

(Transcribed and Typed by Pat Glenie. Spelling and punctuation is not mine).

April 1985.

THE DIARY OF
CHARLOTTE A BESLEY
1st January 1887

Bleak Hive,
Port Augusta.

Saturday 1st January 1887.

Wishing you a very bright prosperous and happy Year. The day dawned very pleasantly but afterwards became extremely warm. We all drove to church about ten and met a number of people returning who told us that the priest had been called away two hundred miles and that we would not have service either today or tomorrow. It is rather sad to begin the New Year so, but it cannot be helped. We then drove home and adjourned to the drawing room where we read our Mass prayers, Papa, the boys and I reading aloud alternately. Then after dinner Charley Hancorne came up and read a lecture on the Music of Ireland to us and I am sorry to say that Papa and I fell asleep but only for a few minutes. It was so hot and we were lounging so comfortably. About four o'clock the children and I packed a hamper while the boys got the buggys ready and we drove down to Port Patterson and boiled the kettle and had tea on the beach, after which Papa set the children racing for small moneys and we bigger ones walked down to a boat and sat and talked a while. Then returned home as we had come out. Jim driving some of the children and I in a buggy with one horse and Papa behind in his own big tilted one and a pair of horses. We sang the whole way home regardless of dust which kept coming in our mouths, and took our hats off the better to enjoy the cool air. The sky is very starry now and the moon is just crescent or horned. Charley Hancorne rode Kimberley all by himself. Mr. Haining came up in the evening, and Uncle Field arrived by the Ten Train, so I gave him his supper and retired to Blanket Street, Bedfordshire.

Sunday 2nd January 1887.

Still Warm. Mamma drove to her church at Eleven, and we all with Uncle Field read our Mass prayers from the "Crown of Jesus" same as yesterday. During the afternoon Jim drove all the children out and Charley Hancorne and I went for a walk round part of Cudmore's Hill and home to tea. When it got quite cool after tea Ma and boys walked down to our old house and back. Then we sat and talked under the verandah until suppertime. Mr. Bryant and Mr. Haining came up after church and remained with us until about eleven. Uncle has been telling us all about the large fire in Rundle Street on Xmas Eve. He saw it all. It seems as tho the Academy were fated to fire having been burned down three years running and this time it was said to be fireproof, only a trap door had been left open and the flames got in there. I began to read "The Chaplain of the Fleet" by Besant and Rice. I cannot read long this weather without going to sleep.

Monday 3rd January 1887

(Lovely morning but intensely hot day)
We were all up very early and left here for a picnic at Wilmington before seven. Charley in front driving Katie Donaldson, Mr. Haining and Jim, Papa driving Charley Hancorne. Arch and I in our buggy drove a little slower than the others although our horses Kimberley and Nectar were much better and then again we drove to Mrs. Latorffs farm and she showed us through her house and gave us some cake and sugar beer which was

beautifully cool and we enjoyed it. Then we drove to Mr. Fitzgeralds camp. He was away but Harry Cleveland unlocked his door and helped the boys to make tea and get lunch and they waited on us and had it not been so hot we would have enjoyed it immensely. Very hot indeed returning and we reached home about seven in the evening. Then after a wash all had tea and sat out under the verandah and talked.

Tuesday 4th January 1887.

Pleasant day. I keep forgetting that I want to keep this margin for weather only.

Uncle Field left here by yesterdays train for Teetulpa gold-fields which are his present headquarters. The boys are very busy at the Banks just now and especially today as it is the 4th of the month. Mamma took little Clare into Port this afternoon and had two of her teeth drawn. She behaved so bravely and did not cry or scream, but stood between the chemists legs while he drew them out without a murmur, only turned deathly white, so Ma gave her some money with which she bought four dolls, one for Livy, and one for Rosie Donaldson, and two for herself. She is such a good and kind child it would be impossible not to love her. I stayed at house all day and made myself a black under-skirt with steels in it, and in the evening read a little while. A duststorm rose in the evening. What a pity it is we cannot have the least wind without sand too. received a photo and note from Donny McDonald from the N. Territory. Papa also got Mr. Reginald Verdon's photographs and a letter from him. I have received 24 cards this season and some are handpainted some with German verses and all are very pretty indeed. I sent several dozen away. It is quite a task choosing and sending Xmas and New Year Cards.

Wednesday 5th January 1887.

Hotter than ever today. It is most trying. Last evening Jim had been burning rubbish in the back yard and had not quite put the fire out, so during the night it caught the partition fence between the garden and yard and burned about a yard of it when fortunately our black boy Jimmy saw it and put it out else I feel sure we would have been burned out for it was so windy. Sewing most of the day and I generally water the garden in the evening. I like hosing the beds. Then in the evening I did some mending while Jim read aloud to us. He reads very badly tho for his size. I'm afraid his heart is not in his lessons at all and he thinks of little else than horses. Papa washed some more Teetulpa dirt and got 2 grains of gold out of it. He wanted to show Jim the process of washing dirt for gold.

Thursday 6th January 1887.

Extremely hot all day and evening. Busy working all the morning and sewing in the afternoon. About four o'clock I walked down to Hainings only resting a few minutes at Stubb'ses on the way for it was so dreadfully hot walking. Mrs. Haining is in Town and her baby has been so very ill, tho it is out of danger now but very weak still. Poor Millie Anderson has had a rather trying time of it as head nurse and housekeeper. I stayed until about ten and then walked home alone in the

moonlight. Millie showed me all her photographs and Xmas cards and a number of other things, and then we sat on the balcony and talked a long time. It was much better than inside. Charley Hancorne was here when I got home. He had been here most of the evening with Mamma and the boys and was just going down for me when I came in. I pretended that I was angry with him for a little while but did not keep it up for long. I often have fun all to myself like that with him and I know he thinks I'm bad tempered and all the time it is only jesting, and when I think he does not see it of course I sham crossness all the more and he calls me Scotty. Very often when trying to look back I can hardly keep from laughing.

Friday 7th January 1887.

Hot winds as well as heat today. I finished making my red Turkey Twill morning gown. It is a nice loose cool thing. It is most trying to work in this heat for one has so little energy left to do anything. This country should never have *been* taken from the Blacks, that is the Far North, for it only fit for them to live in. Marked a lot of things for Jim. He has to get a new rig-out each time he comes home, but I suppose most boys are alike and lose their collars, cuffs handkerchiefs etc. Mr. Fitzgerald came here about eight o'clock. He had then driven up from Limestone Well and after he had tea he read aloud some political news to Ma and I. He is great on Home Rule for Ireland and feels sure they will get it, and Gladstone carry the day.

Saturday 8th January 1887.

Very very very hot all day and night. I ironed my white dress and made a white vest for my shot silk. Last evening we had some mosquitoes which sang all night and kept trying to get under the net. It was so terribly hot that I could hear Papa and the boys walking about upstairs all night. They, or I think anyone else could not sleep. Of course I had no ride today as I usually do on a Saturday. I thought a habit much too thick to put on. Ada and Arch went for a ride after tea and I down to Mrs. Smiths. Mr. Morgan was there and the Smiths, he and I sat on chairs outside on the cooch grass all the evening, but before I went from my room while just coming up the stairs we had a shock of earthquake and the stairs shook dreadfully and the whole house and all the things were ratteling, even the iron on the roof was clattering and I was groping my way up the stairs in the dark having myself just put the lights out, to keep the house cool as every one else was outside. It cracked the wall in the children's rooms and a picture, fan etc tumbled down in mine. It frightened me terribly and when I got outside and heard Papa say it was an earthquake, I then began to pray and cry. It is the first shock any of us except Papa have ever felt and I do hope it will be the last, our children were taking Rosie Donaldson home and when they felt it they too blessed themselves and began to pray and little Rosie to scream and begged them to teach her a prayer which they did of course. Mr. Fitzgerald and Charley Hancorne then drove up to Wilmington starting about ten at night but it is beautifully bright and moonlight altho intensely hot. The earthquake was about ten

minutes past eight in the evening. One does feel small and helpless when a thing like that happens and there is nothing one can do except pray. Mr. Smith told me when he returned by the Ten train that he had felt it at Quorn and all the people ran out of the Hotel there.

Sunday 9th January 1887.

Frightfully hot

During the night Ada killed a scorpion in her room. We all drove to Mass at eight o'clock. A boy fainted and Livy and I had to go out of church. The heat and kneeling always makes me feel sick and faint. No doubt it effects most people the same. When I came home I went to bed until eleven, then got up and read all the afternoon and finished the "Chaplain of the Fleet" by Besant and Rice. It is rather an interesting book tho I do not like much for out of twelve there are only two characters I really admire and those are Lord Chudley and Miss Pumpernell. Nancy is a nice little thing but too sarcastic and Kitty Rydell I do not care for, Dr. Shovel has many noble qualities even tho he leads such a wicked life. Mr. Fitz and Charley returned about tea time from Wilmington. Some of us drove to Vespers and Charley and I walked home, the others driving. The thermometer was one hundred in our dining room at dinner today and one hundred and twelve in the kitchen.

Monday 10th January 1887.

A cool wind but still very close indeed)

Our rooms downstairs are much the coolest place now, so last evening I gave my room up to Papa and Mamma and had a mattress on the floor in the children's room but we kept getting up for we could not sleep in the heat, and I trod on a scorpion which was about a foot from my pillow. It felt like a piece of wire at first but as we had a candle alight I quickly got a boot and killed it. I then went up to Mamma's room and tossed about the remainder of the night. Today the children and I turned out our rooms and I washed my floor, it being covered with oil cloth as Mary Ann was busy helping the woman wash. My back did ache so when I had finished for it is a big room, and I took up the carpets and moved the beds and furniture only with the help of the little ones. Wrote letters in the evening. Mr. Fitzgerald is still here, he is a great tease, but I do like to hear him talk on Home Rule. Politics is his hobby. Our black boy tracked a lizzard, a Cadney, in our paddock to its nest and found 14 eggs. They are covered with a cream hard skin instead of shell and are the size of a canary's *egg*. The children were pleased with them as they have a small collection of birds eggs.

Tuesday 11th January 1887.

Cool day, such a treat.

I began teaching the children again their English lessons and sums etc etc in the morning and their drawing in the afternoon and tomorrow will be German in the afternoon every alternate day. After school Ada and I walked into the Port and did a little shopping for Mamma, and then to the institute and changed my book and had a look at all the illustrated papers. Then to Papa's Office and we drove home with Charley and Arch. Maude and Artie

Haining were here spending the afternoon with the children and stayed until seven o'clock. Their mother was to return by tonight's train. Ada and Arch went for a ride after tea. Charley Hancorne rode up in the evening and spent the evening with us. Mr. Fitzgerald left just after tea. Ma slept in my room for it was so hot in hers.

Wednesday 12th January 1887.

Mr and Miss Forward called yesterday afternoon and invited the boys and I to go to their house and play Tennis on Saturday afternoon. After school I began to make a new print, dress for myself. I cut out the skirt and made part of it most of it. The boys and Charley Hancorne were boxing with the gloves on part of the evening and the rest we spent in music and singing. I felt rather disappointed this evening for I was to have had a ride after tea, it is the only pleasant time for going out at this time of the year. I began to read "Kith and Kin" by Rhoda Broughton, but can't tell whether I will like it or not yet. So far, I am disappointed in it for I have so often heard it praised. The flies were so bad that we put up flypapers in our room downstairs to try and exterminate some if not all of them.

Thursday 13th January 1887.

Hot still until evening a cool wind and dust, dust all night and today. I did a lot of mending after school and then some of my dress I am making. Ada Grundy came up to ask me to go to Mrs. Smith's to dinner at six and to stay with them all night as Mr. Smith has gone to Wilmington and will not return until tomorrow and they are all so timid so of course I went. We sat out under their verandah most of the evening talking. Mr. Morgan was there also. Then went inside and Mr. Morgan read the "Days of Ancient Rome" to us until eleven, when he went and we returned to rest. Papa and Ma went to the Hainings to tea and spent the evening. We had a dust storm and a cool wind came about five and it lasted all evening. Oh! I forgot - Mr. Morgan bought in a large box containing all his photographs and showed us some very nice looking people, and some French Beauties.

Friday 14th January 1887.

Very pleasant day except for the dust which makes everything feel gritty. I came home about eleven and had school there until three. Mr. Wilson called and then Papa drove him up to Donaldsons and back into Port. He is the landlord of our house and Papa has either bought this place now, or has taken it for a term of years. I'm very glad for now we will have it all done up and made more comfortable. A dust storm arose as usual in the afternoon. About seven Charley Hancorne and I went for a ride round by the racecourse. It was unpleasantly dusty until we got out about a mile then it was lovely. We came home and Charley stayed about an hour. Then we had supper and retired. I have been reading for a few minutes in bed of late but did not this evening for I felt most dreadfully tired and my head and eyes ached from the dust. I often wonder that the sand does not give me sore eyes but somehow it doesn't.

Saturday 15th January 1887.

Delightful day and such a treat. Quite cold in the evening. Rather a pleasant day. Had school as usual on Saturday morning. Rosey came over and began her lessons with our children. teach her whenever she comes because she is so backward and I do not like to see her so. Mrs. Donaldson wanted to pay me but I would not hear of it for I do not want their money. After dinner Papa drove Ma, Arch and I into the Port, the former to his Office, Ma to go and see someone and Arch and I to play tennis at the Forwards. Katie Donaldson and her father were there, Miss Maud Robertson and Mr. Bryant. We played all the afternoon in relays. It is a clay court with the lines marked with white-wash and would be splendid only that it is not quite hard enough, yet they water it too. Then some had tea whilst others played and they went in when it became too dark to see the balls. We all adjourned to the drawing room after tea, and there played New Market and had some music and singing. Mr. Forward plays the violin very nicely and she has a very good voice, I mean Mrs. Forward. Arch walked half way home with me and I ran the rest as it was so very late nearly twelve when I got home and I knew Papa would feel angered as he did. Arch has to sleep at the bank so I would not let him come all the way up and Donnys had not left or else I would have driven with them but would not wait any longer. Our children gave me such a pretty pearl card case today. It is a present from them all girls I mean. If the weather were often as pleasant as today I should not mind playing tennis, but generally it is too hot altogether to go racing about unnecessarily for I never feel overburdened with energy in Summer.

Sunday 16th January 1887.

A little warm.

All drove to Mass, some to Eight and some to eleven, Father O'Donnel had no sermon in the morning but a very good one in the evening. Charley Hancorne and I walked, the others drove, and he came in the choir with me for the first time. We read and talked all the afternoon. Mrs. Bryant was here when we returned from Vespers. Mr. Rogan lent me a book to read this evening. It is a religious work. Wrote to Miss Dodd. Charley Hancorne got a nasty tumble off Kimberley while going home from here on Friday evening. He bucked when he was not quite on him and was thrown on his back against the zinc fence, but not very much hurt. Mr. Cox is still playing in Church as Mrs. Murphy is not yet back from town.

Monday 17th January 1887.

Getting warmer.

Ma and Jim have been doing a lot of painting. They have done the flower stand and pots all green. I began to teach Ada music and I intend to give her a lesson every Monday and Thursday, and Genie on Tuesday and Friday now instead of Mrs. Murphy for they are not improving at all with her tuition. I intend to give Livy a lesson every Wednesday morning and Ada will teach her other days. Mamma and I intended to go into the Port with Katie but she did not come down and it was too hot to walk. Mrs. Smith

sent up to ask me there to dinner and spend the evening there. So I went. Mr. Bevan, Wigley and Morgan were there for a little while. We drove into the Port as Mr. Smith wanted to get the letters and papers and *see* a Client. Then they drove me home. Katie had been here all the evening.

Tuesday 18th January 1887.

Beautifully cool but so dusty.

Papa gave me such a pretty gold ring this morning set with six pearls in it and he gave Mamma one also. I found Genie very backward at music today much worse than I expected. Mamma and Ada drove into the Port in the afternoon. I stayed at home all day. In the evening Charley, Arch, Charley Hancorne and I all went up to Donaldson's and spent the evening. The Forwards, Millie Anderson and Mr. Bryant were there. We played Proverbs and dumb charades. They gave us more to rhyme with tore but our side did not guess it as it was wrong and should have been a verb to rhyme with another verb to rhyme with another verb. We gave them capitulate to rhyme with perambulate and they did not get ours either but the acting the words one thinks it is is great fun.

Wednesday 19th January 1887.

A perfect day.

In the afternoon I drove into the Port with Katie. We did a little shopping, then to the institute to change my book. Then we called to see Mrs. Markham. She and the Doctor and Becky are going to England in March for a pleasure trip. Then to Mrs. Gordens, she has such dear little children, nicely behaved and so obedient to their mother, altho such little mites. Received a letter from Aunt Potter and she says Adey, Bob and children are in town again. They come down from the Murray pretty often. Jim drove Mamma and all the children out to Stocktons garden and got a case of fruit. Ma invited Miss Stockton to come in on Friday and stay with us. Jim is to drive out for her. After tea I went over and sat with Mr. Drummond for an hour. The poor old man is very ill having had a severe fall while at his work in the New Town Hall and his spine is impaired. He is a carpenter and lives with his aged wife in a very neat little cottage opposite our house. They are such a nice old couple and such good Catholics too. Finished reading my book and began another.

Thursday 20th January 1887.

After school I took some fruit over to Mr. Drummond and read to him for an hour. While I was there Dr. Markham called to see him and injected some morphia to deaden the pain. The boys Papa and some men carried him up to the hospital on a stretcher this evening, the shaking of a buggy being too much for him and his poor old wife cannot do everything for him altho she is so active and attentive for so old a woman. After tea I went for a ride with Charley Hancorne out the Stirling Road and round by the racecourse. Then we came home and all sat talking in the dining room and went to bed earlier than usual.

Friday 21st January 1887.

Quite warm again.

Jim drove out and brought Miss Stockton here in the morning. In the afternoon I finished my print dress and put it on for the evening. I received a letter from Sissie Howe and a photograph from Nancy Dodd. Very good of her. Katie and her father came over and the three Miss Forwards and we had music singing and cards, some danced a little out on the verandah where it was quite light and cool. Miss Stockton and I sang some duets, our voices blend very well together. She is a very pretty girl being beautifully fair and seems very nice too. There is a long comet visible but very faint. We saw it on its first appearance last evening while out riding. It does not remain long each evening though.

Saturday 22nd January 1887.

Very hot all day until late in the evening.

Felt very ill and could not finish teaching the children their morning lessons. My usual monthly enemy and if often makes me very ill indeed and then it was so terribly hot too. The Forwards invited us all there to play tennis this afternoon but only Charley and Arch went. Charley Hancorne came up for a ride but it is no pleasure to go out until after sundown so we all went into the drawing room and had music and singing principally Mamie Stockton singing to us. She knows several comic songs and they greatly amuse the boys. I like her very much now and I think we will be friends. After tea Mamie and Jim and I walked into the Port and did a little shopping and walked home again eating gingerbread nearly all the way. It was delightfully cool in the evening and such a strong south wind and I felt alright then. Then we had supper and went to bed. Jim is such a tease and he and Mamie have such sparring matches. Mrs. Donaldson Miss Hood and Mrs. Reynolds returned by this evenings train from Adelaide. They have all had a nice holiday. Father Burke the author of "Faith and Fatherland" a book I have been reading or rather had read to me was a schoolmate of Dean Nevius and also a Jesuit Father and created a stir both in Catholic and Protestant circles by his profound learnings, lectures in America and his writings. He I believe is still alive. It must have indeed been a good college to send forth to the world such men as Dean Nevius such a thorough gentleman and saint on earth if ever there is one alive at the present day.

Sunday 23rd January 1887.

Very hot again until evening.

Mamie and I did not get up early in fact not until nearly nine. Then I drove Papa and the others to eleven o'clock Mass. We have a lot of new pipes on the top of the organ at church but oh! it is so hot up in the gallery this weather. Charley Hancorne drove home to dinner and then he read to Papa and I for a couple of hours lectures on the music of Ireland and The Popes Thira past, present and future. He is the only person who wears three circles of gold in his crown and no monarch or Queen wears more than one or two. Then we went to the hospital and I took some illustrated papers and talked to Mr. Drummond and a trooper who had sore eyes up there. Then tea and all walked to Vespers and

home again. Talked a while then retired to our rooms where Mamie and I undressed and sat on our beds talking until two o'clock. Quite shocking to keep such hours gossiping.

Monday 24th January 1887.

Lovely day.

Up early tho this morning for I had to be so as Ada's music lesson would be over before breakfast. Mr. Fife tuned the dining room piano in the morning. In the afternoon Jim drove Ma, Mamie Stockton, some of the children and I out to Stirling and took Mamie home and got two cases of fruit. It really is a lovely fruit garden and Captain Stockton is very reasonable in the price too. We were home in time for tea then Ma went over to see Mrs. Donaldson and the boys and I spent a quiet evening reading each separate books. I finished mine by Maud Jeanne Frane or Mrs. Evans and did not like it either if her other books are like that I certainly do not think much of her as an authoress although she is a South Australian.

Tuesday 25th January 1887.

Fine day.

Mamma, Papa, Livy and Clare drove to Melrose this morning. They will have a lovely drive as the day is so fine. They took some old lady up with them whose name I cannot remember. In the afternoon I walked up to the hospital and took Mr. Drummond and a trooper who is ill up there a basket of fruit and read to them for an hour. They are very comfortable up there. The Dean said Mass in a room at the hospital this morning. In the evening Charley Hancorne came up and our Charley played the piano in the dining room, while Ada Genie and I darned stockings and all sang together. Anyone listening must have thought we were a noisy lot. There is a good deal of talk now about a war pending and the boys are rather anxious that it should take place, they say they would like the excitement but I say "Pax" for me.

Wednesday 26th January 1887.

Again fine.

Genie went up to the hospital and read to Mr. Drummond after school. I stayed at home all day and evening. Ada and I had a game of tennis after tea in the yard. Genie, Charley and Arch went to Donaldsons and spent the evening. About nine Charley Hancorne rode up and poor old boy had a tumble just near here. Kimberley tripped over a heap of stones but he was not hurt. Then we had a catechism lesson and he went home. I saw an account in the Dispatch where a Frenchman had been saved by some kind friend sewing a medal in his trousers belt, and the bullet struck this and then glanced off and so did not hurt him. It was a duel. I have often heard of many marvellous escapes through the intercession of Mary and through wearing medals Scapholers Agnes Dis etc.

Thursday 27th January 1887.

Beautiful day so fine and bright.

After school I read most of the afternoon. Rosey does not come down to say her lessons with the children now. I don't know why. But it is of no consequence. Charley and Arch went to spend the evening with the Hainings. They had the Donnys and a new Dr. and some others there. Papa and Mamma returned from Melrose about eight o'clock. They have had a very pleasant trip and seem to have enjoyed Livy and Clare did immensely. We girls are so very glad to have them home again. It does not seem like home at all without Papa and Mamma and they are two such darlings, so much better than any other parents I have ever seen or ever shall.

Friday 28th January 1887.

Cool but windy and dusty.

We saw such a funny sight today; Mr. Coventry put his black and white bullock into single harness and drove it past here with all the harness collar up side down and drove it in a dray. The bakers and some other horses have hats on top. I have never seen them before. Either the ears come through them and they appear to be very sensible and comfortable things on hot days. Mama drove into Port after dinner making some calls on different people. I finished reading my book and rather liked it. We are busy preparing Jim's clothes for College again. He is to return poor old boy, on Monday. We always miss him after the holidays greatly at first. Mr. Stubbs has gone away somewhere and Arch has a fresh Manager today for two months. Practised in the dining room most of the evening. The boys and Ma were reading and the children doing their lessons as usual. Katie came over and Charley went home with her.

Saturday 29th January 1887.

Beautiful weather except for the sand and wind.

Dr. and Mrs. Markham and Becky are to leave for Europe Tuesday next for a visit of 14 months. It will be a charming trip and I wish we were all going. I should not like it unless we could all go and then indeed it would be "joy in the house of Besley". Papa brought up some cases of peaches he had bought. We do get through such a quantity of fruit here and it is scarce too but so wholesome and suitable for the summer. Gave Livy her music lesson too. I will give her two a week instead of one so that now will take up every morning but Sunday. We were all invited to Donaldsons to play tennis and spend the evening. The children went up for an hour only in the afternoon and played tennis with Rosie, she has a lovely set for children. I went for a ride with Charley Hancorne from half past two until four and then came home had tea and went to Donnys to spend the evening. Our Charley was the only one from here who had gone up to play tennis. We came home together about eleven. They had Captain De Steiger, the Hainings, Forwards and Bryants there but was so dusty that all even the gentlemen wore gossamers while playing to keep the sand out of their eyes and was horribly windy. I certainly do not like playing tennis under the difficulties we have to contend with here, for there is not one

lawn in the whole Port, but the beack certainly is very nice but then it is so far to take the things down and then again sometimes the tide is up too high. Dr. and Mrs. Markham called to say goodbye. They will go to England France Ireland and America and I am to write to Mrs. Markham to London.

Sunday 30th January 1887.

Pleasant day.

All went to Mass, some at eight and eleven. We had a sermon from Father Doyle. At eleven Mamma went to church. Charley Hancorne drove home with us to dinner and spent the day. We walked to the Hospital in the afternoon and saw Mr. Drummond and all the other patients. There have been three deaths up there this week and one this morning. There are patients too in the female ward which there has not been for some time. We met Sister Lawrence and another sister there and drove part of the way home with them when the shaft broke and some of the harness, and they and we walked to our different homes. Then tea and Vespers. Mamma and Mary Ann are making enquiries everywhere for a servant as ours, will be going to Adelaide tomorrow, but we cannot get one. They are very scarce now. Charley Hancorne gave me two songs on Saturday "Excelesior" and "The Young Brigade". Katie and Rosey were over yesterday.

Monday 31st January 1887.

Lovely day.

Up so early this morning Jim and Mary Ann went off to town by the six train. They both wept at parting. Mary has been with us nearly six years so of course the children are attached to her and she to them. I do hope we will get a good girl to replace her but I'm afraid we will have to wait some time before we are suited. Comet still visible but very faint. Having no servant we were all working hard all day doing all kinds of things. The washerwoman could not hang out the clothes for she was so long over it. Papa, Ma and I drove into the Port. Ma to look for a servant and Papa and I to Doctor Markhams farewell address. He was presented with two addresses, one on satin, the other on parchment by the Mayor Mr. Drysdale, and he, Mr. Young, Mr. Mellor Mr. Gordon, Papa, Mr. Barker, Ashworth and others all spoke in his favour. I went to Mrs. Markhams and said good-bye.

Tuesday 1st February 1887.

Up at five this morning so as to get Papa's breakfast for him as he went away by the six train up north. Then with school and housework we were kept very busy all day long. Did some mending in the evening. About eight Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald came here quite unexpectedly, so we got them supper and I gave them my room and took Mary Anns for myself. I dont know how long they will remain here. There is really nothing to write about for it has only been work all day long. This evening we had a slight storm otherwise the day was perfect. Mrs. Fitzgerald is a short stout and very lively little Scotch woman. She had a grand voice. He is exactly the opposite being as he is very tall and dark and does not sing, but they seem very happy altho' she lives in Adelaide and has a lovely house, and he lives rather roughly at a place they call the Camp at Wilmington.

Wednesday 2nd February 1887.

Lovely weather.

At home all day after school ironing and mangling until tea time. mama and Mrs. Fitzgerald drove in the Port and back in the afternoon. Miss Hood and Charley Hancorne came up in the evening and we had a musical evening. Charley took eather and had his tooth extracted by Mr. Gladwin yesterday after suffering intense pain and a swelled face for the last fortnight. Mr. Fitzgerald received a telegram and had to drive off up to Wilmington very suddenly. Retired to bed at twelve. I am afraid these late hours are rather imperious but somehow we always keep them. Everything is fearfully dull here just now and in fact all over the Colony there is very great depression. I dont know what will become of the North if times do not get better.

Thursday 3rd February 1887.

Lovely weather. Happy is the bride the sun shines on.

Katie called and drove Mrs. Fitzgerald, little Clare Rosie and I down to ~~see~~ Arthur Smith and Millie Muir married in the Church of England but unfortunately we were rather late and did not see much of the ceremony but we saw them all go out. She was all in white with veil and wreath and a bouquet of orange blossom and the two bridesmaids were in white washing dresses with red velvet collars, cuff and belts, but it was by no means a pretty wedding. The church tho' was full of spectators weddings being such a novelt. This is the second one I have ever seen and the first in Port Augusta. I walked up and left Mrs. Fitz and Clare to drive up with Katies later on I could not spare the time as we have no servant. The sisters called and spent an hour. After tea Charley Hancorne and I rode over to the Extension to see a servant but were unsuccessful. Then came home and Mrs. Fitzgerald amused us all evening and made us laugh until we were tired. Ma engaged a girl to come on Saturday week as she cannot come before.

Friday 4th February 1887.

Again fine.

Ma and Ada drove into the Port in the morning. In the evening Mrs. Reynolds, Lucy and Mr. Al, the Donaldsons, and Mr. Askworth came up and we all played cards and then had music and singing until nearly twelve. Mrs. Fitzgerald altho' not very well sang excellantly and she had such a voice. Mr. Reynolds tells me they have had a most perfect floor put in the new Town Hall for dancing, some peculiar kind of boards and then all secret nailing that nailed at the side so that it ought indeed to be good. I have been housemaid all day today. Received a letter from Annie Ewens. All my time except the evening is quite taken up with school and housework now.

Saturday 5th February 1887.

Charming day.

After dinner Charley and Katie went for a ride, and Arch drove Mamma, Mrs. Fitzgerald and some of the children out to Sterling to Goodiers and Stocktons gardens. I stayed at home all day. Charley Hancorne came to take me for a ride but as all the horses were being used I could not go. In the evening Mrs. Fitz and I walked into the Port and back alone. The weather the last few days is perfectly delightful but I am afraid it is much too good to last. I should much like to know who and what Mrs. James Fitzgerald was before her marriage. It seems so funny that he has not told any of his relations or friends and they are of such exceedingly good family themselves. "Oh! I'll whisper to thee my diary. I think she has been an actress, quite my own surmise. I have never heard it and have no good grounds, but nevertheless I do think so, and also she is much too fond of self praise or blowing her own trumpet, talking scandal and vain to suit my taste and even Mamma says were it not for her husband she would not enter our house". Our blackboy is away too so the boys have had to clean their own boots and attend the horses, but he will soon return. As is usual everything comes at once. How horriably tired one gets of the word "I" and yet in a diary that records ones own actions only how often it has to be used.

Sunday 6th February 1887.

Hot.

Arch drove Mrs. Fitz and Ada to Wilmington after eight o'clock mass, so I had to walk to eleven. Charley Hancorne walked home with me and spent the day. It seemed so funny to come home and have to get dinner ready and then clear it all away and wash it up etc etc. The sergeant called and told us that Mrs. Montgomery's baby ten days old had just died and his wife has typhoid fever. He is one of the troopers here. Fevers are very prevalent just now. I felt too hot and tired to go to the hospital this afternoon. So Charley read, and I to sleep so Ma and our Charley read too. The children to Sunday School. After tea we walked to Vespers and home. Arch and Ada had returned about eight o'clock. It is charmingly moonlight just now. Papa is to return tomorrow evening from Hergott Springs. Warmish evening and night.

Monday 7th February 1887.

Hotter

Our washerwoman did not come today, so after waiting until nine for her Ma began it and with a little help from us girls did it all herself. I had to be cook and housemaid and we managed all the lessons too. It was eight o'clock in the evening before we were quite finished everything, then we had Papa's supper to get as he returned by the train. A lady from Hergott was bringing her only child down a child about 9 months old for medical advice and it died in the train. The poor mother was dreadfully cut up and Papa tried to comfort her and did all he could for her. She is the Bank Manager's wife at Hergott. Mr. Chewings and his bride elect were coming down here to be married in the same carriage. Ma received letters from Mary Ann and Jim - they have been having beautifully cool weather in town of late, quite different from here where we have been simply broiling. This has been such a very hot day.

Tuesday 8th February 1887.

Hottest,

School, work oh and a little extra in the way of mangling and ironing today left no spare moments altho' it has been extremely tropical. After tea Charley Hancorne rode up and then walked into the Library to get a book and back again. Very hot night so I gave my room up to Papa and Mamma and slept in Mary Ann's old room. The difference in atmosphere up and down stairs is very great. Wrote to Mamie Stockton and sent her a card, Agnes Die and meddle as tomorrow will be her Birthday. I saw by the paper today that Blanche Robertson had a daughter at Turretfield on the 26th of last month. They doubtless will all be very proud and pleased with it and also that an old friend of Papa's, a Mr. Edward Dutton has died at his place near Kingston, South-east. He was the eldest of the party who went overland to the diggings when they were all youths together, and now died at fifty four. One other of the same party became a soldier and was killed in the Crimean War - Uncle Tom and Ben and Papa were the others and now only Papa is left. After we had finished clearing tea up in the evening Mama and I walked down to Smiths and stayed there about an hour and then home and Mama Genie and Charley went to Donnys., I stayed at home and read for a while and went to bed early.

Wednesday 9th February 1887.

Steamy heat extremely tropical.

The mosquitoes were very troublesome all night singing and bighting until now we have not felt any altho' they have been so troublesome in the Port all summer. The strong wind here must be the cause no doubt. Answered Amey Ewens and Lilly Williams letters about servants. Now that we have one engaged we are hearing of them from all quarters. A few heat drops of rain fell made the ground steamy.

