will Byrne.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 1891

The worst, by far the worst day there has been since we came, three weeks ago today. It has been blowing a regular gale and raining in torrents. Soon after breakfast Mama and I went down to Hayden's bathhouse. It is at the edge, or rather over, the water & we could then see how very bad it was. The boats anchored out there rocked as if they would turn over any minute and even up in this, usually, quiet harbor the waves were covered with white caps. Everyone was doubtful if the steamer would attempt to come over, but it did come although very late. Wrote letters all the afternoon, to Arthur, Madge and a note to Miss Kilburn to thank her for getting my ribbon for me. Went to bed at nine o'clock and slept all night. I believe I sleep altogether too much for health.

Have been trying all evening to write a letter to the *Capital*. Got up something but its horrible.²⁸

MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 1891

Still windy but not so bad as yesterday. Mrs. Tullock, Mama & I went down to look at the water in the harbor. Quite a number were down there for the same purpose. Nearly every boat down there was being pumped out & one little sailboat had sunk. From there we went to the billiard parlor to watch the boys bowl, and then took in the town generally. A heavy fog came up this afternoon & then it began to mist. Wrote a long letter to Marie Robertson & after I had finished it discovered I had left her European address in Topeka. Mrs. Allen and her three daughters of Wash. D. C. called on us all this afternoon. Her husband is paymaster in the Navy & they are stationed at Wash. at present. Mrs. Tullock & her son Harry and we folks have this cottage all to ourselves & we rather like it. It is a lovely cottage, and as there is no one else here, we can make all the noise we please, and sometimes we please, to make a good deal of noise. I am just waiting, very impatiently, until next Monday, and if Arthur goes back on his promise I will be awfully, dreadfully disappointed.

Have started in this week to do the work of Steve Whittaker as secretary for the city editor. It keeps me in the office all the time, and I don't like it very well.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1891

Not very pleasant. Stayed in the house most of the morning reading "Guy Mannering." In the afternoon Miss Allen and I took a long walk together. She is very pleasant. She knows how to play the madolin and is going to show me something about it. We folks in this cottage played cards all this evening.

Got a nice letter today from Mrs. Hudson and also one from Governor [Lyman Underwood] Humphrey, and best of all a good letter from Florence dearer to me than all others.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1891

Stayed at home most of the morning and read. Mamma and Mrs. Tulloch were out walking until nearly noon. In the afternoon we went to call on the Allens.

Had to write to Florence today that I could not come next Sunday. I know she will be disappointed but it don't seem as if it was possible for me to get away.

28. *Topeka Daily Capital*, September 6, 1891, p. 3. This article reported the contrast between the opulence of the Vanderbilt mansion, visited July 21, and the destitute family on Rivington street, visited July 24, as if they were seen during a single day.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1891

The Tullochs, Dora & Mary Allen and we folks went on the early boat this morning to Martha's Vineyard, reaching there at nine o'clock. After walking around the streets awhile we took the train for Katamer, a hotel where they give clambakes. They were closing the hotel for the year & at first refused to give us any dinner, but we persisted until they finally did so. We had two hours then and played cards & bowled, & in fact took entire possession of the hotel. After going back to Cottage City we had some tintypes taken. I was surprised at this town, it is so much more beautiful than I imagined it would be. It is well named for it is a city of cottages. When we reached home I found a letter from Arthur saying he could not come until a week later than he had promised. That used me up completely. The way I feel tonight a week seems a year and I think that editor might have taken another time to go off on a trip.

Tonight I sat out in front of a man's house from 8 o'clock until 12 o'clock trying to catch him and then he didn't come. He was a New York broker whose partner had committed suicide.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1891

Well, another day has passed and I suppose I will soon be looking forward to Arthur's coming again. At present it seems as if I was repeating the days of last week, ten days before I see him, nine days etc. Well, it isn't his fault and I hope they are not working him too hard. The three Wilder girls and their brother of Boston called this morning. They are nice people, full of fun, and we played cards & croquet. This afternoon the crowd of us went to the skating rink and played tennis. As the rink is also used for dancing it was not funny to run after the ball. The Wilders wanted me to go to their house and play cards this evening but I declined and stayed home to write letters.

