

Kansas Memory



Martha Farnsworth diary

Section 1, Pages 1 - 30

Martha Van Orsdol Shaw Farnsworth kept a personal diary from 1882 through 1922 with only a few gaps. The diary starts when she is a teenager. It describes her daily activities as she was growing up in Winfield and later Silver Lake and Topeka. She marries John W. Shaw on September 4, 1889. She refers to him as Johnny or Winnie in the diary. He works for the post office. Many of Martha's diary entries are very emotional about the boys she dates and her marriage to Johnny. From the beginning of her marriage, Martha expresses her unhappiness in her marriage. It seems to stem from Johnny's drinking and his anger when he was intoxicated. This volume covers most of her marriage to Johnny who dies on October 26, 1893. Their daughter Inez is born on January 24, 1892, but dies five months later on June 27, 1892. Johnny dies in 1893 and Martha soon marries another post man Fred Farnsworth in 1894. During the time period covered by this diary Martha lives in Topeka; Springfield, Colorado; and Los Angeles, California, where Martha and Johnny went in hopes of curing his consumption. It is possible that this diary was rewritten from an earlier version because some entries are underlined in red.

Creator: Farnsworth, Martha 1867-1924

Date: January 1, 1890-December 31, 1893

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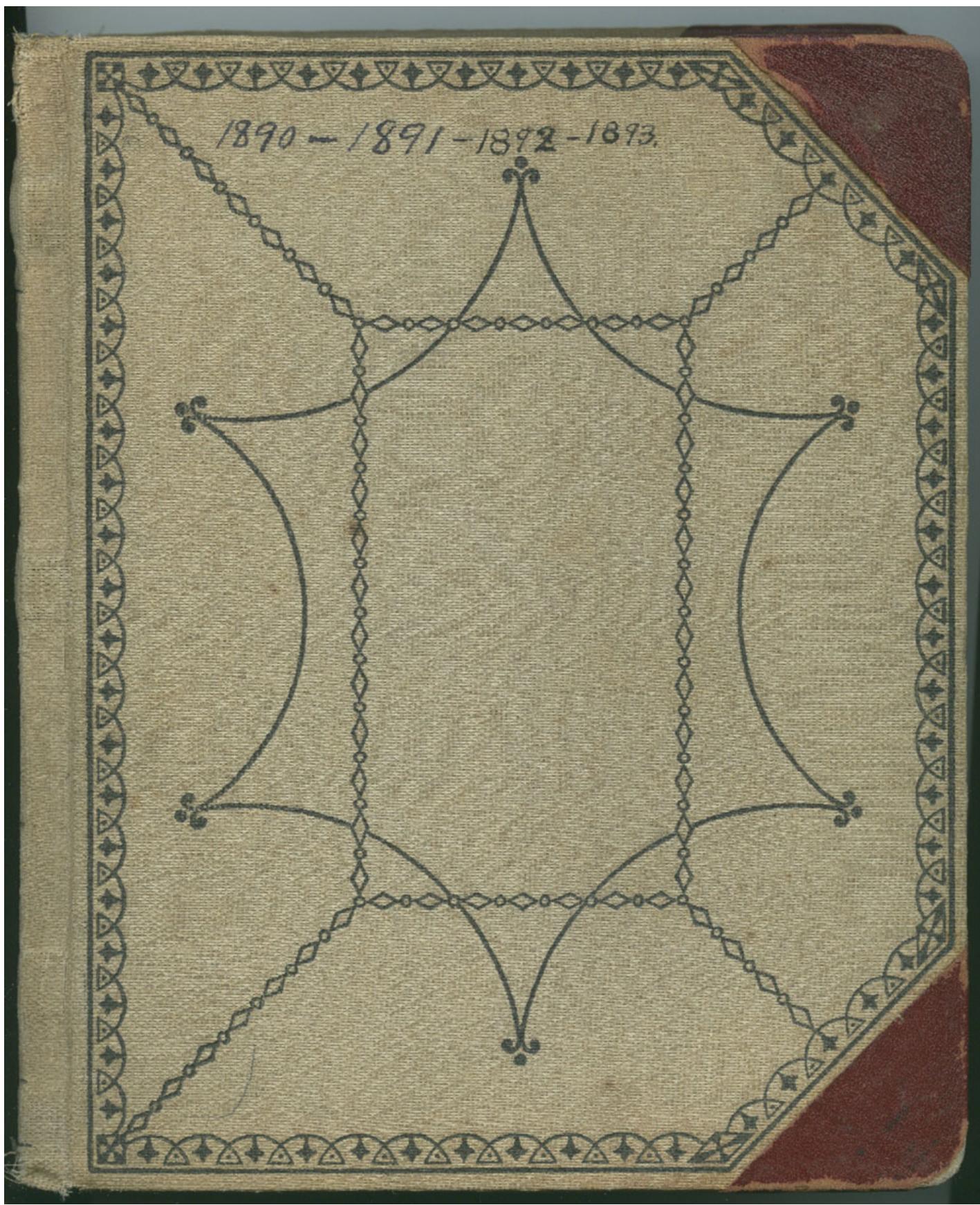
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"New Year's Day," 1890