Thursday 10th February 1887.

Hot still.

Oh this heat is very wearing and exhausting for we get up in the morning without being sufficiently refreshed. Papa and Mama used my room and I the girls. Ma received a letter from Aunt Potter stating that Adey has another young son last Sunday. It is dark and all her other children are fair with red hair and this boy is black. Jim went to see them last Sunday. Mrs. Donaldson and Katie were down spending the evening with us. The former had been for a ride all alone. Charley Hancorne came up for a few minutes on horse back. The Smiths rode up and asked me to go out boating after tea with them but I could not accept. There was a moonlight picnic at Port Patterson this evening. Papa lent our buggy to Sergt. Richards and his and a number of other vehicles passed here in procession about seven. It was a dull moonlight night but doubtless they would all enjoy it as well as if it were bright.

Friday 11th February 1887.

Same.

The boys have taken to rowing again in the racing skiffs. Grand exercise for them and they seem to like it very well. There is to be some boating match soon. After we had all finished our work we lolled and laid about downstairs in the coolest place we could find and I read aloud to Ma for an hour from a book called "Tact, Push and Principle", it is an exceedingly nice little work. In the evening we could only sit out under the verandah and had all the lights out so as to keep the house dark and so try and get it cool. Such a close evening, not a breath of air. I wrote to Nancy Dodds.

Saturday 12th February 1887.

Intensely hot all day and night.

This being Charley's Birthday, as usual each one gave him something. In the afternoon he went down to the Butts and shot at a rifle match that he has been practising for for some time; but he said it was most trying to shoot in such great heat and the sun so great made it appear to dance about the target. mean he will not know the result until tomorrow for he came home directly his shooting was over, it not being tempting enough to stay and watch the others. We were greatly disappointed today when Ma received a letter from Lizzy Barry stating that she was sorry to disappoint us but that she had agreed to stay on at the Northern. Decidely cool after letting us wait a fortnight for her and when we could have got several others. Now we do not know of anyone at all for we counted so surely on her coming today. Arch drove his manager Mr. Lawrence out to Stocktons garden at Sterling. Ada Grundy came up this morning and asked

me to go out boating with them tonight so after tea I walked down to Smiths and drove into Port with them, and then went out in the boat. Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Scott Ada Grundy, Willie Scott and I. It was lovely on the water and we each had a turn at rowing under the most able director Mr. A.Scott. We were just rowing to the jetty to return home when we heard a great noise of gun powder going off, and looking on the West Side saw thick smoke and flames so we hasened across as quickly as the men could pull us and were the first people over from this Side and so saw the whole of the fire. It was a lovely sight tho' sad when one reflects the poor family have lost their all, home living and goods. It belonged to a Mr. Bryant and was a kind of boarding house and store combined and was all galvanised iron yet it burned as quickly as though it were wood. I never saw a fire before and really it was a beautiful and sad sight combined. We left about the first and rowed back. Then all went up to Mrs. Scott's room and the balcony at the Flinders Hotel and went on the very top. It was really beautiful. Then the Smiths drove me home about eleven.

Sunday 13th February 1887.

Hotter than ever.

Up so early and drove to Mass. All the children, Charley and I wanted to go to Confession. All being prepared but tho we were there before Mass were not in time to be heard. Had breakfast and helped to clear it up and then drove with Papa to eleven and Charley Hancorne drove hime to dinner with us. Frightfully hot and this is now the eight hot day we have had in succession and it is to trying having all our own work to do and yet have to go out too. It was almost stifling in the church. All went to Vespers in the evening. Father O'Donnell preached the sermon on the advisability of remembering death. Short and very interesting. Papa has not been feeling very well at all today. Charley and Arch talk of having a holiday to go and see the great City of Melbourne in a fortnights time and they would be away a fortnight together. It would be very nice and enjoyable for them and doubtless would do them a lot of good. I hope they will be able to go. Sang hymns and played on the dining room piano.

Monday 14th February 1887.

Oh joy, joy its cool today.

We live again for this has been a cool day and we were able to go about our work and feel it quite a pleasure. A washerwoman Ma had engaged disappointed us and did not come today so we had to postpone it until tomorrow and Ma went out in the afternoon to look for another woman and pay some calls. This is a fearful town for Independent domestics. Killed two large scorpions in the window recess in my room. Practiced an hour on the piano in the afternoon. It is the first time I have done so for ages. Wrote to Sissy Howe and to Marshalls for music Geraldine, Valse & Helene, both of which I think pretty. I heard today that the house and store were insured for two thousand some hundreds I mean the one that was burned down on Saturday evening. Papa still not feeling very well but did not stay home from his office. Black Bill has returned and is such a help to us. He is a nice intelligent boy far above the average. Somehow black men here are always called "boys" even tho they are old.

Tuesday 15th February 1887.

Same.

During the afternoon Mamma and I drove in the Port and did a little shopping, servant hunting and called on Dr. and Mrs. Burkett and they informed us they intend leaving the Port on Thursday as the heat does not agree with the doctor after the cool climate of Dublin, and he is very delicate. I am sorry they are going for they seem such nice people. A Dr. John Astles is to come up by tonights train. We have had a splendid new washerwoman today, Mrs. Reynolds and she washes so much cleaner than anyone we have had for sometime. After tea Charley Hancorne came up and he, Charley, Arch all the children, except little Clare went to the open air concert in the Church of England ground. It was not a success altho they had gone to a deal of trouble over it, for very few of the lanterns would keep alight it being so windy and dark. They should have postponed it until a warm moonlight evening lout needed a band outside for neither the piano, violin or singing could be well heard and Mr. Coventry gave a resitation which I am sure not a dozen heard.

Wednesday 16th February 1887.

Beautifully cool, this cool change is quite delightful and I do hope will continue some time. Mrs. Smith and Miss Grundy called in the afternoon while Ma and I were ironing. Our servant again disappointed us and did not come. It is a fearful shame that in independence leads them to do such things and to break through engagements so. Darning stockings and Charley Hancorne came up for a couple of hours and we had some singing. Papa returned by the ten oclock train and it was twelve before we went to bed. Arch and Charley spent the evening at the Hainings. Received a letter from Kitty Gooch. She is now staying with her Uncle at Golden Grove and seems to like it. She says it is so very pretty too and a lovely fruit garden all ripe.

Thursday 17th February 1887.

A slight shower of rain and still nice and cool. Dear old Papa had to go off again by this morning's train, he has such a lot of travelling to do in all weather. Little Clare said she would like to be a great musician some day and so in that case she cannot begin too young, and so I will give her a lesson everyday. The little dot is so pleased about it she kept running while Ada was having hers to know if I was ready yet and safe little Livy outside telling her she would soon get tired. Busy ironing all afternoon and darning stockings again this evening. My hair is beginning to come down again. I have noticed so many people's hair begins to fall out in February and keeps on sometimes for several months and comes out in handfuls. I practised an hour after tea and Papa returned by the train. Very late when we went to bed. Mr. Drummond was moved down to his new house from the hospital. He is much better and can sit up now altho' far from quite well.

Friday 18th February 1887.

Lovely Day.

The weather is lovely. In the afternoon Ma and I drove into the Port and went to see Mrs. Bromly about a servant but did not get the girl as she is ill. Then drove home, Mrs. Donaldson had been down whilst we were out. One of the horses is very ill, horse typhoid is very prevalent just now and numbers have died of it all up the North. I went to see Mr. Drummond after tea. Ada Grundy will be going home to Adelaide on Monday, she and Mr. Lawrance, Arch's Manager spent the evening with us. He has a lovely tenor voice and sings very well and is rather good company. Ada, Genie and I are going to make half a dozen egg cosies for Mamma's Birthday present in different coloured satins and crawl work. They have begun theirs but I have not had time to do mine yet but will as soon as we get a girl to suit us which I do hope will not be long.

Saturday 19th February 1887.

Slightly Warm.

Received a postcard from Marshalls stating that they have not and cannot get the music I wrote to them for. May Barker came here selling Art Union Tickets for the sisters Convent here, so Ma gave us each one, the drawing is to come off in April. After we had washed dinner things and had everything cleared up Mamma and Genie drove to the Port and Charley Hancorne rode up and he and I went for a ride. I had Ernest and he as usual his horse Kimberley. It was a lovely day out and we rode out by Mundallio and the Racecourse and yet were home first. Charley played tennis at the Forwards and spent the evening there. After tea Ada and I walked up to the church and went to the Confession to Father Doyle. It is the first time I have been to him by the Dean my usual confessor was not home. Billy our nigger was helping the troopers track for someone who has broken into Stubbs's house during their absence. I sincerely hope he will be found so that it will be stopped for on this night week someone broke into Piety Hall, Mr. Wigley's place and stole some hats off the hallstand. Made some lemon syrup this evening and tried boiling it for several hours. Always before this I have

only poured boiling water on the essence of lemon, sugar and acid. I do wish so much that I could be a better girl I am always making good resolutions but somehow have not perseverance or energy enough to carry them out so wheres the good of them for "Hell they say is paved with good resolutions" but energy and perserverance certainly are my weakest points otherwise I have been trying pretty hard of late. Heard from Jim Hill well and studying. Ma received some of Arthur Smith's wedding cake.

Sunday 20th February 1887.

Very warm and sultry.

Up very early made bed and did out the rooms, then Ada and I walked to church. Genie started long before us as she had not made her confession last evening. We three received Holy Communion together then I felt very faint from kneeling and had to go out of Church and waited in the porch where I got the breeze until Mass was over. Then I went in the Deanery and Miss Nash his housekeeper gave me some wine and a cup of tea and I layed down on her bed and went to sleep not waking until the bells were ringing for eleven. So had a wash, did my hair and felt nearly well so went into Mass and then drove home with Papa and Charley Hancorne to dinner. Charley read to me in the dining room and we then went to the hospital and saw poor Mr. Goodier whose brain was sadly rambling, and another poor patient who is to have his foot off tomorrow. Drove home with the sisters and all walked to Vespers and all walked home together.

Monday 21st February 1887.

Hot today.

We seem to have had last weeks coolness just to bear the heat again a little better for now the warm weather is renewed again with vigour. Aileen Pendleton and Rosey Donaldson spent the afternoon with the children and judging by their noise they seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves. I mended things all afternoon and evening. Ma has engaged another girl to come next Saturday evening. I do hope she will not disappoint us. We cannot get a woman to wash this week until Wednesday. I cooked dinner and tea today and oh! I fell down the stairs, about ten steps and bruised and skinned my elbows but that was all fortunately. The Governor Musgrave steamer is up with some government party and is to go away tomorrow. I saw by todays paper that the SS Palmerston struck on the secret rock near Port Lincoln and sank at once last week but no lives were lost. All went in boats to Port Lincoln.

Tuesday 22nd February 1887.

Warm and sultry both days.

Read all afternoon when finished my work. In the evening Mrs. Donaldson and Katie, Mr. Bryant and Charley Hancorne all spent the evening here. The Donnys came along before Ada and I were finished. So Katie came out in the kitchen and talked to us for a while. After they had gone Charley and I had some music and singing. Tennis seems all the rage here now but I fail to see where the pleasure is in playing in the heat and in such a sandy place. So that indeed I very rarely play even when I have time.

Finished reading Lottie Lousdale by Mrs. Warboise. The boys and I think of studying biographies now for a while and doubtless they will be more profitable than novels ordinary and by all three keeping to the same line we could all write papers and debate among ourselves so I trust well will.

Wednesday 23rd February 1887.

Up very early this morning and Papa drove us all to seven o'clock Mass. Father Doyle celebrated it and distributed the ashes on our foreheads as usual an Ash Wednesdays. We had a very good woman to wash today. Ma and I walked into the Port and did some shopping and called on the new bride Mrs. A. Smith. She is not very charming tho' I believe a good girl. Drove home and did some ironing and sorting clothes before tea then felt tired so laid down for half an hour but could not sleep. Charley Hancorne called for me and we walked up to Donaldsons together. Charley and Arch having gone up in the afternoon to tea and tennis. The Hainings and Forwards were all there and we played cards, letter-words and rope quoits under the verandah. The latter is a new game here and has baces with numbers marked, the rope rings must be thrown into them. Home by eleven.

Thursday 24th February 1887.

Same.

Mrs. Smith called while we were out last evening and invited the boys and I to a dance at her house this evening, so we all three went, it was fairly enjoyable. There were nearly twice as many gentlemen as ladies. I came home early and Mr. Lawrence came up with me, we walked up without any cloaks or hats. I wore my pink Tarleton dress. We had each to play in turns for dances. It was rather too warm and the room is not sufficiently large either. Charley Hancorne sent me some music today but this evening he and I had a little misunderstanding about a dance and I came home without saying goodnight to him. Livy and Clare spent the afternoon at the Forwards. Mrs. Donaldson drove them up and down. I was ironing again all this afternoon and the others doing the mangling, we only finished just before tea. It is so unpleasant to have the washing etc so late in the week and indeed so unusual with us.

Friday 25th February 1887.

Lovely weather.

Ma had a girl in today to do cleaning, scrubbing, etc. I don't feel very well today my monthly enemy arrived last evening but I have no pains thank goodness this time. Wrote to Adey. Bookmark is to be all irrigated by Chaffey Bros. I do not know how it will affect the Robertsons yet but it will doubtless be a great boon to South Australia and especially the Murray district. Did some pen and ink sketching and printing on pieces of music in evening and went to bed early. Poor old Papa does work hard and he goes to his office every evening when not travelling and writes there until 11 p.m. without stirring at all. I'm afraid it will ruin his eyesight in time for already he has to wear glasses when writing and reading and he hardly ever gives himself a holiday and yet I have never yet met anyone who is so contented as dear old Papa is or went about anything as quietly as he does.

Saturday 26th February 1887.

Charming Day.

I'm glad it is such nice weather for this is the boys boat racing day and is to be pulled this afternoon in heats ----- night. Aileen Pendleton came up for Livy and Clare and they went to spend the afternoon with her. She had Rosey and some other little girls there also. Trimmed my hat for yard out when out in hot weather a fashion quite my own all covered inside and out with white muslin with a piece of velvet about 2 yards long fastened with a bow at top so as to tie there or under my chin as weather needs and turned out my room all alone after morning school. Ada Grundy came up and asked me to go down and have dinner and spend the evening so I went about five o'clock. She waited here until then. Charley Hancorne rode up after the race and told us that his crew had won one race and Archies the other but the other heat between their two crews has to be rowed on Monday morning. Also a pair oared race on Thursday next between Willie Alexandre and Mann and our Charley and Charley Hancorne. After tea Ada Grundy, Mr. Morgan and I danced about in Mrs. Smith's empty dining room while Mrs. Smith played. Then we all went into the Port and did some shopping, went to the Institute and exchanged books etc etc. Met the boys and Charley came home with us. Our servant came this evening her name is Jane Barry and she seems a very nice quiet girl tho' she admits herself that she does not know how to do much housework but she can milk and wash and is willing to learn anything and is strong and big so I trust we shall now be more comfortable. Ada is drawing the head of Mary Anderson the Actress in lead pencil and is doing it remarkably well for a child like her. Received a letter from cousin Pollie Besley or sister M. Liguori as she signs herself. It was a nice kind tho' short letter she said they could not write letters during Lent.

Sunday 27th February 1887.

Very hot all day, but a change in evening and then big dust storm and cool wind.

Jane and all the children went to eight o'clock mass and Papa and I to eleven and Mamma also went to her church. The fast days for Lent this year are Mondays, Wednesdays and Easter Saturday meat is allowed on all other days at dinner. We had a new priest here today Father Unsworth and he preached a very good sermon on the Gospel of the day and about sensuality and presumption. As it was so hot I did not walk up to the hospital but Charley read to me a while and then we talked and had some Catechism questions. The wind changed and we had a great duststorm and about ten a shower of rain but alas! only one. All went to Vespers and again had a sermon by Father Unsworth. He is trying to get subscribers to a new Catholic Paper to be published weekly and the Bishop wishes it to be started. We all sang the Crowes until bedtime, then retired to rest. Good night mine book.

Monday 28th February 1887.

After school Ma and I walked out and called on Mrs. A. Scott, she has her drawing room very artistically arranged and I admire her things I mean furniture and ornaments muchly. We had afternoon tea there, Mrs. Hainings and Millie were also there and we all

into the Port together through the Parklands. Met Miss Hood who asked us to go to her house on Wednesday to form a kind of girls Literary Society. Then to Papas Office and drove home with him. We had to do all our own work again as Jane did nothing but the washing and she is very unexperienced indeed, we will have to teach her how to do all kinds of housework. Did mending all evening and Ma also sewing while Arch read aloud. Wrote letters to Jim and Mary Anne Smith and to Marshalls for patterns of black lace etc. Charley is not at all well today. He had to go out of Vespers last evening and went to the Bank and then stayed there and got some medicine and did not come home until past ten o'clock.

Tuesday 1st March 1887.

Pleasant weather.

Charley is alright again today Mama has been doctoring him up with soup, beef tea, patent grotes etc. Miss Hood called this afternoon and remained to tea and spent the evening. Mr. Bryant and Charley Hancorne came up in the evening. We had music and singing all the evening and in the afternoon a good talk about forming our Society and I made some notes to take with me on Wednesday of different things that I have thought of to suggest. Bound some music, cleaned the collar of Papa's coates with some peculiar kind of soap and darning and mended a lot of things. Mrs. Catchlove a female insurance agent called and wanted Mamma and I to ensure our lives. Received a letter from Mary Ann ours must have crossed or rather I posted and received together. Rosy Donaldson was here playing with our children but, then she comes over nearly every evening.

Wednesday 2nd March 1887.

This weather is indeed pleasant and fit for anything, it seems a pity to stay indoors. Mama and Mrs. Downy went down to Mrs. Mellors Sale about one and did not return until six. Mama bought a few things there and said that every thing had been sold very reasonably. After school I took my work up to Donnys and spent the remainder of the afternoon with Katie had tea there. Then Katie and I walked down to Miss Hoods and discussed with the others about forming the Literary. I wanted to have boys members also but some of the others objected so it was arranged that they should always come on the same evening and amuse themselves in the drawing room while we have our meeting in another room. Then afterwards join them and spend an evening together. don't care for that so much and think it is a pity they cannot be members for we would be decided gainers by their greater experience in thought and books generally. We elected Miss Hood President and Secretary combined and arranged a Code of Rules which the Secretary will write out and send us. The members at present only consist of Miss Hood, Katie Donaldson, Forwards and myself but several more are to be asked to join.

Thursday 3rd March 1887.

Perfect day.

The Commissioner Mr. Peterswald arrived by the steamer and Papa had lunch with him and some other gentleman specially asked to dine here at one o'clock. Then Papa drove him out to see the

jail and Goodiers garden and he came to see us and would have come to dinner at six only that he became suddenly unwell. I think it was the driving so soon after the steamer. He is always very nice indeed to Papa and all of us. The female insurance agent was here again today and stayed an immense time. Charley Hancorne came up in the evening and he and the boys and I had music and singing in the dining room all evening.

Friday 4th March 1887.

Hot.

Mrs. Smith asked me to go there and spend the evening and sleep with her as Mr. Smith is away. So I went there about six and she had a tea of fish cakes, lemon etc and prepared which I thought very kind of her not being obliged to abstain from flesh meat herself. Ada came down to ask us both to go home as the Dean, Father O'Donnell and Unsworth were coming to spend the evening at our house. Mrs. Smith would not come up and fortunately she received word that Mr. Smith would return by the ten train and Mrs. Wigley was there so she did not mind my leaving her so much. Father Unsworth sings very nicely and sang a duet with me as well as songs above. We spent a most pleasant evening. The Dean has had very sore eyes but fortunately they are getting better and Father O'Donnell I always think exceedingly nice and he seems always so very earnest in everything.

Saturday 5th March 1887.

Very warm all day and night.

Busy with school and work all morning. Sewing in afternoon. The boys were out rowing all afternoon and Charley Hancorne came up about 5 o'clock after his long pull down the gulf. We were to have gone for a ride but our Charley had omitted to bring Ernest up for me so we could not go and besides it was rather late so Arch and Ada went out and Charley stayed for half an hour or so and then went home. His and our boys hands are extremely sore from the rowing and have great blisters on them and skinned in places. The weather too is so trying for that work. They row twice every day at five or six in the morning and at night. After tea Ada and I walked into the Port and went to the Institute Library and then up to Church and to Confession to Father O'Donnell. He gave such nice and good advice about checking all passions in the beginning before they get any hold on one etc. Went with Jane and bought the vegetables, home then read a while and to bed. Received roola from Miss Hood of Home Reading and Improvement Society: They are as follows Members meet on Wednesdays at seven o'clock at Miss Hoods, Essay upon reading, last Wednesday in the month, if member absent to send Essay Fines for being late 1d, neglecting to write essay 2/6d, proceeds if any for prize for best essay. No boys admitted as members. We decided to begin on Miltons "Paradise Lost", and must each borrow or procure a book or bring work and listen until each ones turn to read. My pen is not good and I have none but I nibbs down here in my room and Papa and Ma think I'm in bed long ago so I don't want to go upstairs and undeceive them.

Sunday 6th March 1887.

Hot still.

Drove with the boys and children to eight o'clock mass. It was so close in church and from the effects of kneeling and fasting that I fainted just when up at the altar rails at Communion and Charley and Arch carried me out and gave me water to drink and bathed my face and hands, then sat me in the porch when I had come to my senses. I was so dreadfully disappointed and sorry when Mass was over and Father O'Donnell offered to give me Communion that they had given me some water to drink. Mrs. FitzGerald came last evening after we were in bed and is staying with us. Felt very weak so laid about and read most of the day and it was very hot too. All went to Vespers in the evening and met Charley Hancorne there who walked home with us and stayed for an hour. Papa went over to see Mr. Drummond, one of us go to see him every day. He is able to walk about the room with his wife's assistance.

Monday 7th March 1887.

We had all the work again to do for Jane is so slow and takes the whole day to do the washing and does not a thing else. Was greatly disturbed in my sleep last night by hearing scorpions. I got up and killed one in my own room with a book and the heel of a shoe and about an hour after was just dozing off when I heard another. Although the noise they make crawling on the oilcloth is very faint, our sense of hearing becomes intensely keen from sleeping downstairs. So then I killed one in the children's room. They are always full size ones too that we see here. We are all invited to spend tomorrow evening at the Hainings. Folding clothes for mangling and reading all evening. Received letter from Mary Ann and some things I had sent for to Adelaide.

Tuesday 8th March 1887.

Warm day - moonlight night.

Ma and Clare drove back to the Port with Mamma after dinner and I walked down when I had finished school. We called on Mrs. Reynolds and Mrs. Astles came in while we were there. She seems a very nice little person, very fond of life and fun. She told us she was sixteen when married, and that she had been married eleven years and Mrs. Reynolds had been 14 years married. They neither have any children. Drove home had tea and then ran down to Miss Hoods, Mrs. and Miss Forward were there but we did not have our meeting as they were then going to Hainings and no-one else was there so it was decided not to have one until next week. Dick Cavanagh came about eight and we had music and singing and then he walked home with me. The boys, Papa and Ma had gone to Hainings to spend the evening.

Wednesday 9th March 1887.

Mr. Fitzgerald went away again today, last Monday was his birthday. He was besieged with the childrens congratulations when he came in to breakfast. The youngsters are trying very hard for the Music Prize since I have begun marks. Mending and sewing all afternoon. Went over to see Mrs. Drummond after tea and while there Father O'Donnell came in and we had a most interesting conversation. He is so nice and well read and tells such heaps of interesting occurrences. I do enjoy talking

to anyone like that so much. Uncle Field has just had another accident at Petersburg. He jumped out of his buggy and sprained his ankle. He certainly is unfortunate in that line. The weather is still warm in the day but such lovely moonlight nights. It seems a pity to stay indoors.

Thursday 10th March 1887.

Pleasant day.

Received an invitation to go out boating with Miss Hood, her brother and Mr. Cavanagh but did not go. Dr. Pendleton called this afternoon and brought Dr. Purvis up to introduce him to us. Poor Dr. Pendleton paralysis is very bad and it is with difficulty that he moves about now so he is going to lay up at Mount Barker for a time. Dr. Purvis has only just come out from London and is just lately married. His wife is a little German girl and can hardly speak any English at all and very imperfectly. She and her husband generally converse in French. I cannot tell how I will like him yet. He is young, and fairly good looking and has an enormous fair moustache. Received a letter from Ireland from my cousin Mary Ann Harvey in Ennis. It seems strange corresponding with people one has never seen and perhaps never will.

Friday 11th March 1887.

Same.

Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Astles called this afternoon. The latter likes the Port very much and says she would be the happiest woman in the world if she knew the Doctor would settle here, but he only intends remaining until Dr. Markham returns. Willie Alexander and Birty Young came up after tea and they, Charley and Arch took off their coats and went for a mile run, then came back to their rooms and had a rub down, so they said, as they are in training now for this rowing at the regatta. Birty Young has taken Charley Hancorne's place in the crew as he could not get down his fat and get in training in the short time they will have. The others all have to leave off smoking too, but of course our boys never have taken to that, and they say they never will that comes from Papa's good example I suppose.

Saturday 12th March 1887.

Charming Day.

Rosey brought me an invitation to go and play tennis, have tea and spend the evening at the Forwards. After dinner Charley Hancorne came up and we went for a ride, I had Ernest my dear old pet. Our white dog Snowey killed a rabbit while out with us. Came home about six, had tea and Jane walked into the Port with me as I was going to Forwards to spend the evening. Charley and Arch had gone down to Tennis there in the afternoon. All the Hainings, Clarkes, Donaldsons, Hoods and Captain Millman of the "Crown of England" were there. We played Judge and Jury and had a few dances under the verandah. Then the boys and I walked home together before any of the others left. Most people here break up so very late and as the boys are in training they have

to go to bed early. Charley Hancorne told me while out riding that he had been to see Dean Nevin who is going to give him instructions in Catechisms and Religion generally. I'm sure he ought to improve under such able tuition. Our Charley won a prize at the Rifle shooting this afternoon but I don't know what it is yet. He was top scorer and far above even Mr. Downing and the one who is top score for the year will get a ten guinea gold medal.

Sunday 13th March 1887.

Drove to Mass at eleven with Papa and the boys. Ma also went to church. Jane and children all went to eight as usual. The weather is so pleasant just now. Charley Hancorne drove home to dinner with us and in the afternoon he and I walked up to the hospital and took some books and visited the patients. Met the Sisters there. They drove Mr. Drummond out this afternoon for the first time and he got out and walked about the hospital. After we came home Mr. Nile came from Queensland so I helped Jane get tea early so that she could go to Vespers. Then went to Vespers. Papa stayed at home with Mr. Nile and after we walked home from church or rather when we reached home we found Miss Hood here. She stayed until about ten then she and Charley went and Arch also as he has to sleep at Stubbs house. Mr. Nile is staying here with us. He being an old friend of Papas. In the evening Mr. Smith called and asked us, for the Captain, to stay for the dance on board the "Crown of England" on Tuesday evening after the concert. There is to be a promenade concert and after it a dance. If cool it ought to be charming indeed.

Monday 14th March 1887.

Mamma drove into the Port with the Donnys this afternoon. The children went over to play with Rosey, after school and Katie came back with them and spent the evening. Mrs. Smith called and asked us for the Captain to stay for the dance on board the "Crown of England" tomorrow evening after the concert. There is to be a Promenade Concert and after it a dance. If cool it ought to be charming indeed being out of season which adds to the novelty. I turned out my clothes this afternoon and find that a lot of my things are infested with moths and silverfish. The latter are a fearful plague all over Port Augusta and get up behind pictures, curtains and eat music and books wholesale and nothing seems to exterminate them.

Tuesday 15th March 1887.

In the afternoon I walked up to Coyston to see Mrs. Stokes and consult her about a maid she has recently had and whom we wish to get if possible. Mrs. Stokes gave her an excellent character and said she could do almost anything. I had afternoon tea with her and then walked home. Mrs. Donaldson was here when I got back. After tea Papa, Mamma, Ada and the boys and I drove down to the Concert on board the "Crown of England". It was a thorough success and most enjoyable. Dr. Astles sang three songs splendidly. Mrs. Beaton, Mackay, Reynolds, Miss Ross, Dick Cavanagh, and a number of others. All the ships company performed in some way or other and their nigger choruses were

most enjoyable and their time so excellent. They had the banjo, violin, piano and whistle - rather a novel mixture. Mr. Morgan recited "Charge of the Light Brigade" as he had heard a Frenchman do it in France. I had a bet with Mr. Nicholson about the boys rowing at Pt. Pirie. He bet me three to one of gloves, that they would not win, and I agreed. There was a dance after which broke up at twelve and they sang For "He's a jolly good fellow" for Captain Millman

Wednesday 16th March 1887.

This was Circuit Court day here and Judge Boucaut is up and he wants Papa to drive him to Gladstone tomorrow. About seven I went to Miss Hoods and on the way Mr. Smith coming here to ask me to go and sit with his wife who was ill in bed, and he said about nine he would have to go into the Pt on business and he did not like leaving her alone in the house; as their maid had just left them so as I had to go into the Port I arranged to meet him at Cobbins at nine. Then went to Miss Hoods and we began our Literary with one of Bacon's Essays on "Cheerfulness" and each read in turns. Then the Scotts and several others came and they had music and I left and ran down to Cobbins alone, met Mr. Smith and drove his buggy up to his house by myself. Then sat with Mrs. Smith until past eleven and Mr. Smith came up from Pt and walked home with me. Papa was angry with me for being out so late until I explained which I thought rather hard at first as I had given up my evening to do a kind action.

Thursday 17th March 1887.

Warmish weather.

Papa started for Wilmington, Melrose and Gladstone driving the Judge and some of his party and escorted in style by two troopers riding behind. They have lovely weather and ought to have an enjoyable trip. As this is St. Patrick's Day I gave the children a holiday and we went to Mass at ten o'clock, Father O'Donnell officiating. Lots of people had green ribbons and a very few we met had orange I'm glad to say. Mr. Taylor and two of his children from Wilmington drove down to meet his wife who came from Port Lincoln by today's steamer and they had dinner and spent a couple of hours with us; then drove home. Poor Ada has had a nasty billious attack all day. Went out to see Mrs. Smith who is alright again today and she and Mr. Smith went to Town by six train this evening. Mr. Nicholson sent me a pretty card with words of "Australia" a song printed in gold on it.

Friday 18th March 1887.

At house all day sewing. In the evening we were all asked to Donaldsons but the boys could not go on account of their rowing and Ma had a headache from walking in and out of the Port in the heat of the day and Miss Hood came to spend the evening. went to a rehearsal in the Institute of the "Serious Family". They were not all there and so Mr. Bromly, Mrs Reynolds and Miss Richardson and I sat round a table there and just read our parts

over. Miss Richardson is Lady Creamly the part Millie Anderson had and she I think will act it very much better than Millie for already she speaks loudly and clearly and that is a great advantage. Mr. and Mrs. Smith and Tom Wigley started for Adelaide by the half past six train. Received letters from Nanc Dodds and Mrs. Stokes.

Saturday 19th March 1887.

Pleasant.

After school sewed until dinner and then again for a couple of hours. Then Charley Hancorne rode up and brought Ernest for me and we rode out by Mundallio. Came home and Charley had tea with us. Then rode off to the Port as he had to be at the office by seven. Sewing all evening and finished a night dress for myself and I have only been at it two days of course I have used the machine a good deal and then have not had very much of each day. The boys were out pulling all the afternoon and then Charley went to tea and spent the evening at the Forwards. Mrs. Richards sent Mamma a nice box of shells. They are going to live at Beltana soon so Ma has invited them here to spend Monday afternoon.

Sunday 20th March 1887.

Very hot and so we felt it having all of us to walk to Mass as Papa had our buggy away with him. We were home first and Charley Hancorne came with us and we waited for Ma. She was very late home having to walk. Too hot to go out so read alternatively all of the afternoon. All went to Vespers in the evening. Papa returned while we were out at church. He having driven from Melrose today and its really too bad he is going to Port Lincoln on Thursday by steamer. So it seems there "no peace for the weary" but somehow he is so good that he never thinks anything is a trouble. Oh! could I only be more like him it would indeed be good for me. Father O'Donnell did not preach at all today. I think he felt unwell. I have been dreaming terribly the last few nights and taking down my curl rags too. I do all kinds of funny things in my sleep.

Monday 21st March 1887.

This afternoon we were fairly besieged with visitors for Mrs. Astles, Richards, Reynolds, Paterson and Mrs. Arthur Smith all called. They are trying to get up a Ball between the married ladies of the Port for next Friday evening and Ma has promised to join them. Mrs. Richardson stayed to tea and spent the evening. I have a wretched cold coming at present. It is all in my head and especially nose and makes me in a perpetual state of sneeze which is anything but comfortable so I have just taken a good dose of eucalyptus on sugar and Ma has made me a glass of hot toddy which she says I am to take going to bed as it is now very late. I think I retire to my bed as I have to my room this last hour in which place I am penning this and in my own suffering.

Tuesday 22nd March 1887.