Tonight I helped Mr. Rhoades make out the payroll. It is interesting to see how the salaries of reporters varies.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1891

I am afraid tomorrow is going to be like all the Sundays since we came, stormy and disagreeable. It is cloudy tonight and blowing hard. This morning I went with the Wilder girls and Geo. & Harry over to the Cliffs & in bathing. The water was awfully cold so we could only stay in a few minutes. I think it is almost too late in the season to be pleasant for surf bathing now. This after-

noon we girls went to the billiard hall & played pool. As we none of us knew hardly anything about it, it took nearly the whole afternoon to play one game. Afterwards we went down to look at the *Verbena*, the steamer the *Century* has made famous in connection with the South Shoal Lightship, which is here to carry fresh men off to the Lightship. It is a funny little craft with a black side wheel & looks different from the other steamers.

Such a long dreary monotonous day—raining nearly all the time.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1891

Have done nothing all day but read. Mamma & Mrs. Tulloch have both been having hay-fever & have consequently been in a most amiable frame of mind, [because it] has been raining all the afternoon and evening.

Tonight I expected to be on the way to Nantucket. I want to see Florence so bad. I must wait another week and I know that week will seem like a year.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1891

Has been a dreadful day, worse even than a week ago Sunday. Stayed in the house all the morning & afternoon but this evening Geo. & I went over to the Wilder's cottage & played cards & ate candy. They have a very pretty cottage & the loveliest [*sic*] fireplace. Had a very nice time. Had it not been for that horrid old editor Arthur would have been here tonight. Well, perhaps a week from now when he is here, I will be glad he postponed coming, but I have not quite reached that point yet.

Went to a Republican meeting tonight but the meeting didn't pan out.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1891

Pleasant but cool. Went this morning to see Roberta Allen and was with her until noon. They have a delightful yard, the shade being furnished by large pear trees, & with a hammock apiece, we had a very nice time. This evening Geo. & I went to see the boat come in. The Cattle Show begins tomorrow & there was an immense crowd came in, some very rough looking characters among them. The wind is whistling in a way that makes me doubt our having fair weather tomorrow & all is arranged for a blue fishing party to go to the "rips" and spend the day fishing.

Spent a pleasant evening with Springer of the *World*. But how the time is dragging along. I can hardly wait until I see that dear girl.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1891

Stayed at home all the morning. The Wilders came for me to go in bathing but as it was about 60 in the sun I declined with thanks. In the evening Geo. and I again went down to see the boat come in, for that is about the most fun we can have.

Was up to Billy Rowles tonight. He starts out next week with Clara Morris and then my best friend in New York will have left me. I am sure I will get lonesome if I don't see an old friend occasionally.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1891

We have had a busy day today. Right after breakfast Geo. and I went to the post office and found the brass band here from New Bedford for the county fair, stationed out in front and preparing to serenade the town. David Wilder joined us and we stayed right by them until they had finished playing, then we all went up to Wilders. They have one of the most attractive cottages I have seen, and the view from the porch, overlooking the water, is charming. After a while we all went to the rink to see the fancy work, vegetables etc. This building is between two and three miles from the fairgrounds, where the races take place, and after going through I must say we all regretted we had not thrown the money we spent together and hired a sailboat instead. In the afternoon we all, the same crowd, went to the races and saw the worst racing it has ever been my fate to witness. The track is about half the width it should be and all overgrown with short, what we call buffalo grass at home. This track they mow down when preparing for the fair. The horses were all broken down track horses or else horses used about town, and the betting must have gone up as high as a quarter. I will never forget my experience at the county fair at Nantucket, Mass.

Such a lonesome day I haven't had for a long time. Away up in the top story of the *Tribune* office is a lonesome place.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1891

Soon after breakfast the Wilders came for us to go and play pool & billiards & we were over there until noon. I find I have improved a little, a very little, in pool. They invited us to go out sailing this afternoon, and we went ten of us, in the "Dauntless." We went several miles out into the ocean & it was lovely. Two of the girls were sick but I felt perfectly well. This evening Geo. & I went up to the Wilders and played cards.