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Wed. Jan. 1st

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Johnny (my husband) and I, spent the day at uncle Frank Van Gossel's, at Silver Lake. They gave a big "New Year's dinner," to a big crowd of people. The younger people, spent the forenoon, "running races", jumping and with rifle, shooting at "marks", and danced all afternoon. I danced with uncle Frank and every young man present. We had such a happy day ^{did} I hope it is a foreteller of a happy year, but I have forebodings.

Thurs. 2 We came to Uncle Charlie Howard's today for dinner and will stay all night with them. Johnny got so angry as we walked down - he is not well, and gets so cross. I enjoy my cousins so much ^{and} there is such a house full here. Maude, Emma, Bert, Nora, Nellie, George and Joe.

Fri. 3 Uncle Marian Van Gossel, brought us to the Lake this morning and we came home on the train.

Sat. 4 Busy cleaning up the house, today.

Sun. 5 We spent the day, at Johnny's brother Jim's over on the East-side. He has two lively boys: Willie and Frankie.

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January 1890

Mon. 6 Johnny went to work this morning, but will work in the Stamp Department until stronger.

Tues. 7 Hope Johnny will grow strong, but somehow I can't help worrying about him.

Wed. 8 Johnny is working, but really ought to be in bed.

Thurs. 9 I try to be happy, but it is not easy, with Johnny in such poor health.

Fri. 10 I don't find much to do, in our little home so fret the hours away, because of my poor husband's ill health.

Sat. 11 Busy with my usual Saturday work.

Sun. 12 Mother Shaw here today. Johnny and I, went to Church tonight at First Christian Church

Mon. 13 My wash-day, but only two of us, so its soon out.

Tues. 14 We have a Mr. & Mrs. Page (they call themselves Mr. & Mrs. George Brown) rooming with us. He is Foreman of the Stonecutters, who are building the North and South wings and dome of the State House. They are very pleasant.

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January 1890 3
411-W-9th Street Topeka Ks.

Wed. 15 Our Johnny grows no better ^{and how} can I be happy.

Thurs. 16 Johnny is carrying mail again, but is not strong.

Fri. 17 Browns have no family, so she ^{and} I have very little work to do, ^{and} we visit together a good deal.

Sat. 18 I wish Johnny did not have such a temper; he is often angry ^{and} I never know the reason.

Sun. 19 We went to Church tonight.

Mon. 20 Doing my usual Monday work, which isn't much.

Tues. 21 I had thought, to be so happy, but don't believe I am.

Wed. 22 Johnny seems better some days, ^{and} then worse. I pray God he may grow strong.

Thurs. 23 Some days, Johnny has to "lay off," not being well enough to work ^{and} it makes him so angry, because he is so ambitious to work ^{and} get a home.