Walked into the Port about four in the afternoon and had tea with Mrs. Reynolds and then Miss Richardson and I went to the Rehearsal and as the Institute hall was engaged we had it in the schoolroom. Mrs. Bromley and Mr. Harry Morgan came for the first time and all read our parts. Charley walked home with me. Papa and Mamma and the boys had gone to spend the evening at Donaldsons but it was too late for us to go up when the Rehearsal was over, so we sat in the dining room and talked awhile and then Charley went and I went to bed. We received invitations this afternoon for a Bachelors Ball which is to be held here in the Institute tomorrow, rather short notice. Mr. Lawrence Morgan and Charley Hancorne are on the Committee. The Ladies ball and concert have fallen through as they had some disappointment.

Wednesday 23rd March 1887.

I have a horriably bad cold and have had it for several days but is all in my head today and fearfully unpleasant too. We went to the ball Papa Mamma and I altho' we did not decide until tea time that we would go to it. The hall was beautifully decorated with flags by the ships officers and the music was also ? Opus Mrs. Murphy was the pianest and Stevens violinst. The room was nearly full but of course decidely mixed company but as our own friends were there it did not matter for we kept to ourselves. I wore my pink dress trimmed with white lace and Ma her black silk with the train. We left too just in time about half past one and got home at two driving. Charley Hancorne left with us. The boys did not go as they are in training for the rowing and late hours etc are against the rules. Took a big dose of eucalyptus, rubbed my throat and chest with it and then to bed feeling very tired out.

Thursday 24th March 1887.

Delightful weather.

Up about nine this morning and would have felt beautifully fresh were it not for this cold and perpetually sneezing. Mr. Hack came home with Papa to dinner and again to tea and spent part of the evening. We heard that some of the folks did not leave the ballroom until six and that ever so many had drank too much, so I'm glad we left early and did not see any of it. Uncle Field drove down from Melrose and is to stay here while Papa will be away at Port Lincoln for he intended going tomorrow. Mr. Scott and Dr. and Mrs. Pervis called. Walked into Port and back in about three quarters of an hour and got a bonnet for the boys to give to Ma tomorrow. Then finished the egg cosies the children and I have made half a dozen crewel worked on velvet and satin lined with wadding and quilted for Ma without her having seen us. Charley Hancorne came up and spent the evening with us. Papa gave me half a sovereign to spend.

Friday 25th March 1887.

This is my dear Mamma's birthday so the boys gave her a black bonnet to be trimmed with pink velvet. The girls and I the egg cosies and Jim sent her a card and letter. Papa left early this morning by steamer for Port Lincoln. I hope he will not be sick for he is such a bad sailor but the weather here is so fine that perhaps he is having it the same. Katie Donaldson came over this afternoon to tea and spent the evening. Also Mrs. Reynolds and Miss Richardson and in the evening Mr. and Mrs. Donaldson, Miss Hood and Mr. Bryant came so we had music and singing and then games we played Proverbs and The Priest of the Parish lost his cap etc. Then forfeits and they or rather nearly all of us had to do funny things. Katie gave Ma a pretty crochet wool cloud and a card and Charley Hancorne wrote up a note and sent Ma a Chinese necktie and me one of the same only a different colour. There is a great fuss in the Town just now over the elections and a number of candidates are up addressing the electors.

Saturday 26th March 1887.

Beautifully fine.

We had a slight shower of rain during the night but alas! for the country no more. In the afternoon Uncle drove Mamma, Genie, Mrs. Reynolds and Miss Richardson out to Goodiers Garden at Sterling and Mamma bought some vegetables and a box of grapes nice large Lady Fingers. Charley Hancorne and I went for a ride. Miss Dern and Mrs. Beaton called. After tea Ada and I walked into the Port and did some shopping and Charley walked home with us. The boat crews for Port Pirie are all altered now as some out of each are ill so they have formed them both into one and Charley is stroke and Arch not in it all. I hope they will not have to change again for it will spoil all their practice changing about so much. Ma received a pretty antimacassar by post this morning with Queen Victoria's Head splendidly worked in it and a pretty card. The candidates for this district are Messrs. Burgoyne, Coglein, Moare, Playford and several others whom I do not know. The elections do not come off until April here so it is difficult to know who will succeed then for my own part I agree with Messrs. Burgoyne and Coglein's views best and hope they will get in. Playford people say is a good man but I do not think he would help the Catholics much and it is rather too bad that we should not have the same favouritism shown us in many things that the Protestants have. For in the early days they used to have land granted them for churches and there has never been one instance of a Catholic Church getting its land free out here and I do not see why one should more than another then also there are many other things that would take too long to write here I mean too much room.

Sunday March 27th 1887

Delightful weather.

All went to Mass Ma to church and Uncle drove us home and Charley Hancorne with us to Dinner. Arch and Charley went out with Mr. Haining, Lawrence and some officers off the "Crown of England" up the head of the Gulf after eight o'clock Mass. After Sunday School Uncle drove the children out to Sterling to the gardens and home to tea which I prepared as Jane was out and only Mamma Charley Hancorne and I at home. All went to Vespers and church except Mamma and Genie and we sang some hymns when we came home had supper and went to bed. We had no sermons today as it was the Deans Sunday. The Alter is draped in purple crucifixes and all etc.

Monday March 28th 1887.

Not very well for I have my enemy altho' I have no pain this time. Warm all day began covering a bonnet shape and trimming it in the afternoon for myself a little black one with old gold and black. I have never had a bonnet in my life and think now that they are fashionable that I should like one and this is such a pretty little shape. After tea Charley and I went to our rehearsal in the Institute, Charley is Danvers the manservant we all went through the Serious Family as well as we could for some were absent. Charley Hancorne came home with us and he told me that Mr. Scott has been reducing their salaries and retrenching generally on account of the bad times this year so Charley has been receiving Two hundred pounds a year and is now only to get 174 pounds a year. So of course he feels rather indignant especially as he is to have some extra office work on account of the staff being reduced. So it seems a kind of thorough unfairness on Mr. Scott's part.

Tuesday March 29th 1887.

Very sultry and oppressive.

Mama went out paying calls and whilst she was out Miss Du Rieu and Mr. Thompson called, the former is going to Port Elliot soon and has come as I invited her to spend the afternoon and evening. Mamma returned with the boys at tea time so we have had music and singing in the dining room most of the evening. I played but my cold is rather bad for singing yet. Poor Ethel Du Rieu has had a very hard time of it lately. Her Father sisters and brother are living in Auckland New Zealand and she left home about a year ago because her father had just married a servant whom he had only known a fortnight and she could not agree with her and he is a gentleman of means birth and education and had grown up daughters, then came her to her aunt Mrs. Good who from her account has treated her very cruelly and she has taught all her cousins for her board and lodgings they being in a perpetual state of pecuniary and she is a very well educated girl tho' decidedly peculiar in manner. She stayed here all night and went over to her aunts about five o'clock.

Wednesday March 30th 1887.

Uncle Field returned from Quorn this morning and he only went up yesterday. The mosquitoes were so troublesome all last night. This afternoon Miss Due Rieu and I helped Mamma make curtains for the front verandah it will be very convenient when in use. Charley Hancorne came up in the evening he has had another talk with Mr. Scott but no better result. He goes to Dean nearly every evening for instruction in Theology. Mamma received a letter from Papa this morning. The Earl and Countess of Aberdeen are in Adelaide and were present at one of the Police Reviews and while, the Earl and some gentlemen were looking at the men Papa was asked to entertain the Countess and other ladies. Aunt Glenie is very ill and has just had an abscess, tumor or cancer cut out of her breast the doctor doesn't know yet what it is for certain. Dear old Auntie I hope she will get better soon for if there is a saint on earth I firmly believe she is one.

Thursday March 31st 1887.

After dinner I gave the children a half holiday and Uncle took them all through the new Town Hall and then on board Captain Millman's ship the "Crown of England" where they spent a couple of hours and in the evening Captain Millman and Dr. and Mrs. Astles and the Donaldsons and Forwards and Charley Hancorne all spent the evening here. We played Newmarket first and then had some charming singing from Dr. Astles and Captain Millman the doctor has a lovely rich well cultivated baritone and it is quite a treat to hear him and Mrs. Forward has a pretty soprano. It was nearly one before I retired to Blanket Street Bedfordshire.

Friday 1st April 1887.

The heat the last few days has been most trying so sultry and stifling and every one is perspiring so profusely. I was in the drawing room this morning and Uncle outside when he sent in for me and when I went to him said he did not want me but to remember the day, but Ma had caught him previously. He says it is thirty-two years today since he joined the force and Ada asked him if it was before dinner he joined? Children kept in for their lessons this morning. In the afternoon Ma and I drove into the Port to Mrs. Reynolds and brought Mrs. Haining up with us. Mrs. Reynolds and Miss Richardson walked up after tea. Intensely hot and sultry all day and evening and oh such a wretched lot of dust the house seems thick with it. I have been putting eucalyptus on piece of flannel in all my boxes today to prevent moths and silverfish. Miss Richardson told me of a great trick she and some others played on Miss Ross today. Mr. Haining drove them all home in our buggy about ten. It was too hot to enjoy ourselves so we sat out under the verandah all evening.

Saturday 2nd April 1887.

A raging dust storm all the morning until about one o'clock making the house almost dark and sand for it is not dust coming in in all directions. Then a fearful wind storm arose which blew our paling fence nearly down and the door at the bank of S. Australia was blown in. Several chimneys and part of the brewery. Then it ended in a little thunder and lightening and a few very sharp showers of rain which ran in through the verandah downstairs and the window recesses were like small tanks. We managed bysoorping up and ringing cloths to fill two tubs quite full of water and then the rain was all over so that really it would not do so much good after all and was exceeding unpleasant. Uncle Field started in our covered in buggy and took a trooper with him. Genie and Miss Hood were to have gone but as the day turned out so unsuitable they did not. The former was very disappointed and would gladly have gone regardless but Mamma wisely would not allow her. I have had an unusually industrious fit and have made a crimlett all this evening and darned a huge hole in my sun shade which I tore in the buggy the other day so it has kept me up to this hour nearly twelve o'clock. Jane left this evening, she was not at all suitable for us and has gone to try her luck with Mrs. Hood. She ought to be able to manage there as there are only two people to work for. We all intended to go to Confession this evening but could not on account of the wet and having no buggy here. One is to come up in the morning from the police station for our use while Uncle is away. Poor Arch is not well. Our dog knocked him down and scratched his hand and leg and they are festering and his legs are sore and skinned from the rowing. Very fortunately the Stubbs are coming home tonight so he is able to sleep at home in his own comfortable bed and rooms.

Sunday 3rd April 1887.

A little cold today. Altho' it is Sunday we had to do a portion of clearing up after yesterday's storm and oh! we saw a lot more damage than the storm had done. We escaped mildly when compared with some. Jane too left everything in a wretched state of disabille. Unless servants are really good they are a great nuisance and it is better if possible to do without them. Charley Hancorne came home from Mass with me to dinner and in the afternoon he read a while until Mrs Donaldson and Rosey and Mr. Bryant all called and stayed awhile. Then we had tea and some of us went to Vespers. Arch's leg and hand are still very sore. The palm distributed in church this morning was only tamarisk blessed and it is a pity they did not get some other shrub for that does not last well. Its so soon drops to pieces. Father Doyle officiated and gave a sermon in the evening. He only read the Gospel in the morning because it is so long.

Monday 4th April 1887.

Very charming day.

I have my carpet down again in my room over the oil cloth now that the winter has set in. I take it up for in summer for it is then much cooler. Oh! this weather is delightful it would not be possible to be more pleasant. Mamma and Genie drove

Thursday 7th April 1887.

The same.

This being holy Thursday we drove to Mass at ten and then home again and then we had to get dinner and do up all the house and put clean curtains up and I don't know what not. Before we had quite finished in the afternoon Mrs. Young and Miss Richardson called and then Mrs. Reynolds and Mrs. Purvis came up to tea. The latter is learning to speak English quite fluently and is such a very nice little woman. Mr. Ashworth and Mrs. Astles called the latter to borrow a habit and I am going to teach her to ride. Aileen Pendleton and Rosey Donaldson spent the day here with the children. In the evening Papa, Ma and Genie walked into the Port with Mrs. Reynolds and the others and Ada and I stayed at home and got supper ready. Mrs. Lockier from the "Crown of England" spent the evening here. Also Mrs. Stubbs and her mother Mrs. Southcombe. We had a little music but sat outside in the verandah and talked most of the evening. Ada drove buggy down to the train and drove Jim and his two visitors up. Norman McLean and Eddy Field they are very good boys.

Friday 8th April 1887.

Very warm.

Up early this morning and had scurry round with the work before Mass at ten. The buggy had to be driven down twice to take us all to Mass. The service is most solemn, the altar being all draped in black and the candlesticks and everything and vestments with white crosses and no music and the Dean and other priests always take off their boots before kissing the crucifix. Father Doyle's surplus caught fire during the service he was assisting the Dean and fortunately he put it out before it had done much damage only burnt a piece of lace and part of his sleeve but a woman from the back screamed and made us feel so funny. Charley Hancorne rode up on Kimberly and had dinner with us and in the afternoon he and I rode out with Mrs. Astles and Captain Millman. We only went a few miles and Mrs. Astles managed splendidly considering it was her first ride. We had a good canter after we had taken her home. After tea most of us went to church some walking and some driving I mean. Then sang hymns and went to bed very tired.

Saturday 9th April 1887.

Steady rain all the afternoon and evening.

Received a telegram from Mr. Smith saying I could use his horse and saddle for the holidays which is very kind indeed of him. Jim brought my umbrella up with him from Town and it is a regular beauty and only cost a guinea the best of silk silver handle and band with name on it. Uncle Field came up last night by the train from the North. A servant girl came this morning and Ma engaged her to come this evening her name is Caroline Turner. I did not like the look of her at all but however Ma intends to try her as she has no friends in the Port and only came yesterday up

from Port Pirie. Just after dinner a steady rain began and has kept on steadily ever since and is still raining and it is now about ten o'clock fortunately Ma had shutters and oil cloth covers made for the doors and windows so we got no rain downstairs at all. It will be the salvation of the North. Arch had to work all day at moving the bank things into their offices in the New Town Hall and there again it is their balances and Mr. Stubbs is such a hard man. He has had no dinner either yesterday or today only breakfast and supper and has been working constantly in between and it is too bad especially as he is in training. I made some rosettes for the boys to wear to Port Pirie. Charley has to wear a blue and white one as he is on the Committee and some yellow and gold for the others to don their colours. I do hope they will win. They heard today that they have two more Adelaide crews to compete with as well as the Pirie Wallaroo and others. Charley drove Mrs. Donaldson and Katie out to Moselys farm this morning and they all got thoroughly drenched coming home this afternoon. Uncle Papa, the boys, children played cards all the evening. Animal grab and silent do and Old Maid and card dominoes until the children retired and then Whist and Eucre and Mamma and I were sewing and looking on. Then I wrote some letters had a warm bath and went to bed. Again we could not go to Confession tonight without getting thoroughly drenched. Our girl did not come this evening but no doubt the rain and distance from the Town detained her. The boys took Eddy and Norman all over the Port and showed them the ships and all that was to be seen this morning just after and before breakfast.

Sunday 10th April 1887.

Showery and Clamy.

Wet morning some drove to eight and others to Eleven o'clock Mass. We had a lovely turkey for dinner. Charley Hancorne came home with us from Mass. In the afternoon the servant came Carry Turner but all the work was done then until tea time. We none of us like her appearance and she has a piercingly shrill voice. Mr. Gruinke came this afternoon and he is going to Port Pirie with the boys. The house is very full and it seems such a lot of boys. All went to Vespers some walking and some driving. I walked one way and drove the other. Charlie, Arch, Norm and Mr. Gruinke slept at the bank so as to be nearer the steamer in the morning as it is to start at four o'clock. Uncle Field and Eddy also intend starting for Melrose at daylight they were going today but as it turned out so damp they postponed it and they want to be up there in good time for the sports and so must start very early. This rain is more than welcome here for it will do a deal of good to all the country around.

Monday 11th April 1887.

Weather Perfect.

All the picnic party called this morning on their way out to Mundallio Creek and wanted us to go there but we preferred going later so had an early lunch and let about half past twelve. Mamma did not like leaving Carry in the house alone she stayed at home with her or rather let her go out for the afternoon and stayed at home and had a good rest in peace and quietness. Papa

into the Port in the afternoon and while they were out Mrs. Scott called and refuted all that Miss Du Rieu had said and whilst she was here Miss Du Rieu called. Bena would not see her so I had to talk to her in my room and left Ada to entertain Miss Du Rieu in the drawing room. We only just had time when the boys and Ma and Uncle drove home. The latter returned from Melrose this morning. We received a telegram from Papa stating that he will return on Wednesday next from town. Forwards, Donnys and a lot of others have asked us to join them in a picnic on Easter Monday but I don't think we will as the boys are going to Port Pirie and Melrose etc.

Tuesday 5th April 1887.

After everyone had gone to bed last evening I heard a knocking at the front door for sometime. So slipped on my dressing gown and ran up and opened the front door and found a black man just in the doorway, so after he explained that he had come from Hergott and had a letter in his pocket for Papa which he gave me after a good while trying to explain himself for he could not do it well at all. A Mrs. Rogers was here washing for us today but she wash them so badly that more than half will have to be put back again in next week's wash. Mamma and I drove into the Port and did some shopping and then on our way home I called in to see Mrs. Stubb and Southcombe. They have just returned from town and are looking well. Charley Hancone came up for an hour in the evening after he had been to the Dean and Papa returned by the evening train from Adelaide and Port Lincoln and bought us all presents. Ma's is a lovely maroon velvet dress or rather fifteen yards to make one. Ada's is a silver whip and horseshoe brooch with a large crystal in it and mine a lovely box of water colour paints and brushes and an ulster macintosh and a crystal horseshoe brooch. and everyone all round something.

Wednesday 6th April 1887.

Election day and charming weather. I began to milk on one of our cows this morning but these we have in now are fearfully hard ones and did make my hands ache so altho' they are so nice and quiet and do not need bailing up. Am most anxious to learn. Mrs. Scott led over Mohawk about four o'clock for me to go out riding on, so we rode out past Sterling to see a servant girl that Mamma had heard about but unfortunately she had just got suited in a place but we had the most charming ride and I did enjoy it so. Bena rode her own horse Fidget and it was so kind of her to bring Mohawk for me. She thought we might not have one in and so it happened. I broke up school this afternoon for the Easter holidays and we all had to fly round and do all kinds of work today, ironing, mangling, and cooking in turns having no domestical help except Scotty the blackboy, but he is so wonderfully useful and good and cleans knives, boots, horses, washes saucepans etc etc. Darning the stockings all evening. Received two invitations to go to Hoods and Donnys but didn't.

Thursday 14th April 1887.

Glorious day.

Not up till eight o'clock this morning I was so very tired. Then we had to iron and do all kinds of things all day. Donnys called and envited us to spend the evening there. Also Mrs. Stubbs and Mrs. Southcombe called. The steamer with the boys did not return from Pirie until Tuesday morning at eight o'clock it was stuck some hours on a sandbank down the gulf. They won one race and lost the champion however they beat the Adelaide crews. The Moonta men won but they were strong fisherman so no wonder. They enjoyed the trip very much. In the evening Fathers Doyle and O'Donnell came up and spent the evening with us. The latter is going to Moonta next week for good. We played Animal Grabs and Quartets all the evening and all the children joined. Arch had to work at the bank as it is his ballance and Papa was also at his office. Mr. and Mrs. Smith called to thank me for their supper. They enjoyed it so much they said and so surprised and pleased.

Friday 15th April 1887.

Same

Have an unpleasant cold in my head. After dinner Jim drove Ma and I into the Port we did some shopping and I bought a pair of tan coloured kid gloves and sent to Mr. Nicholson for the bet he had won over the regatta. Papa also gave me three pairs of kid gloves, white, cream and black four buttons and he gave me some to give as prizes when school begins again and also Ma some it was so kind of Papa I think. But he so often gives us little supprises like that. Jim took Ada and Clare out for a ride and Youngs little boy went with them. Clare is so proud that Jim is teaching her to ride. After tea Mrs. Smith called and asked me to drive into the Port with her which I did and we were out until about nine. Then drove home again in the carriage and found Mr. Lockyer here, he came to say "Good-bye" as the Crown of England is to sail on Sunday morning. He left his cards with addresses etc and gave me his photograph. He is very nice indeed and is going to Valparaso in South America from here and says it is a wretched place.

Saturday 16th April, 1887.

Same.

Received a note from Mr. Nicholson this morning to say that the wager was an each way race my brothers pulled in and so we had each lost and each won one race and asking me to name what kind of gloves I would like as our own bet was three to one, so I am going to write and tell him that I did not understand it as such. About three o'clock Charley Hancorne and I and Ada Jim and Norman went out riding. My nose and lip are very sore and swollen from the cold in my head. In the evening I finished trimming a bonnet for myself and a hat to match a costume one is striped blue and white skirt and white bodice with apron and waterfall and striped band and collar and cuffs and the other all black lace made up on old gold sateen with bonnet of black lace and red

drove Genie, Livy and Clare and Ada, Charley Hancorne Jim and I rode out the weather was so favourable and the picnic was a thorough success. We had tennis, a large swing and played games oranges and lemons, Jolly Welshman, Twos and threes, Gap etc. Then had tea and came home at dusk and Mrs. Donaldson invited us all who were at the picnic to her house to spend the evening and enjoyed ourselves immensely. Miss Hood and Mr. Bryant and their visitors Mrs. Cobb, Mr. Lockier, Mr. Cavanaghe, Ashworth, Smith, Harding all the Forwards, Donnys and us so it was a good many and quite filled four buggies or rather one was a huge van beside we equesterians.

Tuesday 12th April 1887.

Delightful weather.

The servant Carry went on at Ma disgracefully this morning directly she got up so Ma told her to leave the house at once she is a horrid creature and left her room in such a state for us to clean and tidy after her and she would not do the washing altho' she engaged to do it altogether. I think we ought to be thankful to be rid of her. Recieved a telegram from Mr. Smith stating that he would come home by tomorrow's train and to send his man to meet him at train with his carriage. We have Miss Cope here to do some sewing for us this week. There is so much to be done and Ma and I have not time to do it ourselves. We have been busy with housework all today and I have been cooking. Charley Hancorne and I went to Mrs. Smith's and brought up their jelly stand and then he stayed a little while and went home. Received my photos by the mail and gave Charlie one in my riding habit. sent Saddle.

Wednesday 13th April 1887.

Delightful weather.

A woman here washing all day for she is very slow at her work. We all doing the cooking and housework. Miss Stockton came to borrow my saddle gain and a horse but that I could not lend her. Mrs. Scott called and wanted me to ride with her out to Wollundunga but I have not time just now for it would take a whole day. Mrs. Donaldson, Katie and the two Miss Forwards called the latter two are staying with Katie for a week. Received an invitation to go to Miss Hoods to spend the evening. When we had quite finished at home Ada and I and Norman and Jim to carry our baskets went down to Smiths and lit the lamps made a fire and grilled some chops and made tea and tost and laid the table decked with flowers, jellys, blanchmoungd custard etc. Then drove in the carriage to Miss Hoods and then to Papa's Office and back to their house then the boys went to meet thent train and we sat and talked and read whilst we were waiting for them. Then ran out and met the carriage. Ada and I drove home in it before they had time to see the table. Very tired.

egret feather to brighten it up a little and the hat is sailor shape with band and the cross of blue and white stripe and rosette on front of white lace and lined with same. They are two pretty costumes because I have everything to match.

Sunday 17th April 1887.

A shock of earthquake in the morning just after seven. All went to Mass some to eight and some to eleven and Charley Hancorne came home with us to dinner. The altar looked very pretty indeed. There are seven sisters up here now two are only visitors from Caltowie. About seven this morning there was a slight shock of earthquake before we were up and it woke us all up but we did not know until it was over what it was. In the afternoon Charley Hancorne and I walked up to the hospital and read to a little boy up there who has a broken leg from another boy falling on him while at play. The Hospital is being painted all through one ward at a time. There are forty three patients up there now and so many with fever of different kinds but Ma wont let me visit the fever wards though I am not at all afraid. I got tea and had it ready when Papa and Ma drove home from Sterling and Ada Jim and Genie had been for a ride. Charley helped me though because I had not much time. All walked to Vespers and Mr. Cox played as Mrs. Murphy is in Adelaide. Sang hymns in the evening and then helped to cut sandwiches for the boys to take with them.

Monday 18th April 1887.

Fine Day.

Up at half past five it was quite dark so we had the lamps lit to have breakfast for the boys. Then the boys drove down and we waved our handkerchiefs to them when passing here in the train and poor old Jim wept as he always does at leaving home for school. We will miss them greatly. Norman is a dear little fellow. Eddie Field is to meet them on the way down and go onto town with them. Mrs. Mitchell came and washed today and she stayed and folded the clothes for mangling. Wrote letters in the evening, Mamma died nearly all our white curtains. She mixed up tea coffee and saffron and boiled them and made them look quite fashionable. As white ones are so little used now. We began school again today and it is a good deal to get through now that we have no domestic. The earthquake was felt in Adelaide, Quorn, Port Lincoln, Clare, Terowie and several other towns and several papers and people say there was also a slight shock in the evening before about eleven o'clock.

Tuesday 19th April 1887.

Same.

Up early again this morning and it is such very pleasant weather and so nice when up the only bother is to get up. The boys have had a game of tennis each morning before breakfast on the beach. We each did some ironing and took all the work together as we have been doing all along. About four o'clock Clare and I walked into the Port and back. Did some shopping and went to see Mrs. Reynolds. Lost my striped belt while out. Miss Hood

called while I was out. Lent Mrs. Astles my saddle and Charley took her for a ride on his poney she bumps very much still and she must feel very stiff next day after her rides I should think. Read for a little while in the evening and went to bed early. My lip is very sore and I cannot get it well when out the wind makes it worse and I keep cracking it and so making it bleed. Miss Cope is here again sewing for us and making me some things because I have not time to do them myself. Archies bank is quite settled in their quarters at the New Town Hall buildings and he has to go back to work nearly every evening this being their balance time.

Wednesday 20th April 1887.

Delightful weather.

Up again early for we must be up in very good time now that we have our own work to do. The children did not know their lessons well so I had to keep them inn but the worst of that is that it punishes me to for I must stay with them and besides they would play, so I did not get much done. Ada Livy and Clare walked into the Port and drove home with Papa at tea time. Mr. Nicholson sent me up a note and three pairs of Soutaf kid gloves for the bet I had won altho' I written and told him I did not quite understand it so when he made the wager and wished him to take no more notice of it. The Dean asked Papa to help him get up a concert for the 24th May for our church and a school-master from Quorn will lecture at it. So it ought to take something a little fresh here and our concerts are generally well patronized for they come so seldom. There is a grand "Fare of all Nations" being held in the Town Hall Adelaide in aid of our old Dominican Convent and the paper's give a very pretty account of it.

Thursday 21st April 1887.

Fine.

Charley has two ponies in now Bertie and another so I rode the latter into the Port this afternoon as I had some shopping to do and it saved time though Charley told me he did not think him much of a horse to ride. Bertie is a little beauty but Mrs. Astles has him for a loan. I did my shopping and then went to Papa's Office where I had left my horse and he gave me two pound notes. Every time I have been to his office of late he has given me something. Last evening Father Doyle and O'Donnell spent the evening here and we played Newmarket nearly all the evening and then had supper we had some preserved honeycoutle which Father O'Donnell seemed to like very much. He came to say "Goodbye" as he is going to Kadina tomorrow for good and a new priest is to come here in his place.

Friday 22nd April 1887

This morning Mamma received a letter from a girl at Saltia who would like to come here she says her name is Eliza George so Ma wrote and told her she would engage her if she could undertake the washing and ironing and if she could come at once. This being Rosy Donaldsons Birthday all the children went up to play with her and each took her a present. Ada a top horse she named Master Dick, Genie a chinaman on a gripasiumtlare a book and Livy a Jubilee handkerchief and I sent her a scrap book with her name printed in it in red and black ink. In the evening the boys and I went up there and Charley Hancorne came with us. Poor old boy he has been ill all this week with toothe ache and he has had one out with eather and has had an absis in his mouth after it and even now very unwell and look's funny not having had a shave for several days through his face being so painful came home from Donnys about eleven, Forwards, Bryants, Dick Cavanah and Mr. Smith were there and they played Proverbs, Jolly Welshman, and I had music and singing we left before supper.

Saturday 23rd April 1887.

Lovely Weather.

Received invitations the boys Papa Ma and I to a dance to be given by Dr. and Mrs. Astles on Tuesday evening and we have accepted it. Received also word from that girl that she would come on Monday morning so thank goodness at least we will have someone but dont know of what kind yet. So we will hope for the best. After dinner Charley and I went for a ride I had Bertie but the poor little fellow had lots of grass seeds in his mouth from eating bad chaff and is so very thin. Mrs. Astles only returned him this morning together with the saddle. This evening Mamma and I made a dummy to fit our dresses on and it really is an excellent idea and will be very convenient. We've called her Peggy and she is formed out of a long stick exactly my hight with a stand at foot and a body stuffed and a hooped skirt to keep out the skirts and make them fit properly. Arch joined the volunteers today and did some shooting for the first time and quite distinguished himself by winning a prize namely a lot of ammunition. Plucked some ducks today as the black boy was out and we have wanted to have them cooked early. Ma cleaned them tho I could not do that. Miss Cope is altering my last winters black dress for me and trimming it with beads plush etc. Next week she is to make Ada and Genie each a dress then Ma Clare and Livy so we have enough work to employ her for sometime yet. She is such a nice quiet unassuming girl and so very obliging to all the children seem to take to her. Papa gave me some more prizes to give the children for their lessons for what and when I choose he really is a most indulgant father and oh so very good
h i m s e l f t o o .

Sunday 24th April 1887.

Warm weather.

Papa went to communion and he and the boys and children went to eight o'clock Mass and then he went again to eleven and drove Ma and I down. Ma went to her own church. We had a new priest Father Ragan who preached a lovely sermon on the gospel of the day and he also preached again at Vespers on "The Lord is much given to Forgive" and showed us the bright side and then the dark side of the picture. Charley Hancorne drove home with us and after dinner Mr. Morgan came up and stayed a while and then he went home and Ma to Donaldsons and Papa took the children for a drive and we went to the hospital Charley and I took up some books for little Charley Freeman who has a broken leg up there. Then walked home and got tea cleared it away and then all went to Vespers and home and retired to bed early feeling very tired.

Monday 25th April 1887.

Warmest

Up early this morning. The girl Eliza George came at eleven she seems very smart but it is impossible to tell what she will be like yet. Rode Bertie into the Port in the afternoon and met Charley who rode home with me but did not stay to tea. He has a very bad cold indeed and seems generally ill and still has a black face. I put my three pounds in the savings bank today. I think it is better to put it in now than to wait until I have more for I will be sure to spend it if I don't and I have kept some silver out for present use. Mrs. Southcombe and Stubbs and Miss Hood called. My Dummy is standing near the table while I am writing this dressed in pink and white lace and she looks really nice I wonder if I ever look as well. Papa introduced me to Sergeant Campbell who is in charge at the station now in Sergeant Richards place and he is going to send me some flowers tomorrow and asked me to choose I chose white chrysanthemums buttons and others all white to trim my pink dress with.

Tuesday 26th April 1887.

Dusty.

So he sent me up two beautiful large bunches in the buggy at dinner time and I made two wreaths of white with green pepper leaves and they looked very pretty over the pink. I made them on wire and bound them with thread. It has been a most wretchedly dusty day and looked very like rain in the evening but it held off. It was intensely close in the evening at the ball and I go so tired before it was over. Mamma did not go, so Papa Charley and Arch and I drove down there were a good many people there and Dr. Astles was a splendid host and also Mrs. Astles do as hostess. Her dress was by far the prettiest for the married women. We left there before it was over before two and three. I always feel very tired if dances are kept up after twelve for I dance so much while I am there. Mrs. Murphy was pianist and supper was very prettily laid out.

Wednesday 27th April 1887.

Wet.

Oh! so tired this morning much more so than I am usually. It is because I have my enemy I think for balls never tire as this one has. It has been showery all day. I gave the children a holiday as I did not feel equal to school and they were to have gone to a picnic but the weather prevented them. Papa brought Mr. Needham home to dinner with him he is an old friend of Papas from Mt Gambier and has a very nice face indeed. Charley Hancorne came up in the evening for a couple of hours, his face ache is better now and he looks quite himself again now that he is shaved. I do wish I could love him as I know he does me for he is such a nice old boy. I feel awfully tired and sleepy this evening and have made up my mind not to stay at any more dances or parties balls etc after twelve if I can help it for the future for it makes one so very seedy all next day.

Thursday 28th April 1887.

Very pleasant weather.

Beautifully fine today. After school I walked over to Mrs. Abraham Scotts and found her very ill in bed with a severe cold and her mother nursing her. She has been in bed since Sunday and Mr. Wm. Scott is also ill in Adelaide at Dr. Ways private hospital the doctors first thought typhoid fever but then again he says it is not that. Poor Bena caught her cold from mending the roof of her stable in a shower of rain, rather a masqualine operation but she does funny things and yet it is so very nice and genuine in everything and such an uncommon girl. I called on Mrs. Stubbs on my way home but only stayed a few minutes. Mrs. Gruinke was here to tea and spent the evening. Ponr Dr. Pendletons sale took place today and Papa bought a nice little hooded buggy and a pair of poneys there for Ma to drive inn and out of town and a lot of good books, biographies, novels etc.

Friday 29th April, 1887.