I am getting so anxious to see Florence I can hardly wait for Sunday.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1891

The Wilders are the worst family I ever saw. They are not contented to be still a moment, and what is more they are not contented for us to be still a moment. Soon after breakfast they came for us to go and play pool. George had gone to the jetty to bathe so I went over to the billiard hall with them. I do like to play pool and we girls are certainly improving and sometimes, not often, hit what we aim for. I wish papa would buy a billiard and pool table combined, and we could put it in the yard or on the roof. Anywhere just so we have one. But to continue—In the afternoon the whole crowd came up and we played cards on the porch. I know Mrs. Tulloch hates to have us do that, although she never says anything, but one unlucky day, for her, she proposed our doing it, and we took up her suggestion with enthusiasm. Then when they, the Wilders, started home they proposed we should come over and spend the evening. Mrs. Tulloch and Mamma included. The two women accepted for the crowd and then when evening came backed out and made George and me go and say "their hayfever was so bad they were afraid to go out in the night air." Miss Allen came over this morning while I was playing pool to call. Am sorry I missed her, for they go on the boat Monday, and I may not have another good chance to see her.

Found Governor Crawford at the Gilsey House today. [We start for Nantucket tomorrow evening.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1891

Five weeks ago today since we arrived here and tomorrow I will see my dear father, and—my dearest Arthur, provided there isn't a storm bad enough to stop the boat from crossing. Oh! I hope it will be pleasant. I think I have been patient enough through this separation to have a little good luck now. Those two, papa and Arthur, are on the Fall River steamer now. They are sitting on the deck, papa with his feet on the railing, smoking and doing all the talking, Arthur listening, quiet but taking it all in. "Still water runs deep." I have not much to write about tonight. This afternoon I called at the Allens, for they go tomorrow, then Mama, Mrs. Tulloch and I called at the Wilders. They go on the early boat Tuesday and I will hardly see them again. This evening Mrs. Allen and Bertie called on us. People here in Nantucket

are anything but formal and it is perfectly proper to return a call on the same day it is made, and that day Sunday.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1891

Was raining when we awoke and we were rather provoked as the folks were coming at noon. About eleven however, it cleared up and we were able to go to the wharf. The boat was half an hour late but they were on board. This afternoon Arthur and I went to the Mill and then to an outlook on Orange Street. In the evening we went to the Nantucket House and looked at the ocean.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1891

Loafed around all the morning as George was to leave on the noon boat for Boston. We hated to see him go although he was delighted to leave this old town. This afternoon Arthur and I took the train and went to Surf Side. There was not much of a surf. Walked down to see the Gay Head come in this evening & afterwards went up to the Cliffs just for the walk.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1891

Have been pretty constantly on the go today. We four with Mrs. Tullock were out sailing all the morning. Went in the "Dauntless" with Capt. Burdette. This afternoon we five went over to Sconset and Sankarty in a wagon, were gone all the afternoon. The days are going altogether too fast now Arthur is here. I grudge each minute as it passes by, wish it was an hour long, but only a day or two now and things will be running the old way, Arthur in New York and I in New Haven, Boston or some place away from him. Well I must make the best of the short time I have with him.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1891

This morning Arthur and I went to the Cliffs, then past "Field's Folly" home, quite a long walk, & with the heat not altogether a pleasant one. Papa left on the noon boat for Washington. They cannot leave him quiet for a moment. I wish he would not tell when he goes away where he intends to go. This evening Arthur, Mamma and I went to the Atheneum to hear a cheap company play "Count of Monte Cristo." It was not the finest acting I ever saw but we managed to stay out four acts until it began to rain.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1891

My last day in "old Nantucket town" and I am both glad and sorry that I am to leave tomorrow noon. Glad because I have never liked this place and never will & have only stayed because—I had to. Sorry because this really ends Arthur's visit with me and Sunday we leave him again in N. Y. and it will be the same old story, only this is going to be the longest separation of any, two months & a half. Oh, I am having a good chance to practice the patience Mama is always preaching to me.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1891

On board the steamer "Plymouth" between Fall River and New York. We left Nantucket at noon today Arthur, Mamma and I on the "Gay Head" and had a delightful trip across to New Bedford. Waited there an hour, then took the train for Fall River and from there this steamer. It is much lovelier [*sic*] even than the one we came on, and the night is perfect. Arthur is rather "cranky." I cannot get a word out of him but excepting that, our trip is perfectly delightful.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1891