Fri. 24 Johnny ^{and} I cannot go out as much as we used to, for he is in such poor health, and how I worry about him. Oh! if he could only be well and strong.

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January 1890

Sat. 25. Cleaningnd Baking, for two, how funny!
It is like "Play-house" nd mud-pies."

Sun. 26 Mother Shaw nd Johnny's, brother Jim nd family
here this afternoon.

Mon. 27 We just don't know what to do, because
Johnny doesn't grow strong

Tues. 28 Johnny breaks my heart, when he gets
so cross and ill-tempered.

Wed. 29 Mr. Brown drunks nd I don't believe
she is extra happy either, like me.

Thurs. 30 Mrs. Brown nd I just visited each other today.

Fri. 31 How I pray, Johnny may get well. My
poor husband I would give him my own
good health, if I could.

February 1890

Sat. 1st I don't believe I am a bit happy girl,
nd I had thought to be so happy.

Sun. 2 Johnny's poor health, makes me miserable
too. Q, if he could only be well.

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February 1870

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Mon. 3 I beat everyone, in the neighborhood, getting my washing out on the line. Uncle George VanGrodot, took dinner with us.

Tues. 4 How can a girl be happy, with her husband sick all the time. I pity him so.

Wed. 5 Johnny works most all the time, but ought to be in bed; and he is cross as a bear.

Thurs. 6 My Honeymoon, should not be over, yet,^{and} what a world of trouble has already come.

Fri. 7 Poor Johnny, if he could only control his temper how much happier we would both be.

Sat. 8 A busy forenoon, but went to town this afternoon.

Sun. 9 Home all day. I don't often get to Church any more, I used to never miss.

Mon. 10 Johnny is such a jolly man when in a good humor, but poor health keeps him cross, much of the time.

Tues. 11 Johnny and I, are studying his case^{and} trying to learn what would be best to restore his health.

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February 1890

Wed. 12

Doctors here (especially Dr. W. Roby) want to operate on Johnny for a Fistula but I don't want them to, I am afraid it is Tuberculosis. I don't believe he will get well.

Thurs. 13

We have written to a Dr. Brinkerhoff in Chicago, about Johnny's case. This afternoon I went to P. C. And then Johnny and I went to see "California on wheels". Good.

Fri. 14

I'm so worried about Johnny, I cry, much of the time when alone.

Sat. 15

We went out to George Weymouth's, 1207 Lincoln St. this evening to help celebrate his Birthday; he invited the Mail-Carriers and had a keg of Beer! How I despise the stuff.

Sun. 16

Mother Shaw and brother Jim Shaw and family came to dinner today. Johnny very poorly.

Mon. 17

We have decided Johnny must go to Chicago to be doctored and I cry and cry.

Tues. 18

Mother and Rosa Shaw here. Johnny left for Chicago at 3 o'clock P.M. over Santa Fe and I went to depot with him.

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February 1890

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Wed. 19 I went to Frank Shaw's and spent the afternoon. I was dreadfully hurt because Johnny would not let me go to Chicago with him, and he needs me so much. I stay alone this the Browns have rooms with us.

Thurs. 20 Went to Frank Shaw's for dinner today. Rosie and I are making us some "Peasant Capes," the latest thing, in wraps. Oh! but its lonesome and I nearly die without Johnny.

Fri. 21 Down town to do a little shopping. I feel dreadful without Johnny and cry and pray.

Sat. 22 Mother Shaw with me today, we went down town and in evening she and I went to a celebration of George Washington's Birthday at the State House and it was very good.

Sun. 23 I went to church today, with Mother Shaw at Methodist Church. I am worrying myself sick over Johnny and can't sleep nights.

Mon. 24 I've done nothing but cry all day and I just cried and prayed all night last night. Oh! if God will but restore his health, we will be so happy.

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February 1890.

Tues. 25 Another night of tearsnd I suppose I will keep it up, as long as Johnny is away. I am so lonely, I can hardly live.

Wed. 26 Johnny writes he had to have an operation and came very near dying. Now I knew I ought to have been with him.