Mrs. Gordon sent me a note asking me to go and see her and also to join them in reading Shakespeare once a week. Mrs. Purvis and Miss Hood are also to be asked. So after school this afternoon I drove with Mamma and Clare into the Port and did some shopping and went to see Mrs. Gordon and she is to arrange with the others and let me know what they all agree to The Crysanthemums are looking very charming in all the gardens now and ours look really lovely. We have had a lot sent us in bunches. Mr. Hamilton the Protector of Aborigines from Adelaide drove home with Papa to tea and spent the evening with us he is lame and uses crutches. Uncle Field came by the train last evening here and he is very ill and had Dr. Astles this morning and has been in bed all day. Genie read aloud to him in turns for an hour this evening. read a tale called a "Prussian Vase" to him. It is an interesting and well written little thing. My pass book arrived from the Adelaide Savings Bank. They are always posted from the head office in Town to the customers.

Saturday April 30th 1887.

School all morning as usual and after dinner I went for a ride with Charley Hancorne and rode one of the new poneys that Papa bought at Dr. Pendleton's sale. They are such nice little things either to ride or drive. Uncle is a bit better but has not been out yet. Charleys cold is still very bad. This being the Anniversary of Mrs. Abraham Scott's Wedding day I bought a Wedding Day Chime book to give her but was not able to go over and see her she has some kind of fever and we heard is worse today. After tea I made part of a flannel peticoat for Genie and went to bed early. Ada, Genie and I have such fun among ourselves we have we call any person or thing "Gem" is we like them and "paste" is otherwise. We got the idea from "Patien" Opera and I am teaching the children to sing "Pinafore" right through as a surprise for Papa at our breaking up for a weeks holiday in June and Clare and Livy are to dance the Highland Schottish part in proper Highland style. Charleys bank inspector is up.

Sunday May 1st 1887

Papa and the boys and children drove to eight o'clock Mass and then Papa and Charley drove out to Penners and did not return until evening. Archie drove Ma and I to the church in the new little poney phaeton. It rained nearly all the afternoon and Charley Hancorne read to Ada and I in the drawing room and under the verandah until tea time. The children did not go to Sunday School or I to the hospital on account of the weather. Uncle is better but doctor still comes every day to see him. This being the 1st of May we had to sing the Litany of the Blessed Virgin at Vespers and her alter looked very pretty and of course we are to have devotions every night during this month. This district is to have a Bishop now soon and Dr. Reynolds in Adelaide has been made ArchBishop. I hope Dean Revin will be consecrated a Bishop for he is so universally popular and is so fit besides he has been so many years in the north. Miss Cope finished Ada's dress today and it is so pretty.

Monday May 2nd 1887.

Lovely weather.

We had Hookina Mary here to wash today she is a splendid clean old woman and yet she never uses a board to wash but does it all with her hands. Eliza helped her and we helped Ma out of school with the work. I began some pajarmers for Papa today and sat downstairs all the afternoon sewing with Miss Cope in my room. Uncle went to Papa's Office today and he is almost well again. Went to church after tea with Ada and Archie and then we went to a concert in the Church of England School room and enjoyed it very much for it was such a nice concert. There was a long programme and the gems of the evening were three violin solos by Dr. Stewart and three songs by Dr. Astles "Que Vive" and two comic songs Mrs. Beaton sang then Captive Greek Girl very prettily and Mrs. Mackey sang a new song well, the duets, glees and trios too were pretty. Charley my brother broke a blood vessel this morning but he kept at the bank at his work all the same.

Tuesday 3rd May 1887.

This is really charming weather, so this afternoon Ada, Genie and I, took advantage of it and drove into the Port in our new poney phaeton, and we did enjoy it so much we called on Mrs. Smith and she asked me to go and sleep with her tomorrow and the next night as Mr. S is going away, she had previously sent me a note. Then we drove to Papa's office and from there to Mrs. Reynolds and Scotts and thense to the cemetary to see the delightful garden they have made inside the pavillion enclosure such a quantity of crysanthemums are out in blossom. It is really a sight to see especially in this barren north. Then we drove home again and Uncle gave us all packets of lollies. Had tea and Genie Papa and I walked to devotions. After service I tried the organ so that I could take it all alone for Mrs. Murphy tomorrow evening as she will have to be at the Quadrilles at eight o'clock and I do not intend to go this week.

Wednesday 4th May 1887

Oh delightful weather

Miss Cope has finished making the childrens dresses and is not coming again at least for a time. Ada and Genie dresses are a pretty plaid red and other colours with dark green velvet overskirts and little coats with plaid vests extremely pretty. Mrs. Donaldson and Katie called here this afternoon. The children all rode the three poneys out this afternoon and I stayed at home and did some work. About six I went to Mrs. Smiths and had some dinner with her and then Ada called for me and we walked to Church together. I played the organ and got on very well indeed. Mr. Cook pulled out all the stops for me but I felt very nervous. Then Charley Ada and I home and I went to Mrs. Smiths for the rest of the evening we sat by the fire and talked all the evening. Mrs. Smith is so nervis she would have all the doors and windows locked and fancied every sound was some-one coming inn. Quadrilles began.

Thursday 5th May 1887.

Lovely weather.

Came home about ten this morning. Mrs. Smith and I had talked nearly night and so I felt sleepy, naturally in the morning. Gave the children their music lessons and had school and it was late before we had finished. Uncle went away by the train At last the Yanyarry supposed ghost has been found out and it is the two boys who have been playing tricks all the time. This is mushroom time but we have not had any yet. Went down to Mrs. Smiths to dinner at six and Genie came at seven to go to church with me and she had brought my books down. It is beautifully moonlight now. The church is nearly full every evening. Charley Hancorne walked home with us. Papa was at church too but we went to his Office after. I went to Mrs. Stubbs for Mrs. Smith had gone there while I was out. We went to bed about eleven. Mr. Smith returned by goods train during the night and we heard him coming in with his latch key. Could not sleep well all night.

Friday 6th May 1887.

Came home at eight o'clock and had breakfast and began the childrens lessons at once and so was finished earlier. In the afternoon I rode Bertie out and called to hear how Mrs. Scott is and she is much better. There I met Miss Hood and we went together to Mrs. Gordons and began our Shakespearian reading and read in turns for two hours. "Henry VI". It quite revives ones History and I think it is such a nice change for after spending a few hours like that one comes away with so much to think of and again one feels that their time has not been waisted and I don't think I have sufficient energy to take up "Shakespeare" and study it alone. This play of Henry VI was written long before his time and is supposed to have only been touched up by Shakespeare. Rode home and had tea and Ada, Arch and I walked to church. Charley Hancorne came home with us. Ada drove Ma and Clare out to Sterling in the Phaeton during the afternoon and they got a number of rose trees and verbena roots and cuttings from Goodiers Garden where they are for sale now.

Saturday 7th May 1887

Steady rain all day and Moonlight night.

It has rained steadily all day, so none of us girls have been out of the house, It is indeed the harbinger of a good season.

Having no domestic of course we were busy all day. Mr. Nicholson called in the afternoon and stayed about half an hour.

There was to have been a shooting match today of course it was postponed on account of the weather. Mamma received a letter

from Jim and he mentions a new weighing machine he has seen in Town that will not weigh people unless they drop a penny into it in some way and says great preparations are being made for the Jubilee Exhibition which is to be opened on the 21st of next month. All the train and steamer fares to and from Adelaide are reduced half price in consequence of the

Exhibition. Our New Town Hall here is to be opened on Thursday next with a Flower Show the first ever held in Port Augusta. All the school children are to sing "God Save the Queen" so the

programme says. Heard today that Mr. Mellor has become engaged to a Lady in Victoria or New South Wales forget which and have not heard her name. I've half a mind to write and congratulate him but I think I will wait until he is married as it is not his first engagement. Mr. Downing, Papa's clerk is also to be

married next Tuesday but as it is to be in his bride elect's house we will not be able to view the ceremony. Ma and I have been cogitating on about what to give for a wedding present and we have decided on a little oval papermasha card table and a pretty Austrian glass hat shaped vase filled with a bunch of chrysanthemums. We will send them on Monday. Our parrot Joey talks so plainly

and whistles numbers of tunes. He often says "Here's Charley Hancorne" (the boys taught it to him).

Sunday 8th May 1887.

Beautiful weather.

Drove with Papa to Mass at eleven and Charley Hancorne came home with us. About three Mamma Papa and the children went for a drive and returned at tea time. Arch, Charley Hancorne and

I remained at home reading and talking. Charley having gone for a walk with the Donaldsons. All went to Vespers. Father O'Regan preached twice today. Splendid Sermons. This

evening was all about the sufferings the Blessed Virgin underwent during her life on earth all for us and he preaches so clearly and feelingly. Aunt Glenie wrote and told us that there

is great excitement in Adelaide about the Canadian Dr. and his wife. They drive through the streets in a glass and brass chariot and stop at an open corner and perform most wonderful cures and the wife pulls out teeth so quickly and painlessly. They are Catholics so we heard and cannot speak English but have an interpreter always with them and we also heard they were paid five thousand by the dentists of Victoria to leave that Colony for they were doing such a trade.

Monday 9th May 1887.

We had to put our washing off as Mrs. Haliday could not come until tomorrow. In the afternoon I drove in the Port with Mrs. and Katie Donaldson and called to see Mrs. Reynolds who asked me to assist at the Town Hall Flower Show on Thursday. She said they had put Mamma's and my name on a Committee to get it up and that Mrs. Young was deputed to call and see Ma about it all. Bought a set of pink linen collar cuffs and handkerchief to give Katie on her birthday next Friday. Then to Papa's Office and the Institute to get a book for Arch called "Consingsby" by "Disrali". It is a very good book and Mr. Smith drive me home. After we had washed up tea Genie and I walked to Devotions and called inn and gave the Sisters some flowers and a circulus and walked up to church with them. The Donaldsons were here when we got home arranging to go to Wilmington on the 24th for a picnic and Tennis Match combined. Went to bed early. Ma has been putting inn a lot of fresh slips now and generally improving the garden planting rose trees etc.

Tuesday 10th May 1887.

Lovely bright morning but it rained heavily after tea. It is a most unusual season having so much rain. Mr. Downing was married to Miss Westwood at eleven o'clock in the brides house. Papa sent them a lovely album with a Silver Shield on front and engraved on it "G. Downing Esquire from Inspector Besley and Field." It is bound in morroco and has places for Cabinets, panels and Card de Visite and has also the date engraven. We saw them driving past here to Wilmington about three o'clock in a single hooded buggy and a pretty white horse. He is to have a weeks holiday. Mrs. Donaldson received a telegram from Adelaide stating that her sister Miss Anderson had just died very suddenly and that her other sister Mrs. Baines has Diptheria. It made Mrs. Donaldson so ill that she had to go to bed herself and she was very ill indeed when Ma and I went up there in the afternoon and she wants badly to go to Town in the morning. Went to Devotions in the evening with Arch and Ada.

Wednesday 11th March 1887.

Mrs. Donny was too ill to go by this morning train so Papa took her portmanteau down to railway station and she slept at Miss Hoods so as to be nearer the train. Mr. Donny is away at Wilmington so that their have no vehicle either at home. About five o'clock I rode Earnest into the Port tied him up in the police station yard and went to the Town Hall to rehearse "Australia" after it was over Mr. Nicholson very kindly showed me all through the building even up to the Tower from where a charming sight of the Town and surrounding country and Gulf are to be seen and just now with its coating of green is looking unusually pleasing. Rode home to tea then dressed and went to church and played the organ and from there to the Quadrilles and played the first dance as Mrs. Murphy had not then arrived. They were very jolly indeed and so many present so if they are always like that they were bound to be a success only I wish they were fortnightly instead of weekly. It is too often when there are so many other things.

Thursday 12th May 1887.

Lovely day.

I felt a little tired this morning because I had danced so much last evening and then when I came home got Charley's Supper he having come by the evening train from Quorn. We had a hare sent us yesterday. About ten o'clock I rode down and went to the hall where there were dozens of ladies working making wreathes, crosses, table and hand bouquets and Rosey Forward and I made all the button holes and tied them up with pale blue or pink ribbon and put them in little baskets. It was half past one when I got home so just had dinner and changed my dress and drove down with Papa, Ma and all the children. The Hall looked very pretty and Dr. Astles and Cooke sang a duet also Misses Mann and McGovern. Then the State School sang to a drum and fife accompaniment and the Convent children sang very prettily. The Australia by the Choirs of the Town and The National Anthem with a Jubilee verse introduced instead of an old one. Mr. Nicholson helped me to sell button holes all the afternoon and I sold about fifteen shillings worth. Altogether the sale of flowers realized about ten pounds very good indeed for one afternoons sale of chrysanthemums. Had tea with Mrs. Reynolds and then went to church and felt so terribly tired and then Charley Hancorne came home with me.

Friday 13th May 1887.

Showery.

Received a note from Mr. K. Smith asking me to take the part of Mrs. Warrut in Incompatibility of Temper but I must refuse for am sure the part would be spoilt if I tried it. Of course the children had a holiday yesterday so we had school again today. Ma engaged a little girl from Quorn named Katie Larkey whom the Dean recommended but she has not been out at service before. They having lost a lot of money and her mother fretted and died. We will always have wash woman as well as her, she is between sixteen and seventeen but very small for her age. Papa, Ada and I walked to Devotions in the evening and from there to a concert in Church of England Schoolroom. It was very good indeed and Mr. and Mrs. Brownly are always so amusing. Miss Haffarty too sang "Clarine" very prettily. Mrs. Beaton's voice is not nearly as good as it used to be. We walked to Papa's Office and from there home.

Saturday 14th May 1887.

Wet Day.

This is again wet. It is indeed surprising the quantity of rain we are having. The Rifle match for gold medal was fired today in which Charley contested but don't know yet with what success. The Scratch fours match also for gold medal was also rowed in heats Archies crew won one heat and the next is to be pulled off on Monday afternoon. We were able to *see* them start from the front verandah as the Steamer and boats started from opposite here and raced up to the jettys, but were not able to distinguish between the boats or the colours from here. It was far too wet to go out and in any case we would not have gone to see them loose as we felt sure they would do through not having had any practice. Charley had to get someone to

Tuesday 17th May 1887.

Lovely Weather.

Papa sent the buggy up for us to go down and see the boat race so we went down about four o'clock in the Steamer Edith and had a grand view of the race from start to finish. Mr. Nicholson was the starter and timer. He fired the pistol and then timed with a stock watch. There were a good many on board as well as Papa, Ada, Genie, Clare and I and I am very glad to say that Archie's crew won it. Drove home in the carriage with the Smiths and Mrs. S. had called home for me to go and dine with them this evening but I could not as I had to go home and dress for the Concert this evening. Mr. Nicholson gave me a pretty bunch of flowers. Papa, Ada, Charley, Arch and I drove to the Concert and walked home. Mr. Wholshams lecture on Father Mathew was a little sermonified and not very well connected, but Mr. Bromly was extremely comic tho' I did not like him so much in his Semi Tragic rendition of Shiplock.

Wednesday 18th May 1887.

Rode down to Mrs. Gordons this afternoon and we were in the middle of the 3rd Act of Henry VI. When Ada came for Miss Hood and I and said it was time for us to go on board the steamer if we wished to see Archie race so of course we hurried off at once and were there some ten minutes too soon. It was extremely cold and there were more passengers than yesterday. The race was very close and most exciting until near the dredger when some fowling happened and one boat stopped and did not row the course. It too was most clearly the boat that fowled and Archie's crew pulled on as they were and then there was a lot of disputing about it and ended in being deferred to the Adelaide boating club or association. It is too bad now he has won the race quite fairly three times running and yet has not got the medal. I walked to church played the organ and from there to the Quadrilles. Mrs. Jones went to the Quadrilles with Papa and Ma such a number of visitors there, Mr. Baggot, Harvey, Gruinike and C.H.

Thursday 19th May 1887.

Fine weather.

Home all day doing a variety of things. After tea I went to devotions as usual and when I came home found Mrs. Jones and Katie Donadlson here. They stayed until about half past eleven. Mrs. Jones is an exceedingly nice woman. It takes up such a lot of my time teaching the children to sing "Pinafore" as well as school. Have such a bad cold in my head again. This is such unchangable weather just now. There was such a terriable accident in Melbourne happened to a train six people were killed and a great many wounded. Mr. Brown the Government Geologist is among the wounded. I hope he is not seriously injured. It is very sad and all occurred through a gards carelessness so I hear. I have not had time to read it all up yet but intend to do so. There were none of our friends or acquaintanaces there I', glad to say except Mr. Brown.

take his place for the doctors would not let him row thinking the exercise too violent for him yet for a while. Charley Hancorne came up in the afternoon after he had lost his race. They got a lot of water in their boat and he was wet through. Mr. Nicholson got a tumble just outside our fence by his horses head which made him bound and so the saddle slipped round. Poor old Arch was quite exhausted all the evening after his pulling. Sewing all evening. Yesterday was Katies Birthday so I gave her a set of collars, cuffs and handkerchief, Ada a brooch, Genie a card and Ma a bottle of scent and fur tippet. She has Mrs. Jones and Addie from the Pines, Wilmington staying with her for a few days. Mr. Downing and his bride returned today. One of the Fields in Town have Typhoid Fever. It seems to be spreading rapidly and yet people say it is not infectious. It seems funny. There is a wretched woman in Adelaide named Edith O'Gorman who calls herself an escaped Nun, and is lecturing against the Convents and Catholics and have just read in the Catholic Monthly some letter she had written to the Mother Prioress begging to be taken back when she was first expelled but they would not take for fear she would infect the others so then her aim was to make money by lecturing against all she really believed.

Sunday 15th May 1887.

Beautiful Day.

Drove to Mass as usual and Charley drove home with us. Papa took Ma and some of the children out for a drive and they got a little wet even tho' they had the Tilt on. Charley and I had music, singing, reading and talking all afternoon and I got tea ready by their return. Walked to Church and were caught in the rain but not wet as we had umbrellas and cloaks. Wrote some letters and went to bed early. I do dream so much now at night I wish I did not and we all of us talk occasionally in our sleep. I used to walk long ago but have not done so for a long time. Father Doyle preached a long sermon this morning but none this evening. Genie has hurt her thumb so Papa makes her wear it in a sling but as it is not very painful she says she is rather glad for she will get out of her practice. She is such a rowdy girl and a great tomboy.

Monday 16th May 1887.

Same

The new girl came this morning by the eleven train from Quorn. She seems very quiet but it is too soon to judge what she is like yet. Rather late before we finished school owing to the children being kept in the worst is that I suffer by their returned lessons just as much as they do. Turned out my room in the evening and shook carpets etc. In the evening walked to Devotions and took Katie with me and also to Institute and changed my book. Charley Hancorne came home with us and he told me he had just received letters from Mrs. Gooch and his brother in law Tom James. The former is very horrified at his change of religion and says she hopes he will live to change back again, but I think he is too sincere for that and that he will never change now that he knows the truths and has the happiness of believing in all our Holy Church teaches. The keys of the organ music were not there and neither Mr. Cork or Mrs. Murphy so Miss Hafferty, Charley and I sang the litany and one hymn without any music. It was so uncomfortable.

Friday 20th May 1887.

Fine weather.

Mr. Southcome is up on a visit to his Sister Mrs. Stubbs and was at Devotions this evening. He always helps in the Choir when here. Mrs. Abbot called to see Mamma this afternoon, she had not seen her for nearly twenty years and has just come up from Town to see a son she has ill in the hospital. Charley came up for me in the evening and Genie, Katie, he and I went to Devotions and afterwards to his office for a few minutes until he finished some work and then home. Mr. Abraham Scott is ill now and laid up with the "Colonial Fever" and so Charley has to manage the whole establishment. This new fever seems to be spreading pretty rapidly both in Adelaide and the North. Katie our domestic is perfectly useless and we will have to send her back to Quorn. It would be rather difficult too to teach her for she does not do what she is told by Ma or any of us and has such untidy and slovenly habits.

Saturday 21st May 1887.

Fine weather.

Mrs. Haining and all her children were here this afternoon for a few hours. About three o'clock Charley Hancorne and I went for a ride round the race course and then inn through the Town home. While out we met several lots of blacks and Earnest that I was riding would not pass near any of them. He has a mortal objection and snuffle and snorts and will not pass anywhere near them and seems to prefer the whip to going near them. Even when Earnest the boy we have now (black boy) took his head while I jumped off at home he tried to wheel round away from him. After tea I went to Confession at Church to Father Doyle and Charley walked home with me. There I copied out Archies part "Adolphus" in a play called A.S.S. for him. They are the initial letters and mean Adolphus and Sophia Sparrow and several other things. Then I went to bed. Ada has very bad chilblains on her hands and is trying the onion cure for them. She cuts a fresh onion in pieces and rubs the pieces on the chilblains. Fortunately not any more of us have them this year. A meeting of the boating club was held this evening and the decision arrived from the Adelaide Club that Archie's crew are to be awarded the gold medals so they will have their names engraved on and then shortly. There are a lot of blacks in the Town in the Town just now and they camp on the beach and have a corroboree every evening, we can see their fires and hear them from here but not very plainly. They are to meet some others and hold a big Corrobberree on the West Side soon.

Sunday 22nd May 1887.

Fine but very cold mornings and evenings.

Up early and drove to eight o'clock mass with the children and went to Corraunion. Then went to Mass again at eleven and Charley came home with us. He read to me in the afternoon out of a book called "Ten minutes talk on all sorts of topics". Uncle Field came down from Melrose to be here during Papa's absence. He has gone up North to buy some horses for the Police there and Uncle drove us to church in the evening, and we walked home. Father Doyle here this Sunday. He preached once today. Uncle was telling us of a bank clerk whom he drove yesterday in his buggy from Orroroo to Melrose and as they were travelling

most of the day and Uncle had had no breakfast he naturally was hungry and had no lunch with him and that clerk was greedy enough to pull out a lot of sandwiches and eat every one without offering him one and he says he would gladly have bought one from him if he could have and he had been kind enough to save him the mail expense too.

Monday 23rd May 1887.

Fine but cold mornings and evenings.

Had a black or rather a very dark white woman to wash today and she brought her baby with her which kept her fiddling about the whole day. Mamma and I went to meeting of ladies in the council chambers; to consider the advisability of forming a Ladies Benevolent Society and we did form it and are to meet once a month to work, sew make and mend old garments etc to give them to the deserving poor and collect and relieve distress in all ways. It ought if properly managed do a lot of good. The Mayor presided and conducted whole thing for us. We are to meet on Thursday week to decide officers and arrange things properly. I was the only girl there but all the girls are requested to attend as well as married ladies. Went to Church and Charley came home with me. We then were making arrangements for going to Wilmington tomorrow and I cut a whole tongue and some loaves of bread into sandwiches.

Tuesday 24th May 1887.

Drizzling rain in morning but fine afternoon.

Charley and Ada started for Wilmington about half past seven. I was very disappointed as I had intended going too but there was some misunderstanding the evening before and so I did not go. The Pt Augustines lost the Tennis match but they picked out their two best men afterwards in Wilmington and Charley and Arch beat them easily so the loss was because the girls and women from here were not equal to those of Wilmington. Uncle drove us to the railway station and thence to the Park lands and we saw the review and salute fired and cheers etc then home and had an early lunch and Charley Hancorne drove the children to Pt. Pattison. Mamma stayed at home. Uncle went to see a football match and I for a very long ride on Earnest with only the white dog Snowy and he went after rabbits for me but we did not get them. I went a very long way and came home when dark. Charley came to meet me. They were rather anxious on my account as I was alone. Sat around the fire all evening and talked. The others returned about eight o'clock.

Wednesday 25th May 1887.

Home all day busy. Katie our domestic went back to Quorn, today she was of no use to us at all. Went to devotions after tea as usual and from there to the quadrilles. There were not many people there this evening tho' they were just as jolly as usual, so many were late. Ma did not go at all but the boys did Uncle came in at the last dance for us and we all drove home together. He had been spending the evening with Mr. Downing. I played the organ at church this evening and can manage it very well now. The scale is so very different from

the piano it being a cord of every other note together and each has to be held down until the next is struck. Mrs. Murphy who is a thorough musician showed me how to manage it and all I want now is practice, but I have not time enough for that.

Thursday 26th May 1887.

Nice Weather.

This afternoon Mamma and I drove into the Port and Katie Donaldson with us. She had been spending the day here. We called on Mrs. Reynolds and Astles. There was quite a Levee at each place. It is Mrs. Astles at home on Thursday and the only day one can ever catch her inn either. We also called on Miss Hood. Then home and Ada and Genie had tea ready which we had and cleared away and then to church and Charley came home with me. I played the organ again this evening. Mrs. Southcombe walked with us to the corner. Mrs. Gordon wrote and asked me to go there this afternoon instead of Friday for our reading but I could not go. She is going to Quorn tomorrow we will have to miss it this week, rather a pity. It is a pity all the insolvencys are not over here yet. Mr Gower has just had a meeting of his creditors and so also Pound the shoemaker, or talking machine as he is often called.

Friday 27th May 1887.

After dinner we hurried with drawing and music lessons and so got finished earlier than usual and Katie came for Ada and I and we went down on the beach and helped Mr. Donny mark and measure the Tennis Court There the our boys and Mr. Haining joined us and we played Tennis. I left before the others and came home and got tea ready. Went to Devotions and Charley came for me and brought me home again. Hevants me to obey him and I wont. So we are to settle the matter tomorrow between us.

Saturday 28th May 1887.

Charming day.

Uncle Field started for Melrose driving with Mr. Clarke and Ken Morgan received a telegram stating that Papa will return in a special train during the night. Mr. Nicholson sent us a beautiful bunch of flowers principally cream rosebuds very pretty indeed. There was a Rifle match between the Football Club and the Rifle do two for the former to every one of the latter and they won too, I mean the Rifle Club did and Charley and Arch fired in it. It was an easy win tho I have forgotten the scores. Charley Hancorne and I went for a ride I had Earnest my favourite and we had a good long ride. Charley had tea here and then went to his office as he still has the whole business to manage as Mr. W.Scott is still laid up in Town and so also his brother here. It must be a good deal of trouble and worry for him coming all at once as it has done. A servant girl came whom Ma engaged to come to us on Monday next. Hope she will be good Anne something is her name I forget what. Began to paint a rose with buds and leaves and then trimmed a hat and retired to Blanket Street Bedfordshire, feeling quite ready for it too.

Ada and the boys played Tennis on the beach with the Donaldsons. It is a most fascinating game if one is fond of exercise and understands the rules etc. Jack Besley has sent his photograph to Charley from Beachport. He is just growing a tiny moustache and is a really nice looking boy. I trust he is as good as he looks if so I shall be proud of him for a cousin. The country all around is looking delightfully green just now. It is quite a pleasure to see it and they say there has not been such a season for numbers of years and I am sure it has been wanted badly enough. It is a great pity the North is so uncertain with regard to Seasons.

Sunday 29th May 1887.

Fine weather.

Papa returned during the night by train and Uncle from Melrose about five. We had a new priest today one who has come from Melbourne for the good of his health for a short time. The climate being so much warmer here. Drove to Eleven O'clock Mass with Papa and children and Charley came home as usual with us. The children and Papa and Ma all went out riding and driving after dinner and Charley and I stayed home I copied out part of a book called "Serious Family" and intend copying it all through. Then to church at five as it was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrement and I went to tea with Mrs. Murphy as she kindly asked me and would not have had time to come home. Then to Vespers with her and met the others and Charley who came home with us. Had Neuralgia a little this evening and during night.

Monday 30th May 1887.

That girl Ma engaged sent word to say she is ill and so cannot come for a week and we had the washing postponed on her account. It is a bit of a nuisance. Have not been feeling very well as I had my visitor but kept about all the same. After tea Miss Rowley and her brother and Katie Donaldson spent the evening here. We played cards and had music and singing and then supper. Charley came up for me and we went to church together and he brought me home again but could not stay having to return to his office. Arch has a nasty cold and I am rather afraid it may affect his voice and he is going to take part in a farce tomorrow evening called A.S.S. To be played with "Lady Audleys Secret" at the Institute so we have been dosing him with eucalyptus in which I have unbounded faith.

Tuesday 31st May 1887.

Fine

Archies Cold I'm glad is better today. Uncle left this morning driving in his own buggy. After tea Papa took Ada Genie and I to the play "Lady Audley's Secret" and the farce A.S.S. They were both wonderfully good and Arch look extremely well and he spoke out clearly too. Genie quite forget where she was when he came in and called out quite loudly "Ada look at Archies moustache for of course he had a fake one for the occasion. Mrs. Astles as Lady Audley looked charming in all her dresses and her fair wig. the first scene she wore cream satin with lace hat and umbrella and mittens. Then pale blue and white lace and then Cardinal plush with cream velvet apron and train and square neck. Very handsome indeed.

The well and fire and smoke scene were all well represented. Miss Stockton looked as she always does very pretty especially in her ball dress. Brown overdid I thought his part as Marks but the doctor as Robert Audley looked and did remarkably well. It is the intention I hear to repeat Lady Audleys Secret shortly after a benefit for Mrs. Bromley has been given.

Wednesday 1st June 1887.

Showery.

Papa went to Melrose today driving in our big buggy and Mr. FitzGerald came from Wilmington here late this evening. It rained a little and so Ma would not go to the Quadrilles or let me go, so I began to copy out the Serious Family book. It was take rather a long time and darned stockings. This afternoon I rode into the Port and to Mrs. Gordons and we had our Shakesperian reading instead of Friday next. Miss Maud Forward joined us so we are four instead of three now which is so much better. We are still at Henry VI for we only have about two hours reading each time. Got a little wet riding home but changed my habit at once and so suffered no injury from it. Charley is going to lend our poney and phaeton to Mr. FitzGerald tomorrow to go to Wilmington. It is a good long journey up hill for such a little mite. Papa has sent to Town for new harness for us.

Thursday 2nd June 1887.

Cold and Showery.

In the afternoon Ma and Genie walked into the Port. They went visiting and I walked in when school was over to the Council Chamber to our Benevolent Society. There were a good many more present than last time and Miss Richardson was made Secretary Mrs. Drysdale present and Mrs. Gordon and Mitchell Vice Presidents. Myself the Treasurer and when I have five pounds an to Bank in the Bank of Australasia "as it is in the Town Hall Building. The Mayor gave a guinea and all together four pounds odd was promised in the room. We a Sub Committee are to meet at Mrs. Gordons on Saturday afternoon and make rools. Then in the Mayors parlour on Thursday afternoon Mr. Nicholson was there and took a report for the Dispatch. Katie Donaldson drove us home. Mr. FitzGerald left this afternoon. Charley Hancorne came up in the evening and we had some music and singing. Mama engaged a servant to come on Monday next Maggy Jaffney.

Friday 3rd June 1887.

Cold and Showery.

Have had toothache fearfully badly all the afternoon and evening. I tried all kinds of remedies and I thought I would go mad with the pain. Papa returned in the evening. Still Showery occasionally. Charley came up for me to go to Church practice after tea but Oh! I could not think of it my tooth ached so. Sat up late by the fire so that I might go to sleep when I went to bed but did not for hours after I retired. Mamma has been so busy lately gardening, planting out new things etc. Mrs. Gordon told me to put glycerine into my ear on the side my tooth was aching and that it would cure it.

Saturday 4th June 1887.

Pleasant weather.

My toothache is better today but I have be very careful when eating for fear of starting it again and I would not do that for a trifle. In the afternoon Charley and Arch started for Melrose driving and Charley Hancorne and I rode our buggy horses out as the boys had Charleys horse Kimberly. Home early and Charley drove out to Sterling and brought Mrs. Kuipe inn to spend a day with us. She finds it so very lonely out there and the poor little woman has so much to bear on account of her wicked husbands forgery. It is fortunate that for her that her parents are alive and able to keep her. Tho! she leads a different life now to what she has been used to since her marriage. I played and sang to them in the evening and sewed for a while and finished making a pair of drawers all by hand. I much prefer making underlinen by hand than with the machine but why I'm sure I do not know. Before going for a ride this afternoon I rode down to Mrs. Gordons, and excused myself from the meeting. It was only to make Rules so I did not think it worth-while going besides I have already told them all I want them to do. Mrs. Donaldson and Rosey returned by the train this evening from Adelaide.

Sunday 5th June 1887.
Showery.

The children all drove to Mass at eight and Papa Ma and I drove down at eleven. Mas went to Church and we to Mass. We had a grand choir today; having two cornets, Organ and some more voices. Miss March, McEwen, Southcombe, Stubbs and Bell all in the choir. Dean Nevin celebrated Mass. Charley Hancorne walked up to dinner as he was so cold and we drove. Mrs. Kuipe stayed home with the children. She does not like to be seen out anywhere. Mamma and Mrs. Kuipe went up to see Mrs. Donaldson in the afternoon and the children to Sunday School and I stayed at home and cleared up the dinner and got tea ready and copied out some pages of that book I aria doing. Charley and Papa talked by the dining-room fire all the afternoon and read the papers. Papa, the girls, Charley and I walked to Vespers in the evening. No sermons today as it was the Dean. A great many protestants at Church both this morning and evening.

Monday 6th June 1887.

Fine.