This has been a busy day and I am about as tired as I can possibly be and stand on my feet. We reached here, New York, at nine o'clock this morning and came immediately to the Gilsey House. Arthur and I then started and walked on Fifth Avenue to Central Park, a long walk, but there was so much to see. I did not realize how far it was. We went inside a Jewish synagogue, an elegant place, a lovely little Catholic Church, a Presbyterian church and into that loveliest [*sic*] of all lovely churches, St. Patrick's Cathedral. It is the finest & largest church in America, Arthur told me, and I can easily believe it. Although it was early, only ten o'clock, the church was crowded, even to the standing room, and as we stood at the back the priest & his assistants looked small, so far away were they. Arthur was obliged to go to the office at half past eleven so we did not stay in the park very long. Mama & I in the afternoon started out to see Carrie Korony. She lives on 99th St. & it is almost a days journey. Carrie is in Boston but Mr. Korony was at home and treated us royally. Ted Winward was there with him. We stayed to dinner & then Mr. Korony took us to Central Park to hear the Cappa band which plays there every Sunday afternoon. The

place was crowded and it was a picture. In the evening Arthur and I went to Madison Sq. Garden to hear a concert. Such a place I never attended before. There is no need to describe it as no one but Arthur and I will ever see this book (which is lucky for the others but rather hard on Arthur) & he is so much more familiar with it all and so much better able to describe it. The concert could not possibly have been finer and—but I will let up.

Returned today from Nantucket with Florence and Mrs. Crawford. What a delightful week it was. The trip is about as lovely as could possibly be imagined and then what a queer old place is Nantucket. And one week with Florence—days seemed like hours, and hours like minutes. I know I shall be the loneliest fellow in town when she goes. Tonight we went to the [Anton] Seidl Concert.²⁹

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1891

New Haven. I doubt if I can possibly keep my eyes open long enough to write a little in this book. Mama & I reached here at two o'clock this afternoon & found Geo. not at the station, so we took a carriage & came up her to the New Haven House. It is a sort of head quarters for the freshmen & their parents & we had a hard time getting a room. As Geo. did not appear we hired a coupé & started out to take in the sights. I am surprised at the beauty of this old town. We drove through street after street in which the trees were so large & arched so the branches mingled together above us. The houses, too—many of them, are beautiful & nearly all surrounded by large grounds all as smooth as velvet and generally rolling. On returning to the hotel we found Geo. & Burt Ryan, his roommate, waiting us. They had met six trains & ours was the only one they missed. We walked through the college grounds, went into several of the buildings & then the boys invited themselves to supper with us. They say they know a good thing when they see it & as they have been "feeding" at a lunch counter they intend to take their meals with us as long as we are here. They regretted they missed meeting us as they intended making some of the freshmen who came on our train carry our satchels for us. The streets are alive with the "men" tonight out hunting freshmen & hazing them. I am sorry for the poor freshmen, they look rather sober.

Today I went on a shopping tour with Florence and Mrs. Crawford. They left at noon for New Haven. To part with Florence for two months was heart breaking. I know it will

²⁹. An article in the *New York Tribune*, September 20, 1891, reported the program for the concert.

seem like an age. For months I have loved Florence truly and earnestly but never so intensely as now. Not a day in the past week that I have not found something in her to love and admire. She's my ideal of a pure and noble girl.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1891

This is really one of the prettiest cities I have ever visited. I have been over it all pretty thoroughly now and have not seen a really shabby house once. This morning Burt & Geo. hired a carriage & couple of fast horses & we went out to a high bluff, East Rock. The road out there is lovely & the view from the top splendid. Went over to the boys rooms this afternoon. They are very nice and will be furnished in good style. Have watched the poor freshmen trying to dodge the Sophs this evening.