Thurs. 27 Johnny writes that some days, he is better and some days not so well, and it nearly drives me wild, to be so far from him

Fri. 28 Snowing blowingnd cold; very stormynd my heart is so lonelynd so fretted.

March 1890

Sat. 1 I spent the day at brother Jim Shaws and the long lonely night, home alone

Sun. 2 Went to the P.C. for my mail todaynd a few words came from Johnny: he is a pretty sick boy. God blessnd keep him.

Mon. 3. I spent the day at brother Frank Shaws and of course the night at home in tears. I am so worried about my poor husband.

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March 1890

Tues. 4 I am a miserable girl if there ever was one. I don't cook, eat or work, since Johnny left. Mother Shaw, stays with me much of time.

Wed. 5 I spent the day at Mrs. George Weymouth's. Every one is so kind to me, and try to keep me cheered up, but they don't know how my heart aches.

Thurs. 6 Just living my dreary, lonely life in tears. I went down town this afternoon.

Fri. 7 I called to see Mrs. Virgil Cook and Mrs. Harry Bair this afternoon. O, I want my Johnny.

Sat. 8 Went to town, then to Mrs. George Weymouth's to spend the day; she, mother and I went to the Museum this evening in Keith building and enjoyed it much. Mother staid all night with me.

Sun. 9 Went to P. C. for my letter from Johnny; he is not improving very fast and so lonely.

Mon. 10 Life is all tears and heart-ache. Why must I suffer so. I get so lonely to see Johnny. Mrs. Brown has gone to Ohio to visit her people and I nearly die. He sleeps in living rooms at night, but I don't know where he is.

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March 1890.

411 W. 9th St. Topeka, Ks.

Tues. 11

I have made up my mind, I am going to Chicago and see my husband.

Wed. 12.

I know Johnny needs me, and I am going to him, I am going to surprise him.

Thurs. 13

I just packed my grip, borrowed some money from our roomer Mr. Jas. Brown and left for Chicago at 3 o'clock this afternoon over the Rock Island. I bought a second-class ticket, for \$6.50 was raining a little, when I left Topeka and tonight it is just pouring. We are flying thru Missouri and Iowa and I cannot sleep because I am going to Johnny. Some old masher, sat in front of me, and tried to flirt with me and I was so glad of the company of a dear old lady, as far as Fairfield Iowa. She said I was too young and pretty to be traveling alone, but I'll bet I can take care of myself against any old fool of a masher that shows up. I refused all overtures to talk, and would not even look at him. I told him I had a husband and he would not believe it.

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March 1890 Chicago Ill. 11

Fri. 14 Crossed the Mississippi River this morning at Davenport Iowa, just at dawn, but was so foggy, could not see much. Saw some pretty places, passing thro' Illinois.

I arrived in Chicago about 11 o'clock a.m. ^{and} took a Hack and drove straight to the Emergency Hospital, on Wells St. and La Salle Ave., where my husband is. He was surprised beyond words, but we were so glad to see one another. I went to a little Hotel on Clark St. and got my dinner, then spent a very happy afternoon in the ward with Johnny. Mrs. Metz, the Matron, says I may board at the Hospital, if I will occupy a room with some convalescence, and I am so glad, because I will be near Johnny all the time.

Sat. 15 My! what a big noisy place, Chicago is.

From Hospital windows I can see nothing but City in any direction I may look.

How happy I am to be here with Johnny.

Sun. 16 Went to the Church of The Holy Name over on State St. this morning with Lettie Woldsholdt, one of Patients in Hospital, to attend Catholic services. Fine Church. I have a dreadful cold.

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March 1890 Chicago.

Mon. 17

I walked down town alone, crossed the Chicago river^{2d} and went to the South-side. I was never in a real City before^{2d} and was gone so long, the Hospital folks, thought I must be lost, but I was only going thro' some big stores. I had never been out of the State of Kansas, since going to it when a little girl, five years old, and so I find much to see in a big City, like this noisy, smoky, dirty old place. I am glad I do not live here.