Papa drove Mrs. Kuipe home after Church last evening and the boys returned from Melrose about nine o'clock. Maggy Jaffney came this morning. She seems a smart quick girl and I fancy will suit us to judge from appearances. There is one thing in her favour she has been to service before and the other two we had, had not. I finished writing out that book today and did some darning all the evening. Busy prepairing the children for our little concert on Thursday next and then we will break up for a fortnights holidays. Charley Hancorne sent me up a nice little Ledger to keep my accounts as Treasurer to the Benevolent Society in. I will have to go out a good deal collecting and also have been allotted a district to Visit; namely "Conway Tower". Papa says I may have Earnest and ride out tomorrow afternoon so when schoolis over I shall have a good fly round and see what I can do for a beginning. There is nothing like a good beginning.

Tuesday 7th June 1887.

Showering and dull and sunshine alternately. Papa sent Earnest up from the Station for me to ride so as soon as I had finished School I made use of him and rode into the Port and called to see the Secretary of the L.B.S. but found she had gone to Wilmington with Mr and Mrs. Reynolds and would not return until tomorrow. So then I called on Mrs. Beaton and heard all about the code of rules the Sub Committee has drawn up for approval at our next meeting and then collected five shillings from Mrs. Pappin and thence to see Mrs. Alexandre and tried to induce her and Mrs. Purvis to join our Society. Then rode up to Mrs. Barkers and did the same and she has promised to come. Charley Hancorne came up late in the evening and we had some music. Rosey Donaldson spent the evening and afternoon here with the children and we had a Rehearsal for our little Concert on Thursday next. The boys went to a Jockey Club Meeting.

Wednesday 8th June 1887.

This is such strange weather, occasionally a shower and very cloudy, but never a really good one and yet it does not clear quite up and such very cold mornings and nights. Charley Hancorne has sold Kimberley to Papa for the Police Force for twenty-one pounds. He is a showy and tall horse and I think will suit admirably. Charley has just had him a year this month and he brought him from my brother Charley. Drove down by myself to Mrs. Gordons and we had our reading. We are reading Richard III now. Miss Hood and I walked up together. All drove to the Quadrilles in the evening and they were very jolly indeed. Dr. Astles had to go in the middle of them up to the hospital and perform an operation on poor old Mr. Barren whose leg had to be amputated just through a nail sticking in his foot. First he had his toe off and then his foot and now leg. It is very sad. Uncle came by train this evening and Henry Glenie spent last evening here. He and Mr. Hakwer, Mules and others have some law case on and it seems to be taking up a good deal of time.

Thursday 9th June 1887.

Showery.

This being a Holey day we all drove to Mass at ten and walked home, first calling on Mrs. Reynolds and Miss Richardson and then the children brought some sweet meats for this evening. Uncle drove Mamma and I down to the Meeting at three o'clock and we decided all the rules and it was quite amusing to see and hear Mrs. Reynolds and the Mayor Mrs. Drysdale disputing about one of our rules in which she carried the day. We darned stockings, mended some garments and made a winsey gown among us all. There were about twenty ladies present. Miss Richardson (Hon Secretary) and I were kept busy most of the time writing down the Subscriptions etc. I give a receipt for each subscription so is to be thoroughly business-like. After tea we cleared out the dining-room and had our concert when they were all seated. This is the programme we went through and Papa, Ma and all said they were agreeably surprised and pleased with the children. "Overture-Duet by Ada and Genie, 2nd Recitation Longfellows Children by Clare, 2nd Highland Schottish by Livy and Clare, 4th Glenelg as (Campbells) by Genie, 5th Pinafore Little

Buttercup Clare; Ralpia, Genie; Captain Corkham, Livy; Sir Joseph Porter Ada, and Josephine myself, 6th The Confession by Anon and Ada; 7th Auld Lang Syne by all in proper style. I dressed them in character as well as I could and really think they acquitted themselves wonderfully well. Papa wants us to repeat it on my birthday.

10th June 1887 Friday

Weather same.

Mr. Fitz-Gerald returned yesterday in our little phaeton and Uncle went away by this mornings train at six. Ada and I went to a sixpenny concert in the school-room in the evening with Mrs. Smith and Southcombe and heard Mrs. Astles sing a duet with the Doctor for the first time. Ada drove Mamma and Mrs. Alexandre and Papa out to Sterling to see a poor widow woman whose eldest daughter is an idiot and they took her the clothes that were mended and made for her at our meeting on Thursday. There are an immense number of poor about just now owing principally to the scarcity of employment for men no doubt and the hard times generally.

11th June 1887 Saturday

Our Charley made a very big score at the Rifle match this afternoon and won a prize. Charley Hancorne and I went for a ride on our two buggy horses. They are rather a lazy pair that we have inn now. We just got home in time to escape a very heavy shower and hail stones too for it came on directly I got in and Charley must have got wet riding home. We were sewing all the evening. We are having a fortnights holidays now. May Barker and Rosey Donaldson were here all day playing with the children.

12th June 1887 Sunday

The boys went to Mass at eight and then rode out to some farm and did not return until late in the evening when Charleys horse slipped on the muddy road and rolled right over and fell on Charleys ankle and sprained it and of course it swelled a good deal and he had it bathed well for two hours with water as hot as ever he could bear it, the Papa rigged a watering can on the top of his bed so that he had it bathed all night long with an oil-cloth drain made from it down into a tup so as not to wet his bed at all. Papa and I drove to Mass at eleven and Ma to church and Charley Hancorne came home with us. It rained so heavily but we did not get wet as we had a curtain of the tilt down. Drove Miss Hood home from Church. Papa, Arch Charley and I went to Vespers and then Papa went to see Dr. Astles about Charleys leg and he said Papa could not have done better and to continue the cold water and rest as long as possible.

Monday 13th June 1887.

Walked into thePort this morning and called to see Mrs. Astles about a play "East Lynne". They intend getting up here and they want Arch to be Richard Hare and I Joyce and we have consented altho' I much dislike those sensational things but they are the style Mrs. Astles likes. Mrs. Southcombe, Donaldson and Katie called and a funny old man to see Charley who told us in the course of conversation that his son is looking for a complicated wife. We concluded that he meant an accomplished one. Miss Hood drove up with papa and had tea and spent the evening here. Poor Mr. Abraham Scott died this morning very

suddenly from congestion of the lungs brought on by a cold after the Malarial Fever. He was not sensible for an hour or so before his death poor fellow. He was so very nice and a great friend of mine.

Tuesday 14th June 1887.

This was Licensing Bench day here and as usual Papa of course had to be there. Charley Hancorne came up in the evening and had to go early to meet the train as Mr. Scott's father came up by it to attend the funeral tomorrow and he had to take him to the Northern Hotel etc. It has been showery the last few days so there is hope in the weather being ditto tomorrow for it is said "Happy is the bride that the sun shines on and Happy is the corpse that the rain pours on". It is strange that Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Scott were married on a Friday and had their horses bolt on their way home but of course it is only an old womans nonsense and superstition and I don't believe it but "people will talk" you know.

Wednesday 15th June 1887.

I sent the children up to Donaldsons and they got a good arm full of pepper leaves and berries and then Papa sent a trooper up from his office with a lot of flowers and I got all our garden could produce and made a large cross and wreath and carried them over with Livey's help to Mrs. Scotts and much to my astonishment she saw me and took me in to the room where the coffin was lying and laid them on it and did not even weep but of course I could not restrain my plentiful tears though much I think and so I came away at once and after dinner went to the Park Lands with Miss Hood where we had a good view of the funeral. Twelve of Gooch & Scotts employees carried the corpse and it was followed by a large number of friends and acquaintances. Papa drove Mes. Green and some others in our buggy. We had our reading at Mrs. Gordons and finished Henry III and then had a cup of tea and were joined by Mr. Gordon and Moncrief a rather interesting gentleman from Quorn.

Thursday 16th June 1887.

Of course the Quadrilles were postponed last evening on account Of Mr. Scott's death. He of course used to go to them. walked down to our Benevolent Meeting this afternoon and called for Mrs. Reynolds before going where I met Mrs. Young, Smith and Miss Richardson and we all went together and sewed desperately for a couple of hours until five o'clock. Then I called to *see* Mrs. Astles but she was not at home and so I walked home just in time for tea at six thought it was even then quite dark. I had Neuralgia terriably badly all last night so have been dosing myself with Nervine pills and Nervine Snuff and Neuralgia pills and Quinine, so surely some of them ought to relieve it - or "Kill or Cure".

Friday 17th June 1887.

Papa has received an invitation to go and see the Exhibition opened. So this morning after breakfast Mamma suddenly accept Papa's persuasion to accompany him so she drove into the Port this afternoon to get some things while I went to help Mrs. Scott make a dress as she too is going away very soon. Then went to see Mrs. Reynolds and Miss Richardson, who is coming to stay with us next week. All the evening we were very busy packing, cutting

sandwidges etc etc etc, and it was quite half past twelve before we went to bed and then no peace for poor Papa for a man can and called him to go and help him prevent some barmaid who is living just near here from drowning herself she had tried and the water had frightened her, but they had to rub her well with towells to make the blood circulate. The poor wretch had been drinking to excess and making her life a misery.

18th June 1887. Saturday

Pleasant day.

Up and dressed by candle-light for it was so dark at half past five and I drove to the train with Papa and Mamma and saw them start for Adelaide. There were a great many passengers going down to the Exhibition. The carriages were quite full. It was quite a foggy morning and did not clear up until about ten o'clock. Before Papa started he gave me three pounds and a nice gold ring with two Rubies, one diamond and two sapphires in it for a Birthday Present and Ma says she will bring me a new riding habit from Town. Ada, Genie, Livey and Clare gave me a gold slide and a silver print knife. and Miss Dodd sent me a Morroco Needle Case and Mary Ann Smith a pretty photograph frame and Katie Donaldson a bookmark and Charley and Arch a pound note. About eleven I rode into the Port and did my green grocery shopping and banked four pounds to my account at Savings Bank and then home and had my dinner and rode up to the Hospital and saw Mr. Baron, who is ill there and delivered a message from Papa to him. The doctors think now that he will get over it after all. Mr. Good rode over and told me that Sena has promised to spare "Fidgets" life at least for a time. Went for a short ride with Charley Hancorne and he stayed to tea. He forgot it was my birthday until he was going and then suddenly remembered. After tea we girls did some sewing and had a big fire in the dining-room and all sat round it. Mr. Nicholson came up and brought a dear little revolver that Charley had won in the rifle match. It is a pretty little weapon. We talked for a long time and then I played and sang for about an hour. Mr. Nicholson and some one else between them have written a pretty piece to be recited at Mr. Brownleys Benefit and at the Opening of the Town Hall for the evening, for it has only been used in the day yet. Not having lights yet.

Sunday 19th June 1887.

Showery

Had not Neuralgia during the night for the first time for a whole week. I do not know what can have done it good unless it is the Quinine I have been taking so religiously three times a day. Ada and I walked to Mass at eleven. The boys all having gone to eight o'clock and Charley Hancorne came home with us. Read all the afternoon by the fire in dining-room. Walked to Vespers in the evening and Charley Hancorne walked home with me. Our boys did not go. When we got home we found Charley busy packing Papa's uniform. He had telegraphed up for it even tho' it was Sunday and then again at ten another telegram came for his saddle and a lot of things He did not think it necessary to take there when he went down yesterday. Mr. Nicholson gave me a programme of the Exhibition opening this afternoon. It is most elaborate and ought to be quite a grand affair from all accounts.

Monday 20th June 1887.

Showery

This of course is a general holiday here and all the stores etc are closed. Mr. Peinner came here this afternoon and is staying with the boys. There is no public or in fact private amusement of any kind going on and nearly every-one has gone to Adelaide to witness the Exhibition ceremony. Charley took a horse up for Katie Donaldson and took her for a ride. Arch took a day at work and I stayed at home all day and began and made a good part of a blue flannel skirt with a crewel pattern in white wool all round it. Charley Hancorne came up and spent a good part of the day here. In the evening Mr. Peinner all the boys, children and I sat round the fire and talked and then we had some music and singing to finish up with. Charley Hancorne won a new hat from Mr. Peinner over a bet about a race horses name and then they had a sixpenny bet about who could thread my needle first and Mr. Peinner won that. Went to bed late and had Neuralgia again nearly all night.

Tuesday 21st June 1887

ADELAIDE EXHIBITION OPENED

I received and wrote a letter to Papa and Mamma. It was wet in Town for the opening day that is today and they have not nearly all the exhibits inn yet I hear. After breakfast the children and boys all rode and drove out to the race course and tried their horses, but the boys pet pony is not in good form it having the Lampers poor thing and Charley has been lancing or doing something to them. I stayed at home again all day. Uncle came down from Melrose this afternoon to take charge of the men and office etc during Papa's absence. Similar evening to last.

Wednesday 22nd June 1887

Occasional showers.

I rode down in the buggy with Uncle after dinner and wrote a letter to Papa and Ma. Then walked to Mrs. Gordons and had our reading. We are at Henry VIII now the witch of a man which he was. I am very glad that we do not live in those times. Ada and Genie drove down for us and drove Miss Hood and I home. In the evening Charley, Arch, and I drove down to the Quadrilles, and home at eleven. They were well attended tonight and most people seemed to enjoy themselves. Mr. Peinner went home. Oh! I had nearly forgotten that at the Quadrilles this evening I had a most charming Valse with Mr. Lauder but Mr. Israel is a regular little bore and he can't valse a little bit and he is constantly alsking me for those dances and it always seems to be so unkind to refuse.

Thursday 23rd June 1887.

Fine but cool.

Went to our sewing meeting as usual this afternoon but as I did not feel very well and had a lot to learn I took my sewing home and left early. I devoted the whole day to learn the part of "Lady Valeria" in "All is not gold that glitters" and by seven in the evening I knew it perfectly. But as per agreement Mr.

Southcombe did not come I knew that Mrs. Astles was there so I felt greatly relieved. Charley Hancorne spent the evening here but we were not very good friends all the same. Saw Miss Richardson this afternoon and she is coming to spend a week with us from next Monday. After the train came inn Charley bought me up some lovely camillias from Mr. Nicholson, he had brought them up from Adelaide and some maidenhair ferns, but the latter were rather withered, however a good soaking in water revived them a little.

Friday 24th June 1887.

The children went for a drive by themselves and thoroughly enjoyed it. Uncle went to Quorn by train this afternoon. Mrs, Stubbs, Southcombe and Donaldsons called this afternoon and my face ached terriably all day until after five. Mrs. Duffield from Adelaide is up staying with her sister Mrs Smith, she is a very handsome woman. In the evening every one of us went to Mr. Bromley's Benefit (all is not gold that glitters) and we locked up the house. It is the first time little Clare and Livy have been out to an entertainment in the evening at any time except the circus of course and they were delighted. Ade threw her bouquet at Mrs. Reynolds and she really was splendid as Lady Leatherbridge both her get up and her accent. Mrs. Astles was not nearly so good at "Lady Audley's Secret". For she took her part unwillingly and just to please Mr. Bromley as it was his Benefit. They cleared fifty pounds a wonderful amount considering the times and everything. My face ached nearly all the time there. Drove home with Mr. Smith the others walked.

Saturday 25th June 1887.

Fine day.

My face ached horriably again all this morning and I had to keep a cloud tied round my head for fear that a draft setting it off again. In the afternoon Mr. Nicholson called and brought me up the Exhibitions "Cantata" and two songs "Come Back to Erin and Kathleen Mavoarie" both of which I like very much. The Cantata does not seem pretty but then of course I have not heard it and that makes a great difference. Mr. Nicholson saw Papa and Mamma in Adelaide and he gave us an account of the Exhibition he is most interesting to talk to and I like him very much. He came up again in the evening and brought up a Galvanic Battery and we had such fun taking shocks all round. I am a great coward and cannot take it at all strong even tho' it might do my face good it is such a horriable sensation, but little Clare stands it wonderfully well. Then we tried taking a coin out of water and that is quite impossible and hurts most frightfully if you only just tip the water. Charley Hancorne came up and had tea with us but he could not stay long having to be at his office at 7. Poor old boy he has to work terriably hard just now as Mr. William Scott is still away ill. My face did not ache since this morning just because I have a remedy handy I suppose. Finished making my blue creweled Skirt and it looks very well. The pattern did not stamp out very well so I worked it over the paper and then picked it out which I must say is rather a bother. Oh! joy! we have news today that Papa and Ma will return on Monday. We will be all so delighted

to get them back again and then what a load of household cares will be lifted from my shoulders for it is something to think of to housekeep for our family

Sunday 26th June 1887.

Genie and I walked to church at eleven all the others having gone to 8 o'clock and Charley Hancorne came home with us for dinner. Mr. Nicholson was at our church and walked with us to the corner. Father Doyle preached a very good sermon. It being so wet and cold I did not go out again all day, not even to church in the evening for fear of my face. For it had been so bad during the night that I would not risk a cold. Began to read a book called "Lady Coventry" by Whyte Melville. It is a simple little thing in the form of a girls diary.

Monday 27th June 1887.

We received a telegram from town saying that Papa and Ma would return so we had supper prepared and all the children were allowed to sit up and welcome them even tho' it was half past ten when they arrived. This being washing day we had all the housework to do and Miss Richardson came up to stay with us this morning. Uncle drove her and the children up to the hospital and Perrors to see Mr. Baron Goodier this afternoon. Papa and Ma were of course very tired when they arrived and did not enjoy their visit as much as they anticipated owing to the perpetual rain in Adelaide which compelled them always to drive everywhere they wished to go. It being so horribly muddy everywhere. They bought us all home presents. Mine were a lovely piece of black cloth for a habit, two lace dresses white and coffee colour, A navy blue street do and hat to match and trimmings, a black jersey and some other lesser things. They are most thoughtful and kind to all of us and I am sure have not their equals in the world.

Tuesday 28th June 1887.

Showery.

Ma and Miss Richardson drove into the Port and bought a nice hand machine for us girls to use "The Wortheim". It is a good little thing and works well and will suit us much better than Mamma's treadle which always has to be left in one place. Home all day sewing and Mr. Nicholson called in the evening and taught us how to play "poker" or "whisky poker". Not by any means a nice name though it is a very nice game, and although we cheated dreadfully I liked it very much. Then Mr. Nicholson tried filling himself with electricity by sitting on a stool placed on four salt-sellers and holding his feet off the ground and his hands clutching the handles of the battery and then making sparks fly. But it did not succeed very well.

Wednesday 29th June 1887.

Showery.

We are getting a little dose of Town weather here now it is very cold too. Mr. Fitz-gerald came here and of course is staying here as he always does when in Port Augusta. Katie Donaldson and Rosey, came over for an hour this afternoon. We were sewing

all day long and went to the Quadrilles in the evening and drove there and home. While there I was dancing in a draft once and must have had some effect for all night I was terribly bad with Neuralgia and got up in the night and fastened a wet sponge on to the battery and put it to my face and it eased it and then I fell asleep. Did not go to Mrs. Gordon's Shakespearen reading this afternoon.

(No recordings made on the dates missing).

Saturday 9th July 1887.

Oh! "Tell it not in Goth. I am ashamed to say that I have let my diary go unposted for a whole ten days and now cannot even remember the doings of each day - but know very well that nothing of any importance occurred or else I should remember it. There is a great deal of monotony and I often think it is a great waist of time writing down such trivial things but as I have begun I shall go on now at least for this year - I shall keep this bit of space now for adding inn anything that requires a further account than I have room for in a day's page such as my coming trip to the South East or something of that kind.

Sunday 10th July 1887

Fine.

Had two good Sermons by Father Unsworth and O'Regan.

Fine morning by way of a change and a treat but it is so cold. All the boys and children went to Mass at eight and then the boys and some others went out with their horses to the race course and had some steeple chasing. Miss Richardson, Ma, Papa and I had to walk to Church at eleven as the horses had got out of the yard but Alfred found them in time to drive them I mean Papa Ma and Mr. Jacobs home to dinner. Charley Hancorne, Livy, Clare and I had walked it being pleasant. and Mr. Wigley joined us and came up for an hour. Richey stayed in the Port as she had Sunday School to attend to and came up after church in evening. In the afternoon some went for rides, drinks and walks but Ma and I stayed at home and read a while and then had a Sunday afternoon privilege a doze.

Monday 11th July 1887.

I began school again this morning and spent the remainder of the afternoon sewing. What with school and the children's music lessons I shall have very little time and mending and making ones clothes does take up so much. After tea Mrs. Donaldson and Katie came over and then Father Musworth and O'Regan all quite unexpectedly and we played New Market and talked round the fire all the evening. Father O'Regan among other things told us he had seen a tombstone in a churchyard in England with an inscription on the stone thus "O by the hokey she died in chokey" and some other very funny ones but alas! as usual I cannot remember. Its fearfully cold and I know Richey is wishing me to be quick and put out my light and get into bed so adieu!

Tuesday 12th July 1887.

Charming weather.

After school I rode one of the poneys to Conway Tower and visited some of the poor there. It being the district allotted to me by the L.B.S. Mrs. Oxley was ill in bed and has a little daughter or son a day old and no one but her three little children in the house with her and the eldest of those is a boy and consequently not much assistance to the poor creature. I am going to send her all the relief I can and as the children had no boots or stockings I asked them to come on Thursday to our meeting and they would be given them. There is another poor old woman too whose sight is very bad but who is able and willing to scrub or wash if we can get it for her. It is no use recording them all for it would take too much room. Sewing all the evening and finished two pairs of combinations. Miss Richardson has just finished my navy blue dress and it is such a pretty one long kilted skirt and jacket bodice with full front of blue plush and trimmed all round with buds to match

Wednesday 13th July 1887.

Up early this morning and took a bottle of milk over to poor Mrs. Oxleys before breakfast. Livy came with me and we went

through the railway fences and long grass with frost on it and got our boots and stockings so wet that we were obliged to change them. After school in the afternoon walked down to Mrs. Gordons and had our reading. We finished "The Merchant of Venice" and began "Romeo and Juliet". I like them both immensely so far and think them very much nicer than those historical plays we have been reading. The wit of Portia is most amusing and it is truly wonderful how Shakespeare portrays all the different kinds of women The Constant and Insincere, witty, Wicked and others. Stayed home all evening. All the others went to the Quadrilles. Mrs. Duffield and Mrs. Smith called.

Thursday 14th July 1887.

Very pleasant.

Not up so early this morning but got through school and all the children's music and other lessons by three and then drove down to the Ladies Benevolent Society where we distributed some clothing to several poor people and also half a dozen pairs of boots to children who had not had any for some years and it was most amusing watching them put on the boots and stockings. Most of the ladies left in a hurry to get to church in time to see Mr. Stephenson unveil two new windows in the Church of England. I did a little shopping and then walked home with Mr. Nicholson. Richey, Papa and the Sheriff (Mr. Boothby) drove up to dinner at six. Charley Hancorne came in the evening and we had a little music and played New Market, Banker and Vantoon all the evening. Papa drove Mr. Boothby down at ten to meet the Judge at the train.

Friday 15th July 1887.

Unpleasant north wind all day

This is Circuit Court day here and Judge Bundy is up. The boys Charley and Jim left for Quorn to see the Races there today. Jim took our pony up by train at six and Charley drove the Donaldsons and Mr. Wright from England. Mr. Nicholson spent the evening here and we played cards. They returned from Quorn about eight.

(3 days left out)

Tuesday 19th July 1887.

As the day was so unpleasant Mama and Richey would not be tempted to the races but stayed at home all day. Charley and Ada drove out in the Phaeton and Papa, Genie and I in the big buggy. The boys rode their race horses out walking. So very few people were there and one side of the stand was nearly empty, but the racing was very good indeed. The first race A Handicap Hurdle Jim rode Charleys "Spindle" and came in a splendid Second. Terry Sneak won. There was not a single balk all round and the four horses came in succession to the post. I cleared several sweeps and of course lost a good deal but came home seven shillings to the good. It was fearfully cold all day. Our colours showed up well and of course all we girls wore a royal blue and black velvet ribbon for the boys. The bank was

there tho' certainly no acquisition being too near us on the stand. Charley Hancorne spent the evening here with us. Went to bed very sleepy and tired too.

Wednesday 20th July 1887.

Ada Genie and Charley drove in the little buggy and Papa, Mamma Richey and I and Livy and Clare in the big one. Ever so many more people there today both on account of the weather and the racing being much more interesting. Our boys won three races. The poney flat in which Arch came first Charley Hancorne second Mr. Wigley third and then several others. Then Charley won the cigar and umbrella race although he had never smoked a cigar in his life before- and bearing several other good racers and quite experienced smokers. Then Arch won the Tandem altho' it was run in three heats, he won it easily but in the Hurdle Race our three boys were riding and had cleared all the hurdles up to the stand when ARchies horse struck and fell and rolled over him and then Charley was next and he and his horse fell over Arch and then Jim next and he cleared them and came in second. The few seconds suspense while Charley and Arch were on the ground were awful for us until they got up and then we could see they were not seriously hurt, but it made us all feel sick and I had a wretched headache all the rest of the day.

Thursday 21st July 1887

End of First Quarters Quadrilles and finished with a ball.

Papa made the boys have a good warm bath and rubbed them well down for they were greatly bruised altho' able to go to the ball and dance this evening. I was busily sewing my dress all the morning and in the afternoon walked into the Port and sent the buggy up for Ma. Richey having gone in early to attend the L.B.Meeting. Then we all met at the Institute and arranged the tables and cut sandwiches until dusk and then drove home with Papa to tea. I paid Charley Hancorne the gloves he won from me at the races White kid. Mr.Mortlock dressed here and came to the dance with us. Ma wore black lace over crimson and Richey a cream dress trimmed with red velvet and I all white with short sleeves and low neck and a pale blue sash and pearls. It was a very enjoyable dance but a wee bit overcrowded and the supper looked and tasted very nice. It was on the stage. Mrs. Duffield looked like a queen and was certainly the belle. She wore white satin and black velvet and pearls and is so stately and nice looking too.

Friday 22nd July 1887.

Delightful weather.

Only tired and sleepy until I got up and then I felt alright and walked down to the Institute at ten o'clock and helped them wash and clear up all the things. It did look such a wreck. Drove home with the Smiths in time for dinner. Richey went over to the West Side to visit and Mr. Nicholson spent the evening here. He came up with Charley. Oh Joy! Papa is going to take me to Town and to the South East next September It will be a grand trip and I do hope nothing will turn up to prevent it coming off. Am reading "The Interpreter" by Whyte Melville. It is

Saturday 23rd July 1887.

Cloudy and slightly showery.

We turned out every room in the house today and gave it such a good cleaning Maggie, Ma all the girls and I were finished by dinner time. Charley Hancorne came up for me to go for a ride and brought me a nice new bridle and white saddle cloth which I must bind. We went out by the head of the gulf and then round Andersons farm and home and got wet too but it did do us any harm. The country all round is looking charming and there are such quantities of wild flowers in some places quite a sea of yellow everlastings and there again white. All the children and Richey drove to Port Patterson and brought home great bunches of them. After tea Captain Betts of the Ship, Douglas and Mr. Wright from England spent the evening here. We had music until we were tired and then adjourned to the dining room and partook of coffee and other refreshments and talked round the fire for hours. Received a letter from Sissy Rowe, she wants me very badly to go to Adelaide and stay with her and visit the Exhibition. They say it improves daily and so many fresh exhibits are being added. Richey has begun to make my new riding habit for me The stuff is such very good black cloth so that if made well it will be a real beauty and I shall be quite set up for some time to come in the way of garments of all kinds.

Sunday 24th July 1887.

A dull day.

All the boys and children drove to Mass at eight and Papa Ada and I to eleven. Ma and Richey also went to church. Mr. Nicholson met me at church and gave me a bunch of violets and leaves and Charley Hancorne walked home to dinner with us and in the afternoon read aloud a little while and then Papa, he and I all walked to the hospital and saw Mr. Barrow who is greatly improving. He looks so bright and cheerful, he had a good many visitors this afternoon. Then we walked down to Mrs. Oxleys and I went in to see her and we walked home in time for tea. Had it and walked to Vespers and back. Mr. Nicholson came home with us. We talked and sat round the fire for an hour or so until they went. Then all went to bed or at least to our rooms. It is generally pretty late when I go to bed even if I do say "Good Night" early. There is my diary to post etc and so much else to do in my room.

Monday 25th July 1887.

Fine.

Got up to waive Jim off by the train as he left for school this morning at six. Papa walked with him to the station as it was so cold for driving. Mr. Wright spent the evening here and we played whist and talked all the evening. He is a very nice youth having just come out from England for his health, his brothers and sisters having died of Consumption and one of his lungs is gone and the other affected. It is to be hoped Australian air will brace him up and live to enjoy the money he is to come in to when of age. He is going with Papa tomorrow to the Teetarpa diggings to see the country and Papa I think will be away a week. Uncle Field, Miss Williams and Fullar went to Town to do the Exhibition by train today. They say fresh are still

coming in every day and it is rappidly improving; so by the time we go down we will trust they will all have arrived.
"Bon Noit"

Tuesday 26th July 1887.

Cold.

Awfully cold all day. Papa and Mr. Wright left this morning for Teetalpa. Mr. Nicholson and Charley Hancorne spent evening here and we played New Market and Poker. The former showed us some lovely little specimen of pure "Amber" with flies and mosquitoes enclosed inside them most perfectly. They were purchased at a collection of Mr. Israels, which he has just imported from Danzig. The greatest place in the world for Amber and there are large forests of pines under water there and all along the Baltic coast and it is dregged for and then cut under water. It being like gold the sap or resin of a pine tree there and varies greatly in colour. Wrote a good long letter of twelve pages to Mrs. Markham and several others and so now shall have a little ease of conscience, knowing that my correspondent debts are paid up to date.

Wednesday 27th July 1887.

Grand day.

Got finished school early and drove into the Port with Ma, Richey and Ada, and we went to see the Exhibition of Amber and Mamma treated us each to a present. Mine is a lovely Amber necklace and cost one pound. Ada's a cross, beads and broach, Genie Livy and Clare boraches. They are sweetly pretty only I wish ours had insects inside them too. There were some very beautiful pipes and cigarette holders of Amber in its rough state and then handsomely polished band bracelets with buckle and toupees. There were innumerable things there but the necklace Ma gave me I certainly liked much the best. Went to Mrs. Gordons and had our reading and walked home. Mr. Haining here to tea and Mr. Gruinike and Miss Hood spent evening here. We had adance in the Verandah.

Thursday 28th July 1887.

Drove down to the Sewing Meeting today and received several more donations for our Society. It is spreading fast both in fame and usefulness and we dispense a good deal of clothing on Thursday afternoons as well as make a lot of clothes. We leave off at five and go home. Then Ma and I called on Mrs. Astles and drove home. Richey stayed down for church practice. After tea I walked down and sat and heard them practice and then Moss Rowley, Richey and I walked up. It is such lovely bright moonlight nights now. The names of the chants and things they sing in the English Church such as the Magnific etc etc is just the same as ours but the music oh so different and the style of singing too. I would not have gone of course if it had been a service but it is no harm to go to a practice. Such numbers of people have bad colds and Mammass is really very bad. Did some baking and made some Ginger breads. Charley Hancorne spent evening here with us he too is in tbefashion and has a cold.

Friday 29th July 1887.

A circus arrived here today. Richey has been over on the West Side at her brothers all day. It has been a most wretched dusty day and blowing quite a strong gale all day and the dust so thick for hours that it was not possible to see the sea from here. Little Freddy Duffield comes here nearly every day to play with the children and also Rosey Donaldson. I wish our Charley were not so gone on Katie Donaldson for don't think she is at all suited for him and he does pay her such marked attention too.

Saturday 30th July 1887.

Showery.

As is usual here after those very long and fierce dust storm in Winter it has ended in rain today and has been showery all day so much so that we could not go for our ride this afternoon. The boys braved it tho' and walked over to the butts and did their shooting but so wet and did bad shooting for their pains. Mr. Nicholson and Charley Hancorne here all afternoon. Richey busy at my habit and I helped her. Too wet to go to the Circus in the evening. Their tent was blown down last night. Maggie and Alfred went and enjoyed it muchly. I don't like Circuses now like I used to. They are generally so vulgar and really so little in them. Sewing all evening round a good fire in the dining-room and Richey was relating a lot of her lifes very strange experiences. Mr. Nicholson gave me another bunch of violets today. I do wish he would not give or send me them (he was imprudent enough to send some by Richey the other day) and I am being so teased about him and I am so sorry for I do not encourage him in any way and I can never care for him any more than a friend; so I have resolved not to take his flowers or anything else. I like Charley best and better than anyone else I know even though I do not love him yet and there is no engagement between us, but he loves me and always says he will never, never marry anyone else. I wish I could return it as ardently, but I suppose the "hour will come".

Sunday 31st July 1887.

Delightful weather.

Walked to Mass at eleven and Charley H came home with me. The boys and children went to eight then the boys went out all day. After dinner Charley and I walked over to Conway Tower and I visited a poor woman there and enquired about some others. Had tea and went to Vespers, Mr. Nicholson came home with us and then Richey, Miss Hood and Mr. Bryant came up, so we sang hymns for a while, had refreshments and talked the remainder of the evening. Sister Lawrence and another Sister called to say "Good-bye" as the former is going to Adelaide to live. She has been here six years and is so nice and good and will be greatly missed. I only hope her successor will be as good. Our new Bishop is to arrive here next month and the Achbishop's is to be consecrated in Adelaide then also.

Monday 1st August 1887.