Was sent up to Altman's today to write up some imported dresses and what a time of it I had.⁵⁰ The idea of sending a reporter from the rural west to describe rich and elegant dresses from Paris. I know I have made perfect frights out of them.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1891

Dear old Boston, it is very very pleasant indeed to get here once more. Everything looks so natural. We left New Haven this noon and reached here at half past four. After leaving our traps at the Crawford House we started for East Cambridge. On arriving there we found the house all torn up and all the Burton family gone to Summerville [Somerville] to their new home. Emma and her family are still at the old place but expect to take the last of the furniture away tomorrow morning. Minnie Winward was there and to my mind is a very pretty girl, although Geo. thinks otherwise. He says Belle is much prettier and if so I would like to see her for she must be lovely. She has stopped school & is stenographer in some office over here in Boston.

Started this morning to Gettysburg with the Tammany regiment.⁵¹ Had a magnificent ride through the finest country in Pennsylvania. Went through Philadelphia then out to Harrisburg, where we stopped for dinner and on down through the Cumberland, which is certainly one of the loveliest valleys in the world. Reached Gettysburg late this evening.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1891

Another busy day. I must say I am about ready to quit going around the country for a month or two. This morning we went to

50. *Ibid.*, September 23, 1891, p. 12. The story began: "The novelties in Parisian gowns, hats, wraps and capes opened this week by B. Altman & Co., . . . comprise the finest line of imported goods ever shown by this firm."

51. *Ibid.*, September 23, 1891, p. 11; September 24, 1891.

Hardy's photograph gallery for me to sit for my picture. I had five sittings and spent nearly the entire morning there. Went out to Somerville to see the Burton's this afternoon. We went on the train and were gone until after six o'clock. Carrie and Lizzie are both at home now to help their people move. Saw Lizzie's baby for the first time. It is just as sweet and pretty as it can be. I have not heard from Arthur yet. His letter is having to travel all over the country to find me and I only hope it won't be lost.

Today I visited the Gettysburg Battlefield and stood on the spot where one time blood flowed almost like water.³² It will certainly always be regarded as one of the world's greatest battles. On the way back we were pulled by the fastest engines on the Pennsylvania railroad and came through a flying. When I got home there were two letters from Florence telling me that she had not heard a word from me.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1891

I believe if Mama and I don't stop running around and settle down some place soon, we will both be sick, for we are absolutely worn out with our constant tramping. This morning we went through the large stores & were gone all the morning, this afternoon went to Jamaica Plain to see Mrs. Evans & Martha. Martha is out of town but her mother took us through Franklin Park. I tried to write a letter to Arthur tonight but it is a disgrace to send it. I don't care, I am tired and sleepy and my—& Arthur will make allowances for the mixed up letter—I know.

Jim Hyden came to the office to see me today. He has come to New York to work. I have been all over the city today hunting up ministers to interview on the [Prof. Charles A.] Briggs question. Among those I called on was [the Rev.] Dr. [John] Hall, who said he wanted peace and did not wish to be interviewed.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1891

I mailed that letter to Arthur this morning scolding him for not writing to me and a little later received two letters from him, one forwarded from New Haven to East Cambridge and from there to Somerville, the other sent to the hotel, and I must confess I felt a little ashamed of myself then. Mama and I went out to Somerville this morning and stayed quite a while with the folks. This afternoon we went to the "Old Homestead" Denman Thompson, & it is without exception the finest thing I ever saw. There is one scene of Broad-

32. *Ibid.*, September 25, 1891, p. 7. The newspaper story showed a picture of the monument and told of 90 surviving members of the regiment, the 300 members of the Tammany society, and several hundred visitors from the vicinity who witnessed the ceremony.

way in New York with Grace Church, with the light showing through the painted windows. Then the organ inside commences to play & a choir sings and it is the most realistic scene I ever saw, and the loveliest [sic]. Mamma and I compared it with our last attendance of the theater, at Nantucket, and laughed. While we were gone Belle Winward called and also Mamie Nightingale. We were awfully sorry to miss seeing them. We start for Washington tomorrow evening. I don't know what we will do without the music which plays under our windows every night. Tonight it is a brass band, last night was a piano organ part of the time and then a harp and violin always a change in the program. It is something awful to listen to tonight.

Went out to the French Hebrew celebration today and in the evening went up to Harlem to a Republican Club and a Yacht Club meeting.³³

33. *Ibid.*, September 27, 1891, p. 8.

(The Journals Will Be Concluded in the Summer, 1964, Issue.)