Tues. 18

Went down town again today, during the hours I could not be with Johnny: they allow me to go in the Ward to see him, a few minutes at 9 o'clock, and for one hour at 11 o'clock, then all the afternoon^{and} a few minutes in the evening. I caught a terrible cold on the train.

Wed. 19

This is a German Hospital and I am the only English person "on my feet" tho' many of them can speak English. I have a room with Jennie Paulson, Emma Munz^{and} Letta Heldsholdt, who are here awaiting treatment or operations.

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March 1890 Chicago

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Thurs. 20 I am so happy because Johnny is growing better, but he is in bed all the time. My throat is very sore and Doctor Graham says I have "Quinsy"

Fri. 21 I have suffered greatly today, with my throat and was only allowed the tiniest glimpse of my husband. "Quinsy" is terrible. The Doctors and Nurses would not allow me out of Hospital

Sat. 22 I feel some better today, tho' I nearly choked to death last night and could not take any food or my medicine. But Dr. Hill has had me gargle, every half hour all day, with clear hot water, very hot water, and it is getting the best of my Quinsy. I was in quite serious condition.

Sun. 23 I slipped away from the Nurses this morning and went to Church, with Emma Munz at H. L. Moody's Church on La Salle St. and after service, we walked down to the shore of Lake Michigan and got my first look at a large body of water. A lovely day with just wind enough to make pretty waves. Expect I've taken a big risk today.

Mon. 24 I did not leave the Hospital today, but don't believe I am the worse for going yesterday

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March 1890 Chicago

Tues. 25 A rainy bad day and I did not leave the Hospital. I am "picking up" many German words ^{and} getting so I understand lots of it; don't believe it would be hard to learn.

Wed. 26 Went down town with Emma Mung, to the jail, Court House, P.C. ^{and} then some big stores.

Thurs. 27 Didn't leave Hospital today. They have almost every nationality here, and surely every kind of disease and surgical case, ever heard of. A Hospital is most interesting.

Fri. 28 They tell me, I can take Johnny home now whenever I learn to dress the wound, made by operating, so I went into the Operating room with the Doctor ^{and} Nurse this morning but it looked so badly, I could not bear to touch him. Went down town and to the Auditorium with Lættie Hildaholdt. And went to a Saloon, ^{and} bought some table Beer Johnny wanted ^{and} doctors said he could have, or rather, want him to have. I wish no such stuff was made. I hate it.

Sat. 29 Went out to the Division St. P.C., Lincoln Park ^{and} the Lake with Lættie Hildaholdt. Johnny sat up a little.

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March 1890 Chicago.

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Sun. 30 Went to St. James Episcopal Church this morning with Emma Muus and Lettie Hildbrandt. After services, we went to the Water-works tower building, then down to the Lake. Oh! how I love the Lake, but not this dirty, noisy, City.

Mon. 31 Did not leave the Hospital today. Went into the Operating-room and helped dress Johnny.

April

Tues. 1st Went down to the Lake Shore, and the waves were very high. Also had to go again to a Saloon for Beer for Johnny. I don't believe a Doctor knows what he is doing when he recommends Beer.

Wed. 2 Went down town this morning and after dinner Emma Muus and myself, went for our last walk together, along the Lake Shore Drive. 'Twas a grand day and many people out. Lettie has undergone her operation and is very low and almost no chance to recover.

Thurs. 3 Johnny and I told our Hospital friends good-bye soon after dinner, Shopped a little and took 6 o'clock P.M. train, for "Home sweet Home". It rained, thundered and lightened awfully as our train pulled out of Depot.

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April 1890.

Fri. 4

Arrived home at noon and this Johnny stood the trip well, he is very tired ^{and} weak. He bought a number of things for himself in Chicago, just before he left, and not a single thing for me. I could not help feeling a little hurt, especially as he was not in need of fancy Ties, Stock pins, collars ^{and} cuffs by wholesale. But I never let him know, I felt this selfish neglect.

Sat. 5

I went down town on some errands. Oh, but it is happiness, to be home again.