Am glad this has been a fine day for Monday is always our washing day, but Maggie is very quick and always has it over by one. Miss Richardson left here for Cradock this afternoon. She has gone to visit her married brother for a month there. We shall miss her in many ways. Our Quadrilles are to begin again next Wednesday. Mamma and all the children went for a drive and I took a book out on the sand hills and read all the afternoon. It was so pleasant in the sun. Mrs. Smith and Duffield spent the evening here. They are going to Town on Wednesday morning. Mrs. Duffield thinks she cannot leave her husband and children any longer having been away six weeks and Mrs. Smith of course like all good folks is going to do the Exhibition. Well! It is nearly twelve and I must retire. Adieu!

Tuesday 2nd August 1887.

After all Miss Richardson did not go until this morning but she stayed at Mrs. Reynolds last evening. I rode into the Port this afternoon and saw Mrs. Reynolds and then went for a good gallop around Cudmores Hill by myself and came home with quite an appetite for tea. Matt Loupou came in with the boys and had tea with us. He is up here relieving Mr. Gilbert in the Bank of South Australia and then is to stay on while Charley has his holidays. He has improved since I last saw him though there is still room for much more. Mr. Nicholson came up in the evening and we had some music. I often wish we had a billiard table, for besides liking the game we could entertain our friends so much better then. It is most interesting talking to Mr. Nicholson for he has such a fund of information and is so well read in nearly everything.

Wednesday 3rd August 1887.

Went to Mrs. Gordons as usual and met Charley who walked part of the way with me. The dear old boy it was so kind of him whilst I was out yesterday he sent me up a pretty Chinese Cabinet with seven drawers and clipboard and other little recesses and it is such a pretty piece of furniture. Our first of the second quarters quadrilles began. There was a good attendance but more gentlemen than ladies. Miss Fanny Morton is up staying with the Donaldsons. They have joined this quarters but did not last on account of Miss Andersons death. Captain Betts of the Ship Douglas is a great dancer and attends of course.

Thursday 4th August 1887.

This being the first Thursday in the month is our day for general business at the L.B. Society paying bills and had our balance on hand is two pounds eight not including our ten pounds in the bank. There has been a great many cases relieved and numerous parcels of clothing made up and distributed and undoubtedly a great deal of good done. I walked up and down and Mamma did not go today. Spent a quiet evening working and reading.

Friday 5th August 1887.

About three Miss Rowley came up and we went for a walk and called to see a poor woman Mrs. Osborn and a man who has just had his arm taken off. A Mr. Foweth. He is in great pain and I have promised to relieve them all I can by getting an order for groceries and old linen for bandages. Then we came home had tea and then Mr. Gruicinkes came home to tea with the boys Miss Rowley's brother came up in the evening and we played cards and then had music until supper time. There was a public meeting this evening in the Institute to discuss about petitioning parliament about the payment of members bill which is generally undergoing great discussion just now. I do not know how it was decided. Mrs. Donny, Mortons and Furness called.

Saturday 6th August 1887.

Lovely Weather.

Charley and I went for aride Papa and the boys all went to a sale at Sterling and Charley sold his poney "Willie" (far famed) to the Garfords to go to India. The Port Jackson which is chartered by them being in sight and is to be up here tomorrow and to load with horses for the Indian remount Calvilry. They have the pick horses from Beltana and other stations and are to take over two hundred considerably over I believe but am not quite sure as to number and the poor brutes have been here or in the trucks since Friday and cannot be shipped until tomorrow for they intend shipping them then even tho' it will be Sunday. Rosey Forward is going home to England or as I should say for a trip to England her home being here and she is to be a kind of governess to Captain and Mrs. Pautous two little girls in the Ship "Oransay" and is to sail on Monday morning. She only having decided to go yesterday. It is wonderfully short time to get ready in. As the everlastings are so plentiful this year the children and I making large letters of them "A Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year" on card-board and will put them away in a box until the festive season arrives when we hope they will come out quite charmingly being out of season and with fresh green pepper leaves at the backs to freshen them up a little but they last wonderfully well only it is a pity we have not more variety having only white and yellow.

Sunday 7th August 1887.

Same asusual exactly. Charley came home from Mass with us and after dinner we went to see some poor sick man and then on for a walk and gathered wild flowers and returned in time for tea. Mr. Nicholson was at Vespers in the evening and walked part of the way home with us. Papa took all the children after Sunday School to see the horses being shipped and they came home quite enchanted with some Hindoo women and children who were on board on their way to India from the Fiji Islands where they have been working on some plantations and have amassed great fortunes which they carry chiefly on the women and children they being covered with anklets, bracelets, ear and nose rings and the like but the little children who would not speak English amused them most they being such little mimics when Papa shook hands with one they tried the effect with each other.

Monday 8th August 1887.

Mr. Phillipson came up to dinner and gave the children a half holiday and Mamma Ada and I drove over the Steamer Port Jackson. The process of getting the horses on board seemed extremely slow. They had a kind of bridge but as the descent was pretty steep the horses did not like facing it and some of them were very unruly. They were very closely packed down below there only being a small blank between each horse and they were not allowed to lay down at all but always kept in a standing posture and each had a little trough with its food attached and in some a bucket of water was standing and a good many men to look after them and attend to their wants. There was one horse we saw that cost two thousand pounds and had been bought in Melbourne and was for Lord Beresford and a number of other valuable horses. The Hindoo woman we saw was nursing a baby and had a lot of sovereigns hung closely around her neck and then two silver collars weighing something enormous and sordered on her neck so that they could not be taken off and bracelets innumerable on and earrings and such quantities of silver coins. It must have been extremely uncomfortable for the poor creature but again "Price feels no pain".

Tuesday 9th August 1887.

The steamer left this morning and I made a wreath and anchor of wild flowers which the children gave the Captain. Mrs. Gordon and Miss Hood called afternoon. Mr. Nicholson spent the evening here.

Wednesday 10th August 1887.

Walked into the Port this afternoon and collected One pound fifteen shillings and sixpence for our Society and paid a bill and called and gave a poor woman an order for groceries. Walked to Miss Hoods and from there to Mrs. Gordons to our reading. We are now reading "As you like it" and have finished "Romeo and Juliet". It seems to me such an absurd thing for them each falling in love with each other at first sight and then getting married and knowing so very little of each other and altogether it is rather a sick thing for they indulge in such extravagant speeches. "As you like it" seems much better as far as we have gone anyhow as Mrs. Gordon will be going to Adelaide we are to meet at Miss Hoods during her absence and continue our reading. After tea we all not only Arch and I went to the Quadrilles. Mamma not felling well and Papa walked down and home with us but went to his office and Charley has a cold. Uncle Field came by the evening train. Charley H. walked home with us.

Thursday 11th August 1887.

Directly after dinner Mamma and Papa and I drove down to the Port and there crossed in our boat to the West Side and called to *see* Mrs. Revarse who has come up from Town to nurse her son who is ill with plurisy at the Wharf Hotel. She is a very nice woman and he is much better and the doctor says will now recover. Then we were rowed across again to this side and I went to our meeting while Mamma paid some calls, and all drove home to tea. Papa drove me to a poor woman's house to deliver some blankets and a parcel of clothing at Fowiths and Papa went in to see him too. I'm very much afraid he will not recover. Charley Hancorne came up in the evening and read aloud

"A Mid Summer Nights Dream" and "Hamlet" from Lambs Shakespearian tales while I made a wreath for our Church altar of the buds of white and yellow everlastings. It took a long time to make but was pretty when finished.

Friday 12th August 1887.

Uncle went by the train this morning. He says the Exhibition has greatly improved. He was at the Conversatiore there last Friday. Papa Mamma and the children went for a drive. I had a terriable headache and went to bed about five oclock and had cloths dipped in vinegar laid on my forehead until I went to sleep and they cooled it and relieved it greatly. Old Mr. Drummond has just returned from the Adelaide hospital. He can walk about now fairly well. Poor old Mr. Goodier is dead and Mr. Baron at the hospital is to have a piece of skin put on to his leg from Mr. Lauders to heal over the place where the wound is. Mr. Lauders of course being perfectly sound. It seems really marvellous the operations that are performed now a days. A piece of black skin was put into a white man's arm the other day.

Saturday 13th August 1887.

This is the termination of a long series of Rifle matches and fortunately has been a fine day for it. Charley scored highest at each range and he won three prizes; but as there is a rool in the club that one person is not to get more than one prize he intends taking the gold medal and leaving the cup and other things to the others. Captain Drysdale came second and ARch and Mr. Medlin next as ties and a lot of others but Charleys shooting was splendid and as it has been so lengthy it has been so much harder to have won. He has must entered in Mamma's name in a match in ADelaide as he will be going down next week to the shooting and for his holidays and to see the Exhibition. Charley Hancorne and I went for aride out to Mundallio and gathered a lot of wild flowers and a lot of brown kidney beans. In places the ground and grass looks as though it were sprinkled with snow the everlasting white daisies are so numerous. Oh there has been snow on several of the ranges in the North this week too, so the papers and people say, but none near here so it has not been my luck to see any much as I desire to; for I would walk or go a good long distance to see a real snow ball or shower. Got home just in time for tea and that horrid horse of Charleys snatched a bunch of flowers out of my hand and ate them all before I could save them. Mr. Nicholson spent the evening here and he lent me one of Charles Kingsleys books "Hypatia". Of course I cannot tell what it will be like yet having only read the introduction or preface so far but I don't like it and it reminds me strongly of Donations in "The Hour will Come" by George Ebers. Evidently to me the Author has a mistaken idea, or tho' perhaps I am wrong and it was the difference in the times in which he lived and now.

Sunday 14th August 1887.

Lovely day.

It rained rather heavily this morning and then cleared up and we had a fine and lovely day. All went to Mass as usual of course. Charley Hancorne drove him with us to dinner and in the afternoon read a couple of Lambs Shakesperian tales aloud to me and then we went to visit that poor man who had his arm taken off and another sick woman. Papa drove all the children to Sterling after their Sunday School and they took out a large cross and several everlasting wreaths and laid them on Uncle Tom's Grave. "May His Soul and the Souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace" Amen. Of late I have been thinking so very much of my future state in life and have been saying the thirty days prayer for guidance to it. I seem to have such a longing to be a nun and yet I am not nearly good enough and am afraid I never shall be. Charley does not want me to be one- but indeed it might be better even for him if I do become one. This being such a lovely day Mamma took the opportunity of having a good drive and they took Mrs. Reverse out with them. The children came home laden with kidney bean flowers wild ones I do not care for driving so took my book out on to the sand hill at the back and read in the warm sun all the afternoon. Of course this morning we all went to Mass at ten and walked home.. I had quite prepaired myself and made up my mind to go to Confession but there was none this morning so I must wait and go next Saturday night or Sunday morning. As this was a holy day we could not sew and Arch read to us. Mrs. Bakers travels in AFRICA while we girls made some of our letter in everlastings all the evening. Charleys gold medal was sent down today to be engraved on

Tuesday 16th August 1887.

Delightful weather.

Such a charming day and so after school I went for a splendid ride on Earnest to Port Patterson and back. There were such quantities of wild flowers even growing on the road and there beach looked so tempting for a gallop today. Dear Old Earnest is really a superb ladys hack. Mr. Wright came home with the boys to tea and spent the evening. I was darning stockings and he helped me and darned quite as neatly as any girl. Miss Hood is here staying for a week while her brother is in Adelaide. He went down this morning. The boys are very busy practising for the Rifle matches that are to come off in Town next months. Mrs. Stubbs called this afternoon.

Wednesday 17th August 1887.

Miss Hood had to go to her house directly after breakfast to teach her pupils. In the afternoon I walked down there and we had our Shakespeare at her house while Mrs. Gordon is in Adelaide. We finished "As you like it". It is a very good comedy and has such sparkling wit and we began "A Winters Tale" Hoody and I were only just home in time for tea. After which all of us went to the Quadrilles but as I was not reddy in time I had to walk down and all alone too. Feel very tired and am quite ready now for bed so --- An after thought. I was told an excellent cure for gum boils

today to get a piece of a dried or fresh fig and make it hot as possible and lay it on the gum boil and also a cure for toochache to moisten a piece of wadding with carbolic acid and put into hollow tooth without touching the face and it willcbaden all pain and nerve so they say.

Thursday 18th August 1887.

Delightful Weather.

Directly after dinner Hoody and I walked down to the Ladies B.Society and did our sewing and then called on Mrs. Astles and did some other calls and walked home or rather I did for Hoody stayed in the Port as she had to go inn again to church in the evening. Miss Clarke and Mr. Wright were here to tea and spent the evening. I had to go to practice immediately after tea and Charley came for me so I hurried off without it and came back as soon as I could as Mr. and Mrs. Beaton, Mrs Bowers, Miss Rowley and her brother Captain Betts and Matt Sampson and Mr. Nicholson all spent the evening here. We did not know they were all coming tho' of course were glad to see them. Ma had only asked the Beattons here. Inspector Saunders came by the evening train and is staying here with us. He is the same old self satisfied -- yet good hearted man as ever.

Friday 19th August 1887.

After school this afternoon Mrs. Astles, Inspector Saunders and I went for a long ride and only returned in time for tea. It was thoroughly enjoyable and we had such lovely canters and I had such a lovely horse Narcara for the first time. I have ridden him a very tall black policehorse. Mr. Wright was here to tea and after it we girls got Papas and the boys clothes ready and marked. Some new shirts and collars for them. Then had a little music and Mr. Saunders told us his Youthful barrick tricks and kept us amused all the rest of the evening sitting round the fire and eating roasted potatoes and drinking coffee. They are all off by train in the morning so I must hurry and got to bed.

Saturday 20th August 1887.

Lovely Weather.

Mamma and Hoody were in the Port all the morning. After dinner I went out with Charley Hancorne for a ride such a long way and we got a few pretty wild flowers and were on our way home when we met Arch, Captain Betts, Mr. Wright and Mat Sampson and Mr. Nicholson, and they persuaded us to go back with them and so we did and most of them tried jumping over a ditch and Mr. Wright and his horse turned a somersault but were not hurt and then over Goodiers fence and they broke two rails and an old man came up and said he would summons them and they had to remain inn until they jumped out. Coming home we had some resitations and did not get home until after tea and the lamps were all out. I did not look at the clock so don't know what the time was, However Charley Hancorne had tea with us and I did not get scolded for being out so late. In the evening Hoody Charley and I walked down to Forwards and spent the evening there. They had a number of guests and had a little "Opretta" "The Blind Beggars". Mr. Forward, Cavanagh and Miss Forward being the performers. The latter being anlythE peasants.

It was very good. We left early as we had to walk home but Charley saw us safely home. Mamma and I were up at five this morning as Papa, Inspector Saunders and Charley all went off by the six o'clock train. The latter to Adelaide to shoot in the Volunteer matches and for his fortnights holiday and the others up North to Hergott Springs or some such place. They took a whole boiled tongue and some bread so they would not fare badly on the way. Charley looked so funny in his regimentals. They have all just been faced with red and now look so conspicuous looking and he dislikes them so seldom lets us see him when dressed in them. Papa often says I'm not proud altho' I look gay when dressed in uniform. It is almost twelve and Hoody is in bed.

Sunday 21st August 1887.

Summery Day.

The buggy horses are both so lame today that we all had to walk to church and it has been quite a Summers day. Hoody stayed down after church as she had to go to Sunday School and did not come up until the evening. After dinner the children went to Sunday School and Arch and Ada rode out to our paddock and put the tap right that some boys have been turning on. Charley read aloud "A comedy of errors" and in the evening Arch Ada Charley and I went to Vespers. Mr. Nicholson came home with us and Uncle Field came from Melrose. Sat in the dining room and talked until about ten then had supper and retired. Helped Arch who was busy getting his things packed for tomorrow morning as he is going by the train then for his fortnights holiday and also to shoot in some matches. It is a pity he could not get away when Charley did and both go together. But however they will be together in Adelaide.

Monday 22nd August 1887.

Little Clares Birthday so Ma gave her a pretty doll dressed in her own long cloth robes and all we others gave her something each. She and all of them are to have a holiday from school tomorrow instead of today and then I will give them Snap-dragon in the evening. Mamma and Hoody and Ada were in the Port all the evening. Mr. Ashworth and Smith called and asked me to sing at a little concert for the patients at the hospital to be held in an empty ward up there and as only a few invited guests besides the patients are to be present I consented and hope it will be a success. Received an invitation to tea and spend the evening at Mrs. Astles tomorrow Hoody and I. It has been trying all day to rain but has not succeeded in a shower yet. Papa sent Clare a telegram wishing her "Many Happy Returns of the Day" and she was so very pleased and he returned himself by the ten train and brought home some more specimens from the silver mines. He seems so fond of specimens and is considered a good judge of that kind of thing too. Some of them are really beautiful.

Tuesday 23rd August 1887.

Warmish.

It is a thorough Summers day and our warm weather is beginning much earlier than is usual. Hoody and I went to tea at the Astles at six. We were shown into the drawing room after our hats were taken off and the hostess allotted us each a gentleman

to take us in, mine was Captain Betts. There were nine guests to tea and in the evening a number of others came and they had had a bedroom cleared for dancing and the doctor and all round who could sing sang a song in between. It was very jolly but so tiring dancing on the floor for it seemed to have no spring inn it or else I got uncommonly bad partners. Charley Hancorne walked home with us about twelve and I am now very very tired.

Wednesday 24th August 1887.

Summery

Uncle left driving this morning for Port Germein have asked him to collect me some flowers for I intend making a book of all the Indigious flowers of Australia and paisting them in leaves on one side with the names index and a painted copy on the other so I shall have to collect a good many different species for I shall only have one of each kind and intend doing all the painting myself. There are not many varieties about here and no native heaths at all and they so beautifully in the South Coast and Victoria. I wish too that I could find out something to prevent their colours from fading so as they nearly always do when dried. Have had a nasty headache all today. Mr. Nicholson brought up a lovely red Camilla and a bunch of violets for us to wear tonight. We all drove to the Quadrilles. I wore all white for it was quite warm.

Thursday 25th August 1887.

Showery.

The weather has indeed changed today for it is now quite showery and wintery and yesterday was so hot and summery. Mr. Wright and Charley Hancorne spent the evening here and we had music all the evening. Mr. Wright gave me a song called "The Tarpaulin Jacket". Hoody went to church in the evening and came up after. Papa sent Charleys gold medal down to him this evening. It is indeed a beauty and so heavy but much too large for him to wear. I want to finish "Hypatia" and oh I cannot get any time at it and it is such a lovely book too. She was a great philosipher indeed and her ending is most sad but it is not and cannot be time. It is such a lovely written book that I intend to read the authors life written by his wife Mrs. Kingsley. Charley gave me two pretty oval wall plates with the Adelaide Exhibition on.

Friday 26th August 1887.

Showery and thunderstorm.

Still the showery weather keeps on and so much thunder and lightening it is a very long time since we had such a storm It was very fierce in the evening and such a heavy shower of rain that it poured inn the windows downstairs and at the verandah. I began to knit a pair of red silk socks and I wrote several letters in the afternoon to troopers in different parts asking them to gather me some wild flowers for my collection so I hope they will and also to several friends. Mr. Nicholson spent the evening here and he gave me a new song called "Out of the Rocks". At least it is not a new song but fresh to me and I like it very well. He also gave me a M.S.S. Copy of the Octoroon play.

(This and the following two pages dated out of sequence as in diary).

3rd September 1887.

Lovely Day.

Papa went up North by this mornings train and will be away a few days. It is now quite decided that I am to go to Adelaide next Tuesday week by a special train that will leave here at five in the morning and reach Town at six in the evening, frightfully early to be up and dressed by that time. That is the worst part of it. Ada wants to go to so I hope Ma will allow her. After dinner Charley Hancorne came and I rode into the Port and I did some shopping and home again and we then went for a ride out through Sterling to our paddock. After tea Mamma, Ada and I drove into the Port and home in about an hour. Mr. Nicholson spent the evening here. Arch came home by the ten o'clock train. He says such numbers of North and S. East people are in Town and my cousin Johny Besley and Willie Boucaut and others will be going down next week so it will be a grand opportunity of meeting most of our old friends, such a lot of people from here are going down there too. Mr. Nicholson gave me two new songs one is "Mary Call the Cattle home" by Charles Kingsley. A perfect little gem as far as poetry is concerned and the tune is not so bad either. It is taken from his book.

4th September 1887.

Fine day.

Drove with Arch and the children to Mass at eleven. After dinner Charley Hancorne read aloud a splendid sermon by a Father Kelly in Melbourne or Sydney, I think it is. Went to Vespers in evening and Mr. Nicholson came home with us. Mrs. Murphy is away. I played the organ at church this evening and it was rather hard playing and singing too for Miss Raffarty was away. She fainted in church this morning and was not well enough to come this evening. She is going to Adelaide next week and I cannot think whatever we shall do in the choir then and the Bishop is coming too. It is a pity we have not some more girl or female voices. Wrote some letters and here I am now entering this scribbled account at late hours as usual alas! Somehow I never get my beauty sleep over by twelve and seldom even before for we keep such shocking late hours.

5th September 1887.

Received a telegram from Charley saying that he and Katie Donaldson would be up by the ten train and they came. He has distinguished himself anyhow with his shooting even tho' he did not do his best on account of the rain. We had Miss Cope inn to help us with our sewing as I am going to Adelaide on the 13th. In the Special excursion train and to be away a month and come home by Clair. Went for a ride with Mrs. Astles, Miss Stockton and Matt Loupou I rode Jasper. Home in time for tea. Charley says the train is always fearfully crowded just now near town hardly standing room in it.

23rd August 1887.

Fine indeed.

Sewing all afternoon after all I did not have a holiday as we had intended for I had school the same as ever but in the afternoon Maude Haining, Annie Reynolds, Rosey Donaldson and May Barker spent the afternoon and evening here and the children had great fun and May is staying all night here as it is too far for her to go home. About half past five I walked down to Miss Hoods and we went together to Dr. Astles to tea and spend the evening. Have turned the wrong page and written double. Alas Alas. My head it must be wool gathering indeed. Have made a mistake and written the above on the wrong page so will write todays in back hand. Got a splendid notice in the dispatch for my singing on Monday evening and have pasted it on front page. Mr. Nicholson spent evening here. Read for an hour in afternoon to poor Mr. Fourth who has his arm off and is ill in bed and walked into Port and back with little Livy.

31st August 1887.

Showery.

It has been showery all today. Have been asked to join a yachting party down the Gulf tomorrow with Mr. and Mrs. Jervis, Dr. and Mrs. Astles, Miss Hood and Mr. Bryant and several others but I am not at all fond of sailing and don't think I shall go. There is no Quadrilles this evening. Charley Hancorne spent the evening. Read all the afternoon some little religious books to my self before I lend them as I intend to Charley. He is preparing for his first Confession. Received a note and the part of Dora from Mr. Bramley. He asks me to take that part or Character in the Octaroon which is to come off shortly, but I don't think I shall as I am going to Adelaide on the 13th for a months holiday. I do wish Ada could go to but Ma won't consent to her. It is late as usual.

1st September 1887.

Showery.

This being a general holiday here Papa drove all the children out to some distance beyond Port Patterson and Charley Hancorne and I drove Half caste and Earnest. It just poured with rain at times as we riding got thoroughly wet and dry again. Those driving in our titled buggy did not. We took meat, bread, butter jam, oranges, tea etc and forgot water so we could not make tea and of course we just longed for it in consequence and we had got the billy can and cups too such a pity. In the evening Papa, Charley, Livy Clare and I walked in the "Fairi Voices" and "Sea Saw" at the Institute. It was very good and a pretty sight to see the girls all dressed in fairi dresses with little wings and pretty coloured stockings and shoes and they all sang very well but I was a little disappointed in the Queen for she was not graceful looking and had only a fair voice. Also she was an importation for the occasion Miss Inglis) from James Town or one of those places. Spent the evening at Smiths. Have not been feeling well all day. The weather too is so showery and cold. We expect the boys home from Town tomorrow evening. It has been raining almost every day in Adelaide during their stay there not so here.

27TH AUGUST 1887.

Mamma was in the Port all the morning and immediately after dinner she Papa and the children all drove out to our paddock in Sterling and Charley and I went for our ride he on his horse Half Caste and I on dear old Earnest. We went a good long way and got some wild flowers and coming home near Sterling saw two telegraph poles that had been struck with lightening last night one was split right in half and the other was splintered and had the insulators struck off. Mr. Wright came up in the evening and said "Good Bye" and brought his music he played two pieces very nicely indeed and among his songs was one I thought so sweetly pretty "Kathleen Aroon". The air is so very pretty and the words too are very good. He is a nice youth and I am sorry he is going away. He will go in the ship Douglas as far as Newcastle. Papa received a letter asking him to be a judge of Harness and a lot of other things at an Exhibition to be held here next month and I also one for sewing and fancy work so if we do not go to Adelaide or the South East we will be at least I will I do not know whether Papa will or not. Pressed all my wild flowers this evening and Mr. Wright helped me do them. Papa showed me how to do them properly by putting them on cards and cutting slips in them. Charley wrote to Mamma and told her all about their shooting. He has not done so badly as he has won eight pounds five in one prize and three one pounds but has lost a good many and poor old Arch is quite out of it altogether. I feel so sleepy after my long ride today.

28th August 1887.

Charming weather.

Last night received letter and photograph from my cousin in England Mrs. Newson taken when she was Lizzie Berriman tho she appears to be a nice looking girl and I like her letter. It so strange corresponding with relations or friends one has never seen. Up early and went to Confession and Communion at eight o'clock Mass. We all drove and then again to eleven and I walked home with Charley. Mr. Wright called while we were at Church as their ship does not sail until tomorrow and he left a note and piece of music for me. After dinner Charley Hancorne read aloud "The Tempest", Alls well that ends well and the Taming of the Shrew whilst I sketched all my flowers and it took a good long time then as Maggy was out I got tea for her and after it we all went to Vespers. Miss Hood and Mr. Bryant spent the evening here.

29th August 1887

This afternoon I walked to Miss Hoods and she walked with me into the Port and I bought a silk handkerchief and bookmark and sent Miss Hood and a neck affair and pair of gloves and sent Mary Ann Smith as it will be their birthday soon. Then we called to see Mrs. Reynolds and Miss Richardson who are going by train to Adelaide tomorrow morning for their holidays and several other Port folks are going with them. Then we drove home with Papa to our different homes had tea and Hoody called for me and we both walked with Ada and Genie to the Hospital where we had the Concert. Mrs. Basru was wheeled in on a nice cain chair and another patient carried inn and there were

about fifteen patients and some nurses and several of our friends. The doctor sang three songs, Miss Fox two Mr. Cavanagh two Mr. Smith two and myself three and Messrs. Forward and Smith played the overtures on the Violin and piano very nicely.

Tuesday 6th September 1887.

Mrs. Reynolds Young, Pappin and Miss Richardson and a lot of others went down by the train this morning. I walked into the Port this afternoon and called on the Stubbs and Astles and drove home with Mr. Smith who came in and asked Ma to allow me to go with him to the rehearsal of the Octoroon in the evening and so he called for me after tea and drove me down and then home again. It was only a reading rehearsal of course and I do not like my part of Dora Sunnyside at all because I have to express my admiration of Mr. Peyton (Mr. Bell) so much. However I will do my best in it. There are a great many characters "Zoe" the principal is Mrs. Bromley, Mr. Bromley "Pete", "McClusky" Mr. Smith, "Scudder" Mr. Harry Morgan, "The Indian" Mr. Stubbs "Mrs. Peyton" Mrs. Reynolds "Miss Jones" I forget what "Mr. Peyton" Mr. Bell Arch something else and Paul Mr. Hooper and so ever so many others.

Wednesday 7th September 1887

Fine

It is so pleasantly moonlight now so we went for a nice drive before going home last evening. Home all day Miss Cope has been here sewing the last three days and has helped Ma and I make me a new grey walking dress with plush to match and a pale blue evening trimmed with coffee lace and a white satin and white lace. All extremely pretty at least I think so. Mr. Nicholson called and walked to the Quadrilles with the boys and I. He brought us a lot of lovely pansies from the Ostrich farm and a pair of eggs for Ma and he said he had had his tea of cake made with Ostrich eggs. Uncle Field came

Thursday 8th September 1887.

Very Cold indeed.

Walked into the Port in the afternoon to the Benevolent Society and did all the work there in the way of business as the President Vice President and Secretary are in town holiday making and so our meeting was very small. Walked home and then to six o'clock dinner at Mrs. Smiths and drove with them to the Institute to our rehearsal of the "Octoroon" which lasted a couple of hours and we drove home again. It will I think be a splendid thing and has such a great many characters about fifteen or twenty grown people and about a dozen little boys to be niggers. They have to sing, whole and other things it is to cost about forty pounds to put it on the stage alone as they intend getting a real steam boat, and the scenery up from the Adelaide Theatre so it ought to rather good.

Friday 9th September 1887.

Had toothache wretchedly all night. Found when I went up to breakfast this morning that Papa and Inspector Saunders had

arrived during the night and today we have had quite a number of visitors, Mrs. Astles, then Mrs. Stubbs and then Mrs. Smith and Mr. Nicholson spent the evening here. This afternoon Papa, Ada Mrs. Astles Miss Fox, and Inspector Saunders all went out for a ride and they wanted me to go but I had not time for I was helping Maggie get things straight again after the paper hangers and painter who have been working in the house the last week and have done the passage, doors, stair verandah atc. It looks very well indeed, only is a horrible nuisance while being done both the smell of the paint and having to guard against rubbing it with our clothes.

Saturday 10th September 1887.

Pleasant weather.

Inspector Saunders went by train this morning and Uncle Field left driving for Melrose. After dinner Charley and I rode out about to the ostrich farm. Mr. Nicholson and the boys also went for a ride and he came home with them to tea and spent the evening. He read some poems to us while Mamma and I were sewing as I had some I wished to finish. All my dresses now are finished and I have my box all packed ready for Tuesday morning, but I wish the train were not going to start at such an unearthly hour as five in the morning. Miss Hood, Charley Hancorne, Birty Young, Mr. Rowley and a number of others are all going down by it so I shall not be among strangers even tho' Papa is not going as he intended as he has given his clerk Mr. Downing a holiday. Master Dick fell while out with Charley today and hurt his head rather badly tho' fortunately Charley was not hurt at all. He is trying to form a Cavalry Corps or Mounted Infantry here and has already thirty enlisted whose names he is going to send into Town and he has all the regulation books etc up and I fancy, the thing take off be a success generally. But then again new things always do for a time and then die a natural death as polo and numerous other things have done here and I suppose elsewhere. I have just got a fresh crop of chilblains and they are most horribly sore on my hands perpetually itching. I wrote to Mrs. Drysdale and sent her a blank cheque to sign for the Ladies Benevolent Society and received it by this evenings post back again signed alright.

Sunday 11th September 1887.

Cloudy and cold.

Drove with Papa and the children to Mass at eleven. All the boys and Charley Hancorne and Mr. Haining went out to Swinden riding after eight o'clock Mass and did not return until six. After dinner I wrote to Jim to meet me at the train in town on Tuesday and to Aunt Potter to inform her of my intended visit and then I sketched a spray of Sturt Pea into my album of flowers and walked out to *see* poor Mr. Howarth and took him some flowers and read to him for half an hour. Then walked home had tea and we all walked to Vespers. I wore my little black coat today for first time. It is such a neat little garment and has breast pocket and is all complete except the back and that fits in like any girls jacket at back. The alter looks lovely today in honour of the B.V. Mary and Father O'Regan preached a sermon on her this evening. Charley and Mr. Nicholson walked home with us.

Monday 12th September 1887.

Fine.

Genie and I drove into the Port in the little Phaeton and the poney is just fresh in from the paddock and is so fresh and free I did a lot of business one way and another and paid all the bills owing from the L.B.Society. Then drove home had dinner and ironed a lot of clothes and then did some packing and sewing until tea time and balanced my Society's books and sent them to Mrs. Beaton who is to act for me while I am away. Then walked up to Mrs. Donaldstons and said "Good Bye" and Charley Hancorne called for me and we walked home together and then cut a tongue up into sandwidges for tomorrow; sent my box to the railway station and had a warm bath and here I am now all ready for bed and to get up at four tomorrow but I'm afraid I shan't sleep much.

Tuesday 13th September 1887.

Beautiful day. Charley rode up and tapped at my window at a few minutes to four and then woke our black boy and got him to put the horses in the buggy while I dressed and called Papa and put the spirit kettle on and unfortunately when I went to make my cup of cofee found I had put no water in it and that the spout, handle and bottom had melted out of the tin kettle. The train left a little after five and there were a great many passengers but Miss Hood and I had a nice comfortable ladies carriage with a W.C. in and a Lavatory and Mirror all to ourselves until we got to Quorn when such a terriable crush came inn and then so on all down at each station they simply packed inn but we had our sandwidges and fruit and got cups of tea all along. Papa and Mr. Nicholson saw us off and Jim came to the Adelaide Station we drove in a cab to Aunt Potters at Midindie where I now am writing this.

Wednesday 14th September 1887.

Up before eight and had a look all round the garden and picked flowers. Then Charley called for me and we walked to the tram and then to the College and got Jim who went with us to Aunt Clenies and from there we went to the Exhibition had our dinner there and remained until five in the evening and saw several people, I knew. Charley brought me some Chocklate Iced Lollies and we saw the man making them and went carefully all throught the picture gallery and Charley brought a Cigar fan each for Ada and Livy and I bought him a pair of tan kid gloves. The Exhibition is very beautiful and from the Tower I could see the Show quite well and as smoking was allowed there Charley was in his element. We came home in a train and Charley spent evening here and Mr. and Mrs. Shaw and Bob is down.

Thursday 15th September 1887.

Hot and dusty.

Charley came over for me about eleven and we walked into Town and left a parcel for Mrs. Grundy at Beaches, from Mrs. Smith. Then Charley went to see Mr. Scott and did some business

for him and did some shopping and had my dinner at a refreshment shop and came back here about five feeling fearfully tired. After tea I trimmed my new grey hat and Mr. Vincent Ewens spent the evening here. He is a very nice youth. I wrote to them at home and answered a letter I received this morning from Mr. King a trooper at Port Lincoln thanking him for some flowers and seaweed he has sent me at Pt. Augusta. Bob spent the evening at Captain McKays. He is down from Bookmark to compete in a shooting match which is to come off next Saturday. The flowers here are most beautiful and every day I get a large buttonhole to wear and always give Bob and Charley one when they are here. It is so delicious too picking and eating the oranges and lemons off the trees.
Friday 16th September 1887.

Quite warm. Charley came over for me about ten and we walked into Town and he had his photo taken at Hammers Studios. Then we went to the Exhibition had dinner there and remained until five when my tooth began to ache from eating the lollies I think for Charley bought a lot and we saw them making them and chocolate creams and cocoanut ice and Lotbothol Tweed and then we walked home and I had a lay down for half an hour and we had tea and Charley took Kathleen and I to the Theatre. I wore my pale blue and coffee lace dress and Kate a cream but my tooth ached so badly that we had to go to a chemist and get some stuff in it. "A Run of Lock" was the piece and it was splendid. There were six live race horses and huntsmen and hounds and a lady riding and a ball and a race and a sale and the scenery and dresses were beautiful. The heroine was a girl called Daisy and she was a rich horse owner's daughter and loved his trainer who was the squire's disowned son. Then through a false friend and scoundrel Daisy was taken to London and there suffered guilty and through the assistance of Lucy a true friend and the wife of the Captain she escaped and went back to her father, who had retained a portion of his wealth and the horse Daisy won the race for them in spite of all threat and bribes being brought to bear. It was so thoroughly enjoyable.

Saturday 17th September 1887.

Charley did not come until half past one having gone to the Gooches first. Then he had dinner here and took Kathleen and I to the Show, which we did not think very good. We walked home and had tea and went into Town again and through Rundle Street and the Arcade which is all brilliantly lit with electric light. Then to the Exhibition where I bought Charley a little Crucifix with font attached and he bought some cigar fans to take home to the girls. After walking through the building we went into the Concert Hall and heard a very good concert two solos by Bessie Royal, two songs by Mr. Alumann and two by Mr. Nasto and two by a little boy called Faulkiner and two violin solos by Mrs. Alderman. Little Faulkiner has a most wonderful voice with such range and so clear but I could not hear his words and most people were very much charmed with Mrs. Ochlumann's "Excelsior" by Hatton. It is a different setting from any I have ever heard but I do not care for it. He repeated it for an encore. Bessie Royal's voice I do not like and could not hear her words either. Charley walked home with us and then hurried back in a tram to catch his train. Last evening we came home in a cab.

Sunday 18th September 1887.

Lovely weather.

Left here at ten for Church and waited at the corner until quite half past for Charley who did not come as he had 'prgllised to do and at last I took a tram and first got to the Cathedral in time to get a seat in one of the side isles and could not even see the Middle Alter or priest once. The music and singing were very good. Went with Aunt Glenie home to dinner and found Jim already there but Charley did not come until about five o'clock and then he had been up to Aunts at Medindie first thinking I might be there as he had missed the morning train up from the Bay and so had gone to Mass down there. Aunt Glenie Topsy and Maud,,Charley and I all went to Vespers and we had a splendid sermon on the Efficacy of prayer and a miracle of the congealed blood turned into flint which take place at Naples of St. Iamaris was related to us by a priest who has seen it himself. Maud Glenie is going with Charley to Port Augusta tomorrow.

Monday 19th September 1887.

Up and dressed at six and Maude and I walked to the railway station where we met Charley and he and I had a good chat and then watched them start in the train. There was a great many passengers and at the last minute they had to put on an extra carriage but Charley and Maude had good comfortable seats aitho' crowded a little. I walked back here to Medindie and met Bob on his way to Turretfield and Kathleen is to meet him at Gawler tomorrow and they will then go on to Bookmark together. Aunt Potter made a wreath this being the anniversary of cousin Livys death and she and I walked up to the North Road Cemetery and visited the grave and laid the wreaths upon it and Aunt gave the caretaker a pound for weeding and looking after the grave. In the evening I wrote a letter and Kathleen and I walked over to the pillar and posted it. Then I knitted a little at a silk sock while Kathleen read aloud to us all She is busy getting her clothes ready for tomorrow. Feel very sad.

Tuesday 20th September 1887.

Thunderstorm and Rain.

Up pretty early this morning and Hannah made some lovely tarts and cakes. Then we all drove in a cab to Town and saw Kathleen safely started in the Morgan train. There were a great many passengers and I saw several faces I knew. We then went to Mrs. Shaws and had dinner and after two or three of us went for a walk through the Arcade and other places and I called at Hammer & Co's and got Charleys proofs but do not like them and don't think they do him justice. However I ordered two dozen as he desired and sent them on to him. The Shaws are very kind people but I do not care for them at all. Received letters from home and an invitation to a dance in Port Augusta tonight but of course I can't go. We drove home in a cab and it rained heavily and we had a little thunder and lightening Then had supper Aunt always has a laid supper and not just refreshments as we do home.

Wednesday 21st September 1887.

Showery.

Feel so refreshed had having gone to bed early last evening and had a good sleep. Aunt and I went to Mrs. Barnes Registry Office and engaged a servant who came this afternoon and promises very well from her beginning. This afternoon Aunt and I walked over to the North Adelaide Library and exchanged some books and then to see the Miss Mardons who were very pleased to see me. After tea Aunt and I played and read alternately had supper talked for a while and then to bed. Hannah was fretting after Kathleen whom she misses very much. I had some music over from Marshalls but only kept two songs "Never More" and "Going to Market". I would be so happy here if it were not so near the City. I mean if it were a country place for Aunt is so kind and it is such a charming dwelling, only when near Town I feel that I want to be out every day and *see* everything.

Thursday 22nd September 1887.

Showery.

After breakfast Hannah and I walked round the garden and picked a charming bunch of flowers which I brought to Aunt Glenie from Aunt Potter. In the afternoon Aunt Glenie and I walked to see the Fields but only Minnie and May were home. Then to General Post Office and called for Topsy and home had tea and Topsy and I went to the Exhibition and heard an Organ recital by Mr. Pybus and met several people I knew from Port Augusta and other places. We heard a man play the Zephyr there most beautifully and it did make me long so to learn it and also a little boy played on some musical tubes very nicely. We ate such a quantity of lollies but they were such delicious ones I could not resist them and altogether it only wanted them all at home to make it perfection and heavenly. Very tired now.

Friday 23rd September 1887.

Showery

Not up until nine. Then wrote some letters had breakfast and walked into Town and to General Post Office. Had my dinner at a restaurant and went to Mrs. Hunts after where I stayed until after tea. Then walked to Aunt Glenies and Topsy and I went to the fireworks or intended to go but when we got there we found there were none but a military band played in the Exhibition and we bought a quantity of lollies and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves watching the crowds of people from the gallery. The fireworks had been postponed on account of the weather. Got to Mrs. Hunts about ten and found Miss Bright, Miss Sophie Haggie and Colonel Davidson and we had such fun up to one o'clock. Mrs. Hunt and the girls were away and all the girls stayed there. Sophie and I sleeping together and I thought Colonel Davidson would never go. He seemed so loathe to do so.

Saturday 24th September 1887.

Mrs. Hunt had several visitors this morning and she drove to the Cemetary and took a huge white cross and wreath made of shells up to poor Johns grave while Sophie and I went into Rundle Street and did some shopping and looked into nearly all the windows. Then went back to dinner and Mrs Hunt invited us both there to spend Monday and stay all night as I said could not spare time to spend a week with them as I have so many friends to see. I then walked down to Aunt Glenie and Topsy and I went up to Medindie and found the two Miss Shaws and a Miss Hanson there after having four o'clock tea and cake we went into the garden and picked oranges and lemons and a bunch of flowers each. Had tea and music and talking all the evening. Then it poured so raining that Topsy and I decided to accept Aunts invitation and stay all night but the other girls said they had to be home and so left in the rain and it continued for hours after so they must have got a thorough ducking. I found letters papers and a book from home waiting my perusal at Medindie.

Sunday 25th September 1887.

Topsy and I came down in a tram to church at the Cathedral at eleven and met our Jim and Charley Glenie and Jack Besley who all came with us to dinner at Aunt Glenies. It was showery all day long. I went to the Woods with Topsy and Charley Glenie in the afternoon and we stayed there to tea but it poured with rain so heavily until about nine o'clock so we could not go to church and got home a little wet although we rode most of the way home in trams. Town is a wretched place in wet weather I have quite found that out. The Woods showed us some beautiful pen and ink sketches done on white cloth all Tasman and Australian Scenes by Mr. Muichin. They are far the best things in the Exhibition.

Monday 26th September 1887.

About nine o'clock I went out in a tram to Parkside to see Mrs. Alfred Simpson, but she was ill in bed with pluricy I think she told me and had a nurse too there, so I sat all day long at the side of her bed as she asked me to except whilst I was at dinner downstairs with old Mr. Simpson and the children and once I walked round the orchard and garden with the children while she was having a little sleep. Then went back and had tea at Aunt Glenies and from there up to Medindie to Aunt Potters where I stayed all night. It is always such a rush from place to place in Town.

Oh dear! I have not kept this posted up again and now I have forgotten exactly how I spent each day. But I know that I was out every day or evening while in Town and went to the Exhibition endless times, both by day and evening. The latter I preferred as their the Electric lights made things look much better, and on going in I generally made my way first to the Western End and got a supply of sweets. The banks and concerts there too were generally in the evening and consequently made it much more attractive. Tho' one afternoon Aunt Potter, Hannah and I heard a band contest and had it not been for the rain would have enjoyed it. The Art Exhibits in the Concert Hall are particularly good. There are numerous strange things and among them two chairs made of untied reels of cotton strung on wire and a quantity of crochet, knitting and other work from the Lunatic Asylum.

The bushes and baskets only are from the blind. Of course I met numerous friends and acquaintances from different places and very frequently met people whom I had not seen since I was a very little child and whom I did not know were in Town. I spent several evenings and nights at the Hunts and enjoyed them very much indeed. They are such nice kind people. While there one day Mr. Ross brought int a plum pudding he had sent him from England, that was two years old and we had it for dinner. The fireworks were really charming I saw them three times and can't compare them to anything but a fairy scene.

Then I spent a few days with the Howes and was at a dinner party there on Mrs. Howes birthday. I gave her a green glass water jug and bought Ma one the same. With them I went to a Conversatizum in St. Peters Town Hall. There is quite a rage for them just now and I have been to several and I think them very enjoyable because there is such variety of amusement and the music and singing is generally very good. I took such a fancy to the "Zither" when I heard it played that I hunted and found a Master who could teach it and I then bought an instrument for three pounds ten shillings and got three lessons at four shillings a lesson and that used to take up a good deal of time going to and fro for he lived at Kent Town and I had to take two trams to get there. Herr Otto Treichel is the man's name and he has really the most charming little house I have been in for a long time past. So prettily furnished and so neat even to the flower and kitchen garden and a pretty little wife to share and take care of it all. He showed me some lovely Zithers and he has such a lot of pupils. One lady who has only been learning six months he says, plays well enough for a concert room.

Also went to see Mikado, which I enjoyed immensely. It is a very pretty opera, tho' silly and makes one quite admire Yum-Yum and those little Japanese women. Went to lots of concerts, but was greatly disappointed with the singing in most of them.

I enjoyed my stay in Clare too very much. It is such a very pretty place and I think the drive from the Farrels Flat Railway Station to Clare simply beautiful, through a regular long avenue of pine trees. It was so pleasant too being able to pick oranges from the trees and I was at two dances there and drove out to Seven Hills College and a ride on a beautiful grey horse to the top of all the hills round the town with Clare Bludstone and Inspector Saunders and I went to see three very nice gardens, The Hopes, Mrs. Brights and ---- And had an invitation to stay to a Fancy Dress Ball, but I longed too much for home and besides my lot had come on home before me so I could not stay.

I spent a great deal of money all that Papa and Mamma gave me, and sent me and besides I drew on my savings account but oh! It will go in spite of one's care and of course that is all it is for.

Another stupid blunder about date. Am always looking at wrong date.

Saturday 15th October 1887

Up at six and we had breakfast early. I sent two telegrams one to Mamma and one to Charley. At half past nine Dorris and Clare Blewstone and Inspector Saunders walked down to the coach with me and I started at once for Farrels Flat and sat in front with the driver and there was some other passengers a man in the back seat. We drove quite near the Creek and the driver pointed out the spot where a poor girl called Miss Holland was drowned on Thursday in ten inches of water. she used to take fits and had one on the bank and then rolled into the creek on her face and so was suffocated or drowned. It is a most charming drive from Clare to Farrels Flat, through a large avenue of pine trees and just now the country is at its best so beautifully green and occasionally just like Seas of Dandelions. It certainly is a good season every-where except the Far North. The gum trees too all about there are so beautiful. Well! I had only to wait a few minutes for the train after getting my ticket and there was only one girl passenger in my carriage as far as Terowie. There I had a cup of tea and finished eating my luncheon. I tried to sleep but could not so read nearly all the way "Geoffrey Hamlyn" by Henri Kingsley. It was fairly interesting but it is so unpleasant travelling in those stuffy carriages when hot. At Petersburg Papa got into the train without even knowing I was in the same carriage and of course then it was much better and there were two other gentlemen also in the Carriage. The boys all drove down to meet us, I walked up tho' with Charley, and felt glad to stretch my legs with a little walk. Two Hindoo ladies and their husbands and Mr. Nicholson were all at our house when I got home. It is so nice to be home again, truly it is "Home Sweet Home" and there is no place like it. Well after embraces, supper and distributing sundry little presents I went to bed very tired indeed.

Sunday 16th October 1887 and Monday 17th October 1887

Drove to Mass at eleven with Papa Maude Glenie and Ada. Mr. Nicholson and Charley Hancorne here to dinner and spent the afternoon. Papa drove the children out to the Hindoo's Camp. They are rather interesting. Mr. Grunicke stayed here all last evening and most of today and went to church with us. In the afternoon I tried over some new soup I got in Town and our Charley brought in a dear little mule foal from the paddock. Its mother had to be shot yesterday as she broke her leg somehow in the paddock. Maggie our servant left today after she had finished the washing. She had got very careless and dirty of late so that Ma was obliged to give her notice at last. It is a nuisance tho' being without one and I do hope we will get suited soon. Got my box up from the railway station this afternoon and unpacked it. Mamma and Maude drove into the Port and back. Mr. Smith came up after tea and spent the evening with us and we had some music and he told us some funny things which made us laugh very much. A terrific dust-storm arose and lasted for some time. I wrote a number of letters to people in Town and to Mrs. Saunders in Clare and others. Were going for a bathe only it changed and got so cold.

Tuesday 18th October 1887

Pleasant

I began school again yesterday and Livy and Clare's music lessons. They have forgotton a little during the last month, but I hope will soon get on again. They of course have so much to tell me and I to tell them. Mrs. Donaldson and Katie called to see us and Miss Fox is giving Ada and Genie music lessons while I was away. She began for the month and now Ma thinks they may as well go on for the rest of the Quarter as it will not be much more and I do not mind having two less to teach. Mr. Smith drove up for me to go to the "Octoroon" rehearsal and I went but had to read my part. They do not all of them nearly know it yet. Mrs. Murphy played there. Charley walked home with me.

Wednesday 19th October 1887.

Did some ironing after school. It is cool again now for a change. Maude and I went to the Quadrilles, Charley having gone early as he had to go to the Bank first. There were a good many there and as usual we had a great deal of dancing. Charley and I walked home and Maude drove with Mr. Smith. Mrs. Murphy's music is excellent and the floor was in good order nicely polished.

Thursday 20th October 1887.

Cool day.

After school I drove down to the L.B.Society in the phaeton with Ma and Genie; Maude had to stay home and have an interview with Mrs. Mosley, who she engaged herself to go as a Governess to next week. I took over the cash and accounts from Mrs Beaton who had kindly been acting as Treasurer during my absence. Then I made some night dress sleeves and we left the meeting at five I then called to see Mr. Astles and delivered a message I had for him and walked home quickly for tea and just got there in time. Charley Hancorne came up and spent the evening with us and we had some music and singing. I showed them all my "Zither" but as I have so little time to practice it I think of sending it back again to Herr Trichel. As he said he would take it back willingly if I did not like it when I got home.

Friday 21st October 1887.

Windy very.

Cooking all the afternoon. Mr. Smith came up and asked me to go and sleep with his wife while he is away in Town as he is going this evening. Poor Mr. Kebay died yesterday and Papa sat up all night with his mother and came up and called me at six this morning to make a white wreath for him which I did or rather I made a cross. Papa telegraphed for Sir John Downer and his wife to come up and they all left with the body by a special train at eight this evening. It was very sad he being so young and the cause of his own death. Mr. Nicholson was here to tea and spent all the evening. I went to Smiths about half past eight having first driven into the Port and posted some letters.

Saturday 22nd October 1887.

Fine and Pleasant. Then very hot.
Came home about nine and gave the children their music lessons, then school as usual until twelve and helped to get dinner. In the afternoon several people came up and the boys turned out to their Cavalry drill. Our Charley The Lieutenant drilling them all. Charley Hancorne, Maude Glenie and I went for a ride; but Maude could not manage her horse at all and he kept getting away from her and she had to cling on all the way and Charley had to lead her horse at last. It turned out so hot in the afternoon that I took an umbrella and that frightened my pony and he would not let me keep it up so altogether things were not very pleasant and we had not an enjoyable ride any of us. Poor Charley too got into hot water for missing his drill at the Mounted Infantry. I went out for a few miles on my own account when we came home alone and I got another fright by first escaping a collision with some stupid man who was going full gallop and we neither of us saw each other or even heard each other. Mr. Nicholson came here with Arch to tea. In the evening I went to Mrs. Smiths and we drove in the Port with Mr. and Mrs. Stubbs and then back and I stayed with Mrs. Smith all night. We had supper and sat up talking until pretty late. Mrs. Stubbs had Maida in and she was rather cross and she has grown such a plain child now and her hair is quite red, strange too when both her parents are very good looking and neither of them have red hair, only very fair.

Sunday 23rd October 1887.

Very Warm

Did not get up until ten o'clock and just out at the gate in time to catch our buggy for church, but had no breakfast. Drove home from church, changed my dress and helped dish up dinner and then wash up etc etc. While we were at dinner Dr. Purvis was riding past and leading a horse and he either got a tumble or they both got away from him somehow and our boys ran out and caught his horses for him. Papa drove the children out to "Roseburys" to see the Afghans and Indians and Camels. Charley Hancorne came up in the afternoon and brought me a painted photograph of himself but I don't think it at all good of him. We got tea and drove to church. Mr. Nicholson was there again. Went to Mrs. Smiths directly I came home and Charley walked down with me and waited while I wrote a letter to Mrs. Howe and then he posted it for me.

Monday 24th October 1887.

Up at seven. Mrs. Smith was so very tired. I could hardly get any sleep from her constantly saying "Listen, What is that noise?", and then sometimes I would get out of bed and look and of course there was nothing particular.

Thursday 27th October 1887.

Cloudy and dull.

Came home about eight and helped to clear up breakfast and was up and then school and in the afternoon Mamma and I walked into the Port, she to visit Mrs. Raining and some one else and I to the Benevolent Society. There we finished all our work in hand and decided not to have another meeting until the first Thursday in December and then only to meet monthly for the Summer. We bought some boots and gave them a poor woman and some children and I wrote a note to Miss Richardson and enclosed a cheque for her to sign to pay the bills that are due. Walked home to tea and called for a few minutes on Mrs Smith on my way up. After tea Charley Hancorne, Maude and I walked up to the Donaldsons as they had sent a note asking us to go up as they had some friends in. They were all married folks tho' and it was not very lively. Maud and Genie were out riding all afternoon. Ada not very well.

Friday 28th October 1887.

Lovely weather.

She is better today. Papa brought a pretty little white poney for the children not much larger than a goat and they each went for a ride in turns on it. In the afternoon Mrs. Reynolds came up and she and Ma walked up to Donneys and then to Mrs. Calders, while Maude and I walked into the Port and back and then to see poor Mr. Fourth who is still very ill indeed and in bed. He has to have the bone now taken out of his leg poor fellow and of course his arm has been off for some time. Mrs. Reynolds stayed to tea and walked into the Port afterwards with Papa and I, to our Octoroom rehearsal. I walked home alone it being such a lovely moonlight night I quite enjoyed it. Mrs. Smith called this afternoon. She has got the dress up from Town that I am to wear for the Octoroom. I think it will take place on the 25th of next month. We were shown all the electric lighting machinery this evening.

Saturday 29th October 1887.

We girls were all busy of course cleaning as we still have no servant. In the afternoon Charley drilled the Mounted Infantry just opposite so we say them all quite plainly. Mr. Nicholson was here nearly all the afternoon and he took Genie for a ride and returned to tea and spent the evening here with the boys and Mamma. Had several visitors during the afternoon and after tea Maude, Ada and I walked into the Port and did some shopping for Mamma and home again. Charley came home with us. We bought some almond rock and it was very hard and biting it gave me such a bad toothache. I am a perfect baby with regard to lollies and sweets tho' they do so frequently make me suffer for it by way of toothache. Uncle Field sent us down a large case of flowers from the Melrose Show. They were very acceptable and really beautiful and so prettily arranged.

Tuesday 1st November 1887.

Dusty very.

Such a dust storm all day and made the house quite dirty again after it done. A steamer came in with two hundred of Quindales camels from India and a messenger came up to tell Lagh Mahomed while he was having his breakfast so he went down at once. After school I walked down to Mrs. Smiths and did some of the altering of the Octoroon dress. It was so hot tho' so I did not do much. Mrs. Stubbs and Maide were there. I stayed to dinner and drove into the Port to our Rehearsal with Messrs. Smith and Stubbs. We had the Electric light for the first time tonight and a new prompter a Mr. Bromley told us all that the play is advertised to take place on the 18th of this month. Charley Hancorne walked home with me. Very hot and sultry evening.

Wednesday 2nd November 1887.

Sultry.

We had some very loud thunder and one good shower of rain this morning and then it all cleared off and set it hot and sultry all day. After school all the children went over to the camel camp and Maide with them. Mamma and I walked to the Quadrilles. There was not a great many there and Mr. Young announced that the last night will be next Thursday week and will end the Quadrilles for this year. It will be getting too warm for dancing soon tho' so far Summer is very late this year. I only hope it may be short on that account. The children are reading the life of Charles Dickens in school and so full of his humour and mirth. It is principally composed of his letters to his friends and of course his early history in full.

Thursday 3rd November 1887.

Showery.

Well I got a scolding and had a good cry this morning because I was not up early enough. It is such a trouble for me to get up early and I am supposed always to be up and dressed by seven and somehow I seldom am up before eight. Maide and the children have each begun crayon drawings for Xmas Cards and I think they will be very pretty too. Mr. Mosely came for Maide about five and she went out with him to be Governess to his children. I do hope she will get on well for she is such a thoroughly nice and good girl but has so very little self confidence or push and is so shy and retiring. Charley Hancorne came up in the evening and we had some music. He is Secretary to the Mounted Infantry and they are all very busy getting up sports and races for the 9th of this month.

Friday 4th November 1887.

Another scolding and cry this morning for not being up.. In the afternoon Mamma and I walked into the Port and did some shopping. I got some cream surge or lawn to trim my Octoroon dress the red one. Then we called on Mrs. Purvis and from there hunted everywhere until we found a woman who would come up and wash for us on next Monday. Drove home with Papa to tea which the girls had ready; and helped to wash up etc etc.

Drove down with Mr. Smith to the rehearsal and walked home afterwards with Charley Hancorne. He told me that Miss Minnie Wigley the great Adelaide beauty is engaged to Mr. Tom Scott from England a widower with four children and they are to be married in three weeks time and are going home again.

Saturday 5th November 1887.

Showery all day.

Up very early this morning and gave Clare and Livy their music lessons. In the afternoon Ada and I went for a ride, she rode Nibby and I Mick the poney. It rained very heavily just after we started so we rode into the Smiths stable and remained there until it was over and then resumed our ride out towards the head of the Gulf. Charley had all his Cavalry out drilling and firing blank Cartridges regardless of rain and wind. They have not yet got their uniforms and cannot get them as the Government in their eagerness for protection have issued an order that all military uniform cloth is to be manufactured at the "Lobethal Tweed Factory" and the supply there is not nearly equal to the demand and so they will have to wait some time until it is manufactured. We came home Ada and I in time to get tea and cleared it away after. Mr. Nicholson came up and spent the evening and brought up a song called the "Three Fishers" by Charles Kingsley which I tried over for him. I found some music about a half a dozen pieces. It is being all done by degrees. I am very particular about keeping my music tidy and it worries me muchly if it is not so. The Dean sent me a bundle of tickets to sell for the Sisters School Children: Concert to be held on the 16th but I do hate selling them so, in fact begging or selling tickets for anything is a thing I mortally detest. The boys are all very busy training their horses and getting up the sports for the 9th Monday next. They are in aid of the uniforms too so they wish them to be a success. A programme is posted in the front of this book. I will tick off the winners when they are over.

Sunday 6th November 1887.

Showery.

The boys and all the children drove to eight o'clock Mass and I stayed at home and cooked the breakfast. Papa and I drove to Mass at eleven and Charley Hancorne came home to dinner. It was terribly windy and blew a feather out of my hat which I was unable to recover again. In the afternoon Papa and Mamma drove out to see Mier Dolt Kan and his wives and Ma took the ladies a draft board and men and showed them how to play together which greatly interested and amused them. and Mr. Peusner had dinner here and in the afternoon Mr. Rau Morgan came up to wish us "Good bye" as he is going to leave Port Augusta next week. Arch and Ada went for a short ride. All went to Vespers and Mr. Nicholson came part of the way home with us.

Monday 7th November 1887.

Fine

Mrs. Roberts came to wash this morning, she is a very good woman and we folded the clothes and did some ironing. I went down to Mrs. Smiths and did some of my dress there. Then home to tea and Mr. Smith sent the carriage up for me at half past seven and I drove into the Rehearsal with them. We went through the two first acts and had the music and the Electric light and Mr. Fife to move the scenery. He was up here and tried our dining-room piano this morning and Ma bought some music from him. "Remembrance" from his daughter May, one she had composed the music for and the words by Eliza Cooch, a little scotch thing. Our Charley walked home with me about half past ten

Tuesday 8th November 1887.

Fine.

After school I did some ironing and made a lot of jellies, then I walked down to Mrs. Smiths and we talked and discussed my dress and agreed that the red and cream was too much like a postman and not lady-like and pretty and so decided on the blue, although the red is almost finished. Maude Stubbs was there too. Ada and Ma drove into the Port in the phaeton. After tea was all cleared up Mr. Smith sent the carriage up for me and I drove with them to the rehearsal. We had only the fourth and fifth act; but as Zoe was not there we could not do it so well Mr. Fife with the assistance of the boys moved the scenery. The Electric light went very unsteady and I do hope it will burn more evenly on the night of the performance. It will want an immense deal of rehearsing before it goes well and so many do not know their parts yet. I'm afraid it is a too bigger venture for us.

Wednesday 9th November 1887.

Warm

Up so early about six this morning and cut a great round of beef and four loaves of bread into sandwiches with Ada's and Genie's help. After breakfast we locked up the house and every one of us drove to the races and sports. The first of the Mounted Infantry Arch was the first on the ground a foot and came second in the hurdles and they were several on horseback and just as usual thoroughly distinguished themselves. Although a little slow we had a good days sport. We had our lunch on the ground and had several people to join us and returned home about six and we girls had to get tea etc. Mr. D. Smith, Mr. Arden and Mr. Nicholson and Charley Hancorne had tea and spent the evening here and oh! Mr. Webb also spent the evening. He is a youthful Solicitor and a new importation to Port Augusta with any amount of go in him and not over much brains.

Thursday 10th November 1887.

Still keeping to early rising, even though we had so much dissipation. It is not so bad when one has managed to get out of bed; but that is the great difficulty with me. In the afternoon Mamma drove to Mrs. Smith with me and from there on into the Port to attend a meeting of ladies at the Court house to arrange for the refreshments at the ball to finish the Quadrilles next Tuesday. Then she called for me again and

we drove home together. In the evening, Ma also drove to church as Bishop Kevinson was up and was going to (I suppose did) preach them a special sermon. Mrs. Smith and I were sewing all the afternoon at my dress. It is so kind of her to help me and I am doing it at her house and she pins and arranges it all on for me and then I sew it. We have decided now that I shall wear pale blue muslin veiling trim sewed with cream and silk anchors worked on the cuffs and collar and a small Jem hat to match trim - and with blue and cream and with the fair wig it ought to look really well.

Friday 11th November 1887.

Fine

Directly after school I walked down to Mrs. Smiths and embroidered pale blue silk anchors on the cream cuffs. Mrs. Stubbs was there all the afternoon and we three had our work and chatted over it pleasantly and had afternoon tea of course. I came home and helped to get our tea and Mr. Needham and Nicholson came home with Papa and the boys and dined with us. Mr. Smith drove up for me and I went with him to our rehearsal and Charley Hancorne walked home with me. I have begun to teach the children parts of Mikado and several songs they are to sing for our little breaking up concert at Xmas. It will take a good deal of time to get them thoroughly in too it. Received the Cream dress card I sent to Town for trimming for my dress and now I must write down for a Gem hat as I cannot obtain one here and I would prefer that shape to any other.

Saturday 12th November 1887.

Fine.

This is Jim's birthday and the dear old boy is at College. Papa drove some gentleman out to Meer Dosts Khan's Camel camp and did not return until late. Mr. Haining came up with Charley to dinner and stayed until after tea and Mr. Hannigan came home with Papa also to tea. There was no drill today. In the afternoon I went for a ride with Charley Hancorne out the Sterling road and then off round the race course. He on Half Caste and I on my ald favourite Earnest. It was very windy though and gave me nauralgia rather badly; so directly we had finished washing up I went to bed. The boys are breaking in a little pair of ponies for the phaeton Nobby and another little grey one.

Sunday 13th November 1887.

Windy and Fine.

They all went to Mass at eight and I stayed home and cooked breakfast. After which Papa drove out to the Ostrich farm and the boys went out too. I walked to and from Mass at eleven and Charley Hancorne came home with me. Had neuralgia again this afternoon. The boys came home about two and I got their breakfast. Papa and Mr. Needham, Valentine and Morris came home to tea and spent the evening here. Mr. Nicholson came up with Charley and I from Church in the evening and stayed for an hour or so. I had to write down to Marshalls again for more cord for my dress and when coming home from Vespers ran into Mrs. Smith to see how much I would require when I tripped over a stone and fell and hurt my knee rather badly. The stone cut a hole right through my skirts to my knee. It made me feel a little sick just for a minute and then alright again except the

cut of course but that is not very much.

Monday 14th November 1887

Windy and Fine.

Directly after school I drove down to Mrs. Smiths and finished my blue dress. Then she and I drove into the Port and I paid Young and Gordons bill for the L.B. Society. Had six o'clock dinner with the Smiths and drove with Mr. Smith and Stubbs in to the rehearsal at seven. Charley Hancorne walked home with me. These rehearsals are beginning to be a fearful bore for they take up so much time and we have to stay at there so late too so that I for one shall not be sorry when the thing is over. I called in to see the sisters of St. Joseph yesterday on my way to Church and promised to lend them some things for their Concert.

Tuesday 15th November 1887.

Warm

Rather warm. The Mosleys and Maud drove in this morning for the dance tonight. After school I made some custards and did some cooking. Mr. Nicholson came in with Arch to tea; so we had our house pretty full and as Papa has the big buggy away at Melrose (he left this morning at five) we had to drive down in three lots in the phaeton. I helped Maude trim her white dress with old gold satin ribbon and it looked very pretty. Ma wore black and Cardinal and Mrs. Mosley Fawn and I all white lace with two sprays of real Ivy and pearls and both Maudes and my dresses were low neck and short sleeves. It was a very jolly dance indeed and I think every one thoroughly enjoyed it. Ada and Genie went down for two hours in the afternoon to help them to cut sandwiches and lay the table as neither Ma or I could go and they took down a lot of Victoria Sandwidge and sponge cakes and I feel pretty tired this morning.

Wednesday 16th November 1887.

Fine

It was about two this morning when we got home. The Mosleys would not stay in but drove home after first changing their dresses. It is either fifteen or seventeen miles so they will feel rather sleepy. Now our Quadrilles are over for this year. The night was not very warm and I won a bet of a pair of gloves over it. I sent the Sisters down my black lace dress and a lot of other little things for them to dress the children in their dramatic parts in their Concert tomorrow evening. I heard today that Mrs. Bromleys dress for the Octoroon is Mauve and as mine is pale blue and cream and we act a good deal together. I am in a regular fix what to do now. We all went to Sisters Concert. Papa returned with Mr. Fitzgerald.

Thursday 17th November 1887.