Sun. 6

Mother ^{and} rest of the Shaws' here today to see Johnny and Mother stayed with him, while I went this evening for a Car-ride with Rosie Shaw.

Mon. 7

Gleaning up my dirty house.

Tues. 8

Johnny seems much better.

Wed. 9

The mail carriers come in to see Johnny ^{and} he is brightening up and I believe will soon be strong as ever and want that be glorious.

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April 1890 411 W-9-st

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Topeka Ks.

Thurs. 10 Cousins Maude and Emma Howard came to see us today ^{and} I went downtown with them.

Fri. 11 Johnny still peevish ^{and} fretful as a baby; guess it means, he is getting well but it is most unpleasant.

Sat. 12 To town to do some errands.

Sun. 13 Mother Shaw with us today: she is a dear old lady.

Mon. 14 Johnny getting better. I went to town "shopping"

Tues. 15 Johnny ^{and} I went to a fire. He gets out a little each day, but the improvement is slow.

Wed. 16 Johnny is to go to work inside the P. C. until he grows stronger. Will be at Stamp Window.

Thurs. 17 Johnny improves in health ^{and} is cross as a Bear.

Fri. 18 It is nice to be home, even with a cross man, when you know he is getting well.

Sat. 19 A little extra work to do today. Sometimes I have a strong suspicion that Johnny will never get well, even tho' he is improving all the time.

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April 1890

Sun. 20 We spent the day at Jim Shaw's. Johnny is getting to be quite himself again.

Mon. 21 Johnny and I took a walk, down to Rock Island Depot this afternoon, just to get out in the air.

Tues. 22 Am so happy to see Johnny growing stronger.

Wed. 23 Johnny finds his "inside" work trying, but it is better than no work, for we must live.

Thurs. 24 I called on Mrs. Ed. Hannay and Mrs. W.T. Gorrellis today: both are carriers' wives, like myself.

Fri. 25 Went down to Frank Shaw's.

Sat. 26 I am 23 years old today and have had a world of care: I feel like there was little in the world worth living for and life has only begun too. Johnny and I went down town this evening, just for a walk.

Sun. 27 This afternoon, Johnny and I, called on Harry Bair's, Mr. Jim Bair's and Mr. Virgil Cooks. Then went to Church at First Christian. Has been a fine day and we seldom get out to Church any more.

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411 W. 9th st.

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Mon. 28 Most beautiful day: wish I could be as happy as the day is fine but guess I'm not to know happiness.

Tues. 29 Another grand daynd Johnny always feels better these fine days nd keeps in better humor too.

Wed. 30 Are having such lovely days. Wish I could be as happy as the Spring is beautiful, but I have found one can't be happy with a cross husband even if his crossness does indicate returning health. It is a pretty good thing too, that he doesn't read my Diary. I don't think, he knows I keep one.

MAY 1890

Thurs. 1st The begining of another month nd I pray for happiness.

Fri. 2 Wish I lived again, among the old friends, and relatives at Floral and Winfield, down in Cass Co.

Sat. 3 Busy baking nd cleaning

Sun. 4 I climbed to the State House of dome this morning on ladders and trestle work on a wager with Foreman, George Page-Brown, who did not believe I could do it. It was very dangerous, but I felt no fear. He went up, but his wife ^{and} Johnny could not. Johnny nd I went to church this eve.

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May 1890.

Mon. 5

Washed this morning. My! what a climb I had yesterdaynd my muscles are sore today. The dome is not finished and are no floors: one just looks down, down, down into black space. Some of the workmen are made dizzy and several have been killed but I was not the least dizzy and absolutely without fear. Some of the ladders were roped together to make them longernd it made very long climbs, from one trestle to another before one could rest, but I just went up like a squirrel.

Tues. 6

Just a busy day at home. Johnny is so kind when in a good humor.

Wed. 7

Johnnynd I spent the evening, with my cousin Mary VanGradol, 213 Fairchild St. North Topeka.