Warm

Gave the children their music lessons after school. I never have time to give them in the morning, now that we have no servant. We have a man painting the front verandah and all the fence and wood and iron work of the house. In the afternoon I walked into the Port and did some shopping and paid Gooch & Scotts bill for the L.B. Society and drove home with Mr. Smith.

Mrs. Smithland Mrs. Stubbs were here this afternoon. I gave the latter a lot of feathers to sew on Mrs. Stubbs clothes for her part as "Warna Lee" in the Octoroom and a red blanket. Mr. Fitzgerald left late this evening not until after I got home from the rehearsal. Charley walked home with me as usual. The part of Paul is again changed rather late too. Miss Jonas has it now and little browns girl has her part as Dido and it certainly is a great improvement. Jonas does Paul better than any one has yet.

Friday 18th November 1887.

Warm

Our last rehearsal with the scenery tonight. It will not be touched again until Monday. It was eleven before we finished and Charley Hancorne walked home with me. When we got home we found Meer Dost Khan and his two wives, and the Interpreter had been to spend the evening here. They are getting on rapidly with their English. They would not take any refreshments but fruit and dates here, but those they ate. One woman is really a pretty little creature. Wrote to Lily Williams and asked her to come down for the Octoroom and enquired if she knows of a servant? The street lamp hung from the front of the Town Hall was lit tonight by the Electric light for the first time and some one remarked to me that "Now the white elephant has its trunk on at last" which I thought very good, for all along it has been called a white elephant.

Saturday 19th November 1887.

Very Windy but Fine

God dressed to go for a little ride before the rehearsal but could not go as the poney was turned out and I did not know: so I walked to Mr. Smiths and drove with him in to the Port at two o'clock as we were to have rehearsed then but altho we were kept there until half past four; we had no rehearsal, as Mrs. Bromley and several others did not come, which was a great shame; for we don't half know how to do the thing and last night several of them did not even know their parts and the whole thing really went very shaky. Its my idea that we want fully half a dozen more rehearsals instead of which we are to have no more at all. Brown impressed upon us that the success of the piece depends on each one individually. Mr. Woodman played the Angelus from Maritana and three men sang it as a trio today and it is to be sung at Zoe's death scene. Walked home alone after doing a little shopping.. Mr. Nicholson spent the evening here. Ma and Genie went into the Port. I did a lot of sewing in the evening. Mr. Southcombe and Symons came up by the train tonight for the "Octoroom". Eddie Field has just passed the Inner University Exam in Adelaide and Uncle is very delighted. Charley Hancorne got a nasty tumble off Half-Caste just after drill this afternoon. He bucked and the saddle slipped and so he fell; but he has a marvellous way of tumbling off without every being hurt.

Sunday 20th November 1887.

Very warm all day. All went to Mass at eight except Pappa, Charley and I and we drove to eleven o'clock. I cooked breakfast. After dinner Papa drove all the children out to Mosleys and took Maudes box out and Charley and Arch went out to get a camel of theirs. Mamma and I stayed home alone in our glory for an hour or so and then I got some oranges and flowers and a book and walked up to Donnys and got Katie to go with me to see Mr. Fowith. Poor man was sitting up in bed when we went in and he smiled when we went in: his wife said it was the first time he had smiled that day or rather this day. He has been suffering great pain lately. Charley Hancorne came home from Vespers with me. I had to play the organ and sing almost alone tonight. Wrote letters.

Monday 21st November 1887.

Warm

Up pretty early and had to work about both before and after school as we had a woman in to wash. Got all my things ready and little Clare walked down to Smiths with me. They had quite a dinner party at six all in dress suits etc. Then Mr. Smith drove down to the hall and the carriage came back and I drove down next all ready dress and wig and all on ready for my part. It began punctually at thirteen minutes to eight o'clock and though most of us were terribly nervous we got on splendidly and the whole thing was a thorough success. The hall was crowded and even the gallery which was the dress circle was full of well dressed folks. It was indeed a happy relief when it was over for I know my nerves were strained to the very utmost. The orchestra music and all the singing went well and only a few mistakes in the acting. It is to be repeated.

Tuesday 22nd November 1887.

Very hot.

After school, I gave the children a very long drawing lesson, as I want them to finish their pictures in time for Xmas Exam. This is Circuit Court day here and so of course Papa is there all day and they are sitting up to ten o'clock. It is Chief Justice Way who is up this time. Put away all my clothes that I wore acting carefully until the date for repeating it is decided. The Dispatch pronounced it a success, but held over the full account as they were pressed for room until Friday. Charley Hancorne spent the evening here and we went for a little walk together and home and had some music. Then Papa came in and I got his supper and tea all in one, as he had not been home since dinner. Have had the horrid tooth ache again today. Mosquitos have begun to show themselves and now I think our Summer has finally set in.

Wednesday 23rd November 1887.

Very hot.

Oh! This heat takes all the energy out of one and makes me feel limp and not inclined for any exertion at all. Everything seems a trouble in weather like this. The flies too are numerous and a horrid nuisance. What a pity Eve did not behave like a sensible woman and so have saved her posterity all these plagues. After we had cleared up tea I walked down to Smiths and stayed there for a couple of hours. Then home and finished reading

Geoffrey Hamblyn. It is quite interesting after one has passed the middle but up to that is not so much. Well! It's a close hot night and I have just killed a mosquito that I feel much tempted to gum on to this leaf (where I killed it) in case the decrease in size in further ages. I feel a bit mad too, because after knitting a silk sock for Papa as far as the heel twice have had all my needles pulled out and have had to rip all each time as I can't pick up the stitches. It's so very provoking.

Thursday 24th November 1887.

Very hot.

This trying weather still. I am tired of it already and Summer has only just begun' how ever shall we get through it. It is a great comfort having these cool underground rooms. Had a doze after school this afternoon, which is a thing I do not often indulge in. In the evening Charley Hancorne brought up Earnest from the Station for me and we rode out Goodiers and from there by the race-course home about half past nine. Mr. Nicholson had been spending the evening here. He brought Mamma a beautiful bunch of roses and other flowers. Charley had a nice little wild dingo given to him by Mr. Collins, a young one and he said I could have it, but Ma won't let me keep it such a shame, she is afraid it would kill the chickens or the fowls. If just would like to have a nice large New Foundland dog or a real Dingo tamed and to follow me only.

Friday 25th November 1887.
change, cool.

Warm until after dinner and then a dust storm set in and oh! a delicious cool wind which lasted all the rest of the day and evening. Knitting all afternoon trying hard to get on with my third attempt at Papa's socks. I have grave fears they will never be finished in spite of my energies. The needles come out so very easily. After tea I took some eggs, flowers and a book to Mr. Forwith and read to him for an hour. He is much worse and feels the hot weather so dreadfully. I felt quite sick when I saw him suffering so in being moved a little. Captain Leanmouth spent the evening. He is rather remarkable looking and has a very affected way of talking, but made himself very agreeable here.

Saturday 26th November 1887.

Windy.

Were it not for the wind this would be a pleasant day. While we were in school this morning Fred Glenie came, he has just come up from Adelaide and is on his way to Silverton and has a Mr. Bradshaw with him. About three o'clock all the mounted Infantry turned out and drilled opposite here for Captain Leanmouths inspection. They looked very well, but only two of them had all their uniform complete and one of those was Charley Hancorne. The other uniforms not being quite finished yet. That hats are rather pretty off but I don't care for them on they a peculiar shade of brown felt fastened up at one side with elastic on a silver foxes or drop, or something head and then the turned coats and pants are the same shade faced with red and silver buttons brown leather gaiters and gauntlets and belts, but somehow I do not like the blending of the colours though I have tried hard

to like it for the boys sake. After tea Dr. Astles, Mr. Ashworth, Mr. Donaldson, Katie and Mr. Nicholson spent the evening here. The Dr sang us several songs, in his usual charming style and also gave us a good resitation. He certainly is a gifted man. Katies has some pretty new songs, but she has hardly any voice at all. Uncle Field arrived by a late train from the North and as Papa will be going to Adelaide on Monday morning he will remain here during his absence. Had a letter from Jim. Making custards and knitting all the afternoon. I have got another fair start at Papa's sock.

Sunday 27th November 1887.

Same.

Felt rather ill this morning but got breakfast while the others went to eight o'clock Mass. Then we, that was Papa, Genie and I drove to eleven. Charley Hancorne came home with us. Fred and his friend drove out to "Clear View" and brought Maude in with them to stay until tomorrow. Some of us drove to Vespers, and home again. We had singing and music all the rest of the evening and old Father O'Regan gave us a splendid sermon at Vespers on this the First Sunday in Advent and the end of the Religious Year. He preaches really well and Mr. Nicholson was there too. This morning the Volunteers had a Church Parade to the Presbyterian Church, except those of course of ours.

Monday 28th November 1887.

Warm

Early this morning we had a dust storm and then steady heat all day. It seems a pity that those North winds will exhaust all their energies in an hour or so just blowing up sand, when if it kept on just steadily at night last several days or a week. Maude went into the Port and did some shopping and then Fred drove her and Ada and Mr. Bradshaw out to Mosleys and returned in the evening just in time for tea. They all sat in the verandah talking all the evening, while I sat knitting in the dining room with the children while they learned their lessons. Charley Hancorne rode up for a few minutes. Mr. Nicholson brought an illustrated paper up to little Livy. He brings her up two regularly every week. All the boys were in a pound raffle for a horse and musical box but lost it. Papa went to Adelaide this morning.

Tuesday 29th November 1887.

Hot and dusty.

Our woman could not come to wash Yesterday so she came today but there is no day for it like Monday. After tea Charley drove down to the Port and brought up Mr. and Miss Taylor from Laura and Martha Morrie an old Mt Gambier friend who is with them. They spent the evening with us. They drove down today from Laura and intend to return tomorrow. Mr. Taylor has come down to have a look at the Parsonage as he is thinking of succeeding Mr. Ashworth here. He ought to suit them here as he has independent means apart from his salary. He has five hundred a year and his sister three hundred from England. Martha has not altered at all except of course grown

as we all have. Mr. Nicholson, Fred and Mr. Bradshaw spent evening here. The two latter left with Uncle Field driving for Melrose this morning at four before we were up. We had a very early tea and then Charley Hancorne brought up Earnest for me and we went for a short ride. Met. Mr. Webb and our Charley who came home and had tea here. We tried over some songs and talked a while and so passed the evening pleasantly enough.

Thursday 1st December 1887.

Pleasantly warm.

Walked into the Port to our Society Meeting this afternoon. but as there was no work in hand we did no sewing but discussed matters generally and I receive some subscriptions. Mrs. Farr had collected. Drove home with Mrs. Smith and got tea. After which little Clare and I walked again in to the Port to see about some domestic we heard of and succeeded in getting her tho' she has no good recommendations and we don't much like her look. Uncle returned home from Melrose Charley Hancorne spent evening here. It has been showery all the afternoon and evening. Ma received a letter from Papa he does not know yet when he will return.

Friday 2nd December 1887.

Fine.

Ada and Mamma drove in to the Port this afternoon. Mrs. Forward called and stayed a couple of hours. Papa telegraphed to ask Ma if she would go with him for a trip to Mount Gambier and she says No she does not care about it. I would quickly have gone had he asked me. Mr. Nicholson spent the evening here. The servant came this evening her name is Polly Guildford. Can't judge her yet at all. Am fearfully puzzled over knitting. the heel of my stocking. It is difficult at any time even with wool but with sil that keeps splitting it is most trying for one's patience.

Saturday 3rd December 1887.

Uncle Field, Mr. Downing and a trooper went out about four this morning to shoot wild turkeys which are wonderfully numerous this year but altho they saw about thirty they only got one and so we will have it for dinner tomorrow. Mr. FitzGerald came here this morning poor fellow he is in great trouble because his brother in law Mr. Stevens has just bolted off with Miss Wells, and got married in Adelaide, he thinks and he has taken all the cash he had in hand. What silly folks some are. Getting married in haste, to repent alas too often at leisure. But then if they will be so imprudent they deserve to suffer a little. Charley Hancorne made his First Confession and was Baptized Conditionally of course by Dean Nevin this afternoon. He has indeed received great grace and I trust he may long preserve it pure and undefiled. Reading and knitting alternately all the evening.

Sunday 4th December 1887.

Hot.

Charley Hancorne made his first Holy Communion at eight o'clock Mass and came up here with the boys and children and then went again to Mass at eleven. Uncle Field drove Mamma to Church. It is Mr. Ashworth's last Sunday at their church. It strikes me that it would take a very uncommon man to suit the Church of England congregation here. Uncle dined out at Clarkes and drove up at two and took all the children for a drive to Stockton garden and to Port Patterson. Mr. FitzGerald left for Wilmington and Livy drove with him as far as Stirling and then returned home with Uncle and the others. Charley read aloud from the Lamp a series of papers and we talked all the afternoon. All went to Vespers and Arch came up in the Choir with us and sang. Mrs. Rowley came up after church and we sang duets etc all the evening.

Monday 5th December 1887.

Same.

Uncle Arch and Charley drove out about five this morning and the latter shot two wild turkeys, one of which he gave to the Downings and kept the other for ourselves. They were home in time for breakfast. We had another rehearsal for the repetition of the "Octoroon" which is to come off on Friday next the 9th but two being absent we could not go through it thoroughly. We are only to have one more before Friday. I drove down with Mr. Smith but walked home alone as it was too late to wait and drive with him.

Tuesday 6th December 1887.

Dusty.

Terribly dusty day. One unceasing storm, knitting all the afternoon. There is a great deal of work in a pair of very finely knitted mens socks after all; far more than I thought at first. Genie is not very well all day. This weather is so very trying. Papa sent two large cases of wine home all kinds. Knitting all the afternoon, A man called who is taking orders for photos to be painted on China and mounted in large frames for three pounds ten. Charley Hancorne and Mr. Nicholson spent the evening here. We talked and had music and singing all the evening. Charley said he was riding all last night. He left the Port about seven and then took the wrong road to Penners and did not get there till morning and has rode in again at nine. Mr. Nicholson brought up one of Rhyder Haggards books but as it was all blood and murders and none of us cared for it he didn't leave it. He is a very popular author just now.

Wednesday 7th December 1887.

Calm and pleasant.

People are all clearing the dust out of their houses after yesterday and last night for it kept on unceasingly. Mr. Smith and Ted Grundy drove up for me this afternoon to go to their house to dinner and so I went and then on to the rehearsal with them afterwards and Mr. Webb walked hom with me after it was over. We did not rehearse the fifth act tonight and in fact we never yet have except the night of the performance. It is Mr. Bells fault this time as he could not stay as he is stock taking just now at Gooch & Scotts. Uncle left for Melrose driving.

Thursday 8th December 1887.

Warm.

Am trying to teach the children some of Mikade etc to act it too for our little breaking up concert the date after Jim comes home. It is so hard to get them to do the little trot a-la Japanese. But the Three little maids from School they manage very well indeed. Home all day. It is too hot to go out this weather with any degree of pleasure. Ma drove into the Port in the morning and back. We had another letter from Papa. He is not going to the South East now that Ma does not care to go with him and will return next week. Charley and I spent the evening at Donaldsons and Charley Hancorne walked up with me. Messrs. Ey Pickering Fowards, Bryant, Cavanagh, Smith and some strange girl whose name I forget were all there and we played games and had music and singing and I promised to sing at a sixpenny concert to be held in the Institute next Monday

Friday 9th December 1887.

Hot

Plenty of bathing is the order of the day this hot weather but Mamma won't let us have more than two a day. She says it is weakening if one has more. Went to Smiths to dinner at six and Livy with me and then dress there for the performance and put wig and all on and drove down in the carriage with Mr. Smith who also "got up" at home likewise. We were there among the earliest arrivals and had much the best of it having nothing to do in particular. The acting all through this time was very much better; but alas the audience was much poorer but that is owing I think principally to the heat and the high price and of course people will not pay so largely to see a thing a second time. I felt much more nervous than I did before why I do not know. Archie's birthday so I gave him a white felt hat and palfrey.

Saturday 10th December 1887.

Hot Hot Hot Hot

Uncle drove Liby Williams down from Melrose yesterday to see the "Octoroon". Our new domestic does not suit at all. She is not only slow but very very dirty Oh! They are a plague. Arch and some fellows had a race at the Court for a pound each this afternoon. Earnest has been kicked so I could not go for a ride this afternoon. Charley came up for me to go though. Mr. Heavey from Quorn came down and he and Mr. Nicholson had tea here and the latter stayed all the evening and we talked outside under the verandah most of the time. It is wonderful the amount of information that man possesses, and the number of books he has read' but good memory is I think the helper. It is a wonderful blessing. He afterwards read parts of Mark Twains American Abroad while I knitted. The boys had Battalion drill this afternoon or some such thing; that is why Mr. Heavey came down. Uncle, Mamma and some of the children drove into the Port this evening shopping as Ma always does every time she goes in. We use such a quantity of stuffs in this house both grocery and drapery etc etc etc. I'm sleepy and tired not of doing much work though; and I am sure I shant be able to sleep a wink because

it is too hot and a mosquito is just buzzing around my ears and face waiting for me to be still to have his supper doubtless. I've a good mind to kill him and stick him on here to look back at in Winter and make me more contented with the cold and chilblains then. Good Night.

Sunday 11th December 1887.

Tropical.

Not up till time to get ready for Church. Uncle drove Ma to Church and me part of the way and I walked home with Charley Hancorne and Arch. Home all the afternoon reading. Uncle drove Liby Williams out to the Ostrich Farm. She is staying at the Reynolds. Charley went to Donnys as usual and other Charley read to me from the Lamp and talked alternatively all afternoon. Went to Vespers and Mr. Nicholson walked home with us. He was telling us about some very tiny little Cameras that are made so small one can carry them in their pockets and photograph people and things and places very quickly too with them. It is a grand idea and so much easier than sketching places and things for books and travel. It is strange too that no one has ever yet discovered how to photograph colours truly yet even though a large premium has been long offered for it

Monday 12th December 1887.

Ada and Arch had invitations to a dancing party at Mrs. Beattons, so Mamma allowed them to go and Ada and Charley have not returned yet altho it is almost twelve. He went down for her as Arch always has to sleep at the Bank still. Liby Williams came up this morning and spent the day with us. This afternoon Katie Donaldson and I drove into the Port and went to the Concert rehearsal in the Institute, drove home again and had tea and we all drove in together in the evening. I trembled dreadfully all the while I was singing with nervousness and sang "The Living Dead" by Owen Merridith. It is one of those songs which improve on hearing it often tho extremely perculiar in sentiment. Later - Ada and Charley have just returned and she enjoyed it immensely she says. It is very late again.

Tuesday 13th December 1887.

Very warm.

Finished a Cardinal wool crochet Tam O'Shanter cap to give Charley Hancorne either at Xmas or on his Birthday the 28th December. He was up and spent the evening with us and also Mr. Reynolds and Liby Williams. The latter and I walked up to see Mr. Forwith directly after tea and took him some milk, eggs and flowers and old linen for his sores. He is much better today. I only heard from him today that all this ill ness is caused from the bite of a snake or scorpion on his elbow while sleeping in a tent at Hergott Springs one Sunday Afternoon. He thinks it was a scorpion and it has thoroughly poisoned his blood so that even some of his bones work out. Sat in the verandah and played and sang alternately in the drawing room.

Wednesday 14th December 1887.

Sultry and showery.

During the night there was a great storm principally wind and it blew some things that had been left on the dining-room window right up on the sand hill behind the stables past or over all the fences and all. This afternoon Uncle drove all the children out to Stocktons garden at Sterling and brought in a case of fruit beautifully ripe nectarines, figs and peaches. They are delicious. Arch and I went for a good drive too in the phaeton with the two ponies in. This is only the second time they have been in harness and they went really well. Mr. Nicholson spent the evening here and brought me up a pretty bunch of flowers, he said he had meant to throw them at me at the Concert. Uncle too gave me a bunch of roses.

Thursday 15th December 1887.

Hot Very.

Received a letter from Mr. Wurenbrand at Alice Springs stating that he is trying to swell my collection of wild flowers with the Flora of Central Australia. Mrs. Haining drove up to dinner and stayed all day. She bought her baby with her and the children were delighted at having it to nurse. Lilly Williams came up in the afternoon and she and I drove in to the Port with Arch in the phaeton and new ponies about four and I called to see Mrs. Reynolds and drove hom again with ARch. I gave the children all examination papers to do in school today and they are fearfully tedious things to do both for me and them for of course I had to write them out both questions and give them up to Arch or Papa when he returns to ? with theirs. Dear old Jim is to return tomorrow from school and for good. Charley Hancorne and Mr. Smith came up after tea.

Friday 16th December 1887.

Great Thunderstorm

Uncle left for Melrose driving Lily Williams home with him. She was well loaded up with parcels having a cockatoo, plants and heaps of other things. Jim did not come after all this evening, but Papa telegraphed to say he was keeping him in Town a day. Papa will not be home for some time as he is busy arranging to form a Native Police Station and patroll in the Centre of the Colony far up North and must wait until the money is voted for it. Anyhow I hope he will be home for Xmas. The children got some pretty cards from the Boucauts. Theirs are generally the first. Ada and I walked down to Mrs. Smiths this evening and drove into the Port with them. Mr. Nicholson and Mr. Moorhouse from Adelaide spent the evening here. I am making Papa and Charley some pajama suits for Xmas presents. They will at any rate be useful.

Jim left College

Saturday 17th December 1887.

Hot all day and evening.

Mamma was obliged to send our servant Polly away today and I expect we shall have rather a difficulty in getting another until the Festive Season is over. It is a pity for of course just now there is a lot of extra work, but it is better to be without than to have one which is not clean. Charley Hancorne came up with Earnest for me to go for a ride, but it was too hot and so he went to drill them and they elected Frank Southcombe a Lieutenant at a meeting and so Charley will now be appointed a Captain soon as the corps has increased in numbers. Mamma sent Aunt Potter down a very pretty Indian embroidered tablecloth for a present. I wrote to Teresa Engelbrecht and sent her the white silk scarf that Mamma gave me. The children are making those little dressed fortune telling dolls and I too intend to make some to send away. Ada and I walked into the Port after tea and did a lot of shopping and Charley Hancorne walked home with us and carried our parcels and he waited then until Jim came. Charley and Arch had met him at the railway station with the ponies and phaeton. He has left school now for good, and I am glad to say has rather distinguished himself this term and bought home a number of prizes namely three beautifully bound and illustrated books. An ink stand and writing desk with lock and key and fitting. We are all so glad to have him with us and with the children of course until he has been home some time he is a regular little king or rather big, for he is very tall now.

Sunday 18th December 1887.

Very hot.

All went to Mass at eight and drove Jim and Birty Young started with the ponies this afternoon for Port Germein. They will beaway until next Thursday. The Parsee "Kassifer" came here to see us remaining most of the day. He is a very sharp and intelligent fellow only I think rather a hiprocate and has quite adopted European habits and customs but not dress quite. He is rather a handsome fellow very tall. The boys, Genie, Charley Hancorne and I walked to church in the evening, Father Doyle preached a sermon on the advisibility of doing penance now during this holy season of Advent and practicing little self denial etc. Mr. Nicholson was there as usual, but did not come up as Genie was rude to him and told him he was not wanted. Wrote some letters and went to bed about eleven. Still hot.

Monday 19th December 1887.

Cool.

Much cooler today and its a good thing too for our woman did not come to wash today and rather than leave it Mamma said she would do it and began and we all helped one pegging out etc etc. If is the first time in my life that I have washed a tub full of clothes and my back did ache so for a little while but we got finished early and then I had a lay down and dozed

for a quarter of an hour. Then got tea and did my sewing all the evening and talked to Katie Donaldson and the others. Katie and Rosie came over this afternoon and spent the evening here. I shall have to work hard to finish making all the things I have on hand by Xmas. Uncle returned by train from Hammond or somewhere. Tomorrow will be Licensing day here. It is held quarterly.

Tuesday 20th December 1887, and 21st December 1887.

Warmer.

We did the ironing between us. I finished Papas and Charleys suits of pajamas and was sewing all the afternoon. Katie came for some duets. Mr. Nicholson and Charley Hancorne spent the evening here. I sang several songs for them. We had letters from Papa and he will not be home until next Friday. Just after tea and before dark I walked in to the Port and bought some beads and walked back. The Smiths are trying to get up a picnic for the holidays to last the whole week. About six or seven buggies full to drive and have Pikes large dray to carry the tarpaulins and provisions, and go up to Wirrabra forest, passing through Wilmington and Melrose on our way there and to buy sheep and poultry and kill when wanted and move our camp every day just like gipsies. The men are to take guns or rifles and we are to have Tennis, Croquet and books and one large tent for a kind of dining and general sitting retreat in hot or wet weather. Mr. Smith came up again to see if we could decide yet on going but we cannot do anything until Papa returns. Expected Jack Besley and the boys and I drove to the train to meet him but he did not come. Writing letters and sending Xmas Cards for a couple of hours this afternoon and the children all doing likewise. We have received a great many already and Sissie Rowe sent me her photograph and said Papa was spending there when she wrote. Jim returned from Port Germein today. He rode Charley Hancornes Half Caste down and back and has made him quiet now.

Thursday 22nd December 1887

Hot

Jim told me today that Papa has taken out a ruby mine share each for us girls and one for Aunt Glenie and Phillis Field and he showed us two rubies or garnets that Papa had given him. Mrs. Stubbs called to say Good Bye as she is going to Adelaide for the holidays. We have Arch sleeping home tonight and for the rest of the holidays as Mr. Stubbs is sleeping at the Bank during his wifes holiday in Town. So awfully hot all day, that we kept the house as dark as possible by letting down all the blinds and putting up the shutters on the downstairs windows and in the afternoon we all sat downstairs. I made two fortune telling dolls to send as Xmas boxes. In Adelaide today we heard there was a great lot of rain in one hour, so that boys were able to swim in the South parklands and the Walkerville tram unable to run. Mr. Gordon told me of it.

Friday 23rd December 1887.

Warm

Papa and Allen Simpson returned by the train from Adelaide. Allen will spend his holidays with us and is a most amusing and interesting boy and very clever. It is nearly impossible for him to keep his tongue quiet. I made a white muslin hat for Ada and trimmed it with white satin ribbon. At least covered a shape with Indian Muslin and it looks very pretty. I also made a lambshade for Mamma of card-board pinked out and sea-weed and muslin in between and tied with bows of red ribbon. Mr. Nicholson spent the evening here and he helped make some of those fortune telling papers to make into dolls skirts and I made one for Mrs. Smith, Fanny Hunt and Mrs. Reynolds. It is so nice to have Papa home again. He brought us up a quantity of fruit and Exhibition lollies and he has heard Miss Amy Sherwin The Australian Nightingale sing in Adelaide. Sissy Howe also wrote to me sounding her praises. She says added to her charming voice she is pretty and dresses very beautifully all her drapery being in a Greek style and evidently made by Worth and that she has a charming manner. Is she not gifted?

Saturday 24th December 1887.

Showery.

Made jellies lemon syrup and other cooking all the morning and I have been feeling so unwell. Mr. Nicholson came into tea with the boys. In the evening Ada and I walked in to Town and had a look at the shops and people and to Papa's office and he came with us into the Xmas market and promenade Concert and we bought some pot plants for Mamma and carried them home. Charley Hancorne came up rather late and gave me a very handsomely bound volume of "The History of the World" by And I then helped Papa to fill the children's stockings and make up parcels for the boys and Papa and Mamma. It was fearfully late before I was finished and not feeling well I felt quite worn out. Papa brought me down the letters after I was in bed and among other pretty cards was one from Mr. Nicholson with my initials in gold and an original verse of poetry suitable to the Festive Season and then his initials. Allen got Papa to bring me down a very handsome black fan with maple wood in a box and a charming little Japanese Yut-Yum for Clare, and he gave Mamma a vase and Livy a box, Ada and Genie books. Mr. Nicholson also gave them each a present.

Sunday 25th December 1887.

Delightful Weather.

The noise at their presents and stockings and otherwise was nearly deafening and I am sure the whole house was awakened at first dawn of day and there was little rest after for they kept running in to our rooms to show us and tell something. All seem pleased and happy which is the great thing. The boys and children all went to eight o'clock Mass and I got breakfast. All the boys went to Communion. Then Papa Clare and I drove to eleven and Charley Hancorne and Mr. Nicholson came home and dined with us. We had a plum pudding on fire and the children

enjoyed it as they generally do. Mr. Nicholson, Charley and I walked up to see poor Mr. Forth and took him some cherries and sherry and all went to Vespers and walked home and had snapdragon to finish up with. We had some instruments in the choir and sang Mozarts Twelfth Mass and had several others to help us.

Monday 26th December 1887.

The weather is most extraordinary for this time of year, so beautifully fine and not hot. Mr. and Mrs. Smith came up to arrange about a picnic on Tuesday evening. After dinner Papa drove all the children to Port Patterson and Charley and I rode out to Mosleys. I had Earnest and we arrived there safely but they were all out but the servant who gave us some tea and I left a letter and parcel for Maude and we rode home again but when we got about seven miles from the Port Earnest suddenly tripped and fell with me but only hurt my right foot a little. Charley soon caught him and helped me up and I rode home. It frightened me a good deal though for the horse fell flat on his side and we did not reach home until about nine oclock, having ridden forty miles. It is twenty there and same home. The boys and Mr. Nicholson all went to some sports at Wilmington where Jim and Arch ran. They did not return until I was in bed but not asleep.

(The next complete page has been torn out).

Saturday 31st December 1887.

Hot indeed.

Tried to get all our work finished up to day, so as to begin the New Year quite afresh. Still New Year cards come in numbers. We have all received a great many already. This afternoon Papa:drove us over the Sand Hills to view the Mounted Infantry by General Owen and Captain Learmouth from Adelaide. The General told us that we might inspire them with some martial ardour by looking on. They looked very well and the General gave a very good sensible speech at the close tho'slightly marred by his affection. I have been rather amused at Allen today. He has taken a great dislike to Mr. Nicholson so has formed a kind of Free Masonry between all the girls to help him to perform some little tricks on him and has made Genie (his great favourite) Head Mistress or Priestess and Livy and Clare each have an order and have promised to do all kinds of things to help him. I of course am out of it and only hear distant whispering from my room. He is indeed an amusing little fellow. Had every so many gentleman visitors here seeing the boys to and from their Cavalry Corps. Ada and I walked into the Port intending to go to Confession but alas the Church was all in darkness and so we will have to go tomorrow morning, so as to begin with a new sheet. Papa and the boys went over to Taylors yards to see a professional buckjumper sirdar Professor Highlands and they seemed much satisfied with his performance. He rode a very wild bullock indeed as well as a colt. Charley Hancorne came up and just wished me a "Happy New Year" at twelve and departed, dear old boy. I like him much better now than I did this time last year, tho' I was engaged to him then and am not now.

I sometimes even now think I will never marry and that I shall be a nun. Oh! How ardently I wish and pray that God will direct me in my choice of life. There is one thing and that is if Charley Hancorne and my brothers all continue as steadfast and good as they are now, they will make excellent husbands all of them. No wonder tho' when dear Papa is so good and such an example for them in every way.

A very hot night and Charley had to work at his Bank Balance until three o'clock. Having had two interruptions of fires during the evening, one a little house quite burnt down and the other Mrs. Cobbins Chemistry but it was put out in the very beginning. Mr. Nicholson laid a very charming little card addressed to me on the Hall table, meaning of course that I would not get it until tomorrow (I mean today for I am writing this on New Years Day) but of course my curiosity let me to open it. My name is printed with date on the back in gold letters something after the style of my Xmas one. Mrs. Donaldson called to arrange with Papa and Mamma about a picnic on Monday at Wollundunga garden, about thirteen or fourteen miles up in the hills. She has already invited the Smiths and Arthur Smith, Forwards, Wileys and some others and all of us. They are to start at eight o'clock and ride or drive just as they prefer. I for one don't care about going at all but at any rate a buggy full will go from here as they have promised. These picnics to me always seem very tame and the only enjoyable part is the going and coming; for after all have dined from the spread there is nothing to do but clearing it up again and that certainly isn't entertaining. They will seldom join in games and there is nothing else unless a walk and I think one can have that more comfortably nearer houses. The outings in this time of Season only tend to bronze one or make your face peel and smart for a week after as mine is doing now, or rather slowly suffering a recovery from it.

January 1st 1888.

Dear me! How quickly last year has passed, like a fleeting sunbeam with much more happiness than sorrow. I only hope each succeeding year may be as happy; and that I may be blessed with as good a house and as true, and kind relations and friends as I have now. It makes one sad though looking back to see how much good we might have done than we have left undone.

Papa and the girls went to Holy Communion this morning and we all walked to eight o'clock mass. I did not go out again until Vespers, when I walked down with Arch and Charley Hancorne who came up to dinner with Jim and Arch from Eleven o'clock Mass. Mr Nicholson walked part of the way home with us from Vespers and gave me three envelopes enclosing something to put under each of the "Supreme Three's" heads tonight. A warning he said. He means it for their little Free-masonry freak. So I have done it and am anxiously awaiting to know the result, but can't know until morning when they awake. Charley drove Allen Captain Learmouth and the Brigadier General Owens to Quorn this morning. They started about nine o'clock in Papa's buggy and four in hand a looked uncommonly well. Two blacks and two bays. Charley and Allen returned just as we were starting for Vespers. Donnys and Smiths called again this evening more arrangements for picnic tomorrow. Still hot.