Thurs. 8

We spent the evening at Brother Jim Shaw's.

Fri. 9

Johnny in a Tantrum again today about something I can't find out what, and went off down townnd left me alone. I just gathered up some sewing asked Mrs. Brown to go with mend we spent evening at Frank Shaw's. I never told any of them how J. acted, but he was home firstnd looked foolish when I came in.

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May 1890 411 W-9-st.

Sat. 10. Johnny in little better humor today. I wish he would let liquor alone; don't believe he'd get so cross.

Sun. 11 Johnny & I called at George Weymouth's this evening, but found no one at home.

Mon. 12 Mrs. Brown and I went shopping this afternoon.

Tues. 13 My ironing day, but I have mighty little work to do! But I'd give the world for happiness.

Wed. 14 Busy in a little home for two that ought to be happy, but contains much misery.

Thurs. 15 Just working and praying the good Lord to make our home nest happy.

Fri. 16 Johnny went to town with me this evening and to call on the J. N. Stauffer family ¹²⁶⁰ _{top. ave.}.

Sat. 17 Doing my usual work. Johnny isn't at all strong.

Sun. 18 We went to church this evening.

Mon. 19 We went to the State House this evening to a meeting of the Knights of Pythias, in Representative Hall.

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May 1890 411- W-10-st.

Tues. 20 A rainy old day and makes one gloomy.

Wed. 21 Mrs. Brown and I went thru the State House this afternoon and also down town; Johnny & I attended the Promenade Concert of the Frugist's Convention, in Representative Hall, this evening.

Thurs. 22 Another rainy day & Johnny is never so well such days.

Fri. 23 The Browns and us, went to a Re-Submission-meeting, at the State House, this evening; it was "n.g." I hate the thought of Resubmission & liquor, but for the sake of peace, I must go to such meetings, with my husband, who is fond of his Beer.

Sat. 24 Busy, very busy, in my little home.

Sun. 25 We went to Church, this evening.

Mon. 26 Johnny is so kind & full of fun, when in a good humor: wish could keep him that way all the time, but he isn't strong & will drink and liquor helps to keep him cross.

Tues. 27 Went to P. O. with Johnny this evening; he wanted to "work up" his mail.

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May 1890

Wed. 28 Trying to be happy, in spite of my misery; trying to keep our little nest, cozy.

Thurs. 29 Mrs. John Stauffer, called this evening.

Fri. 30 "Decoration Day" and it rained hard all day. Johnny had a half Holiday, and we took a lot of roses (we have so many) and went to brother Jim's, and spent the evening there. Johnny and Jim took the roses to the cemetery.

Sat. 31 Too hot today, to do anything, one can get out of [clarity].

JUNE.

Sun. 1st "Childrens Day" at my church today (First Christian) and Johnny and I attended in evening; Bert, ^{2d} Harry Bair & family, coming down and going with us.

Mon. 2 My busy day. I sometimes think I had better have married, Will or Charlie or Creer and I might have been happy. I don't like to think these things but they will, come up, when Johnny gets an ugly spell.

Tues. 3 Went to P. C this evening with Johnny, to "work up" his mail. I can help a little and he likes to have me along with him. I wish he was more kind, tho' I know he loves me dearly.

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June 1890 411 W. 9- st.

Wed. 4 Married nine months, today and don't know what to think of the life: sometimes I am happy ^{and} sometimes, utterly, miserable; and I know, marriage, has brought more tears than smiles; and drink ^{and} temper, cause of it.

Thurs. 5 Busy, "playing" keep-house.

Fri. 6 The Browns and us, went to an Art exhibition at Library Hall, this evening.

Sat. 7 Johnny ^{and} rest of Mail carriers, drove out to Mill Creek, this evening, to stay over night and fish ^{and} of course took a load of Beer along. I went with Mr. & Mrs. Brown down to the Tabernacle, in Oakland, to the Musical Festival; it was just splendid.

Sun. 8 Johnny ^{and} the Carriers came home about noon: no fish. Rained this evening.

Mon. 9 We went this evening, with Mr. & Mrs. George Weymouth, to Turner Gardens, to a Turnfest ^{and} some old fool, half full of Beer, tried to make a pass on me. I would like to have busted his old head for him. The Singing ^{and} Games, were fine, but too much Beer there to suit me.

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June 1890

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Tues. 11 Canning Cherries ^{and} Mrs. Brown, helped me "fit" them; today is her Birthday.

Thurs. 12 Canning more Cherries today.

Fri. 13 Am still Canning today ^{and} so very busy.

Sat. 14 Finished my canning fruit today.

Sun. 15 Johnny ^{and} I went to Church this evening

Mon. 16 My wash day, but I get my washing out, before most people have their Breakfast.

Tues. 17 Went to a meeting of Lincoln Circle, J. A. R. this afternoon.

Wed. 18 Johnny seems to have fully recovered his health tho' he still coughs a little.

Thurs. 19 My home life would be happy if Johnny would quit drinking; he is only a moderate drinker, but it is a little every day ^{and} is harmful to his health.

Fri. 20 Called on Mrs. Bl. Hitt (Gillie Sloan) this afternoon, but she was not at home.

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June 1890

411-W-9-St Topeka Ks

Sat. 21 Went up town shopping this afternoon.

Sun. 22 We went to Church this evening^{ed} after preaching
Rev. Smith, married a young couple; understood
the groom's name was Young.

Mon. 23 Rather busy today. I stay very closely^{ed} and it pleases
Johnny, who says he doesn't like to see a
woman always gadding or on the streets.

Tues. 24 We had Mr. & Mrs. George Weymouth^{ed} & family
here to Supper this evening.

Wed. 25 We are getting into the warm days of Summer
but they will help restore Johnny's health.

Thurs. 26 I don't find enough to do, to keep busy in
this "playhouse" existence.

Fri. 27 Mrs. Brown^{ed} & I visit each other a great deal
for neither of us, has much work to do.

Sat. 28 Went down town this afternoon, shopping.

Sun. 29 Hearing the Fire-alarm this morning, Mrs.
Brown and I (we live just across the
street) ran for the State House and

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climbed to the dome, to get a view of the fire, but didn't see it. Mr. Brown was at State House, for they work every day, including Sunday, so to finish on time. Dome is pretty well floored now. Johnny and I went to Geo. Weymouth's to spend afternoon, and then to church where we listened to a very fine Missionary talk by a young Armenian in costume, who is working his way thru College, preparatory to a Missionary life.

Mon. 30 Busy and not busy, but its wash day.

JULY.

Tues. 1 The days are warm and I try to think they will bring fully restored health to Johnny.

Wed. 2 Another day at home with nothing to do

Thurs. 3 I wish I knew how to always keep Johnny in a good humor, because then he is so jolly.

Fri. 4 "Fourth of July." I went up town in morning with Johnny and in afternoon, we went out to Baldwin and over to Garfield Park.

Sat. 5 Had my little Saturday work to do.

Sun. 6 We went to United Presbyterian this evening to hear Rev. W. Kirahan preach

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Mon. 7 I doubt if Johnny is ever, real strong again.

Tues. 8 Cousin Maude Howard and Mrs. Hubbard, called.

Wed. 9 Home, but it is not a very happy place to be.

Thurs. 10 I am not the happiest girl in the world.

Fri. 11 Busy, tho' not often, the days are full.

Sat. 12 We went to Fair Shaw's this evening. Fair is so kind, to his family; he hasn't a temper like Johnny.

Sun. 13 We went to Church this evening at our own church.

Mon. 14 My little old washing, was about all I had to do.

Tues. 15 Went to a meeting of Lincoln Circle, No. 1 this afternoon and after the meeting, with a Committee, to call on Mrs. Gulp and extend her our sympathy, because of the drowning of her son in the the Natatorium.

Wed. 16 We went to a Temperance Lecture in the State House, this evening. It is a wonder Johnny would go tho'; for he believes in Saloons.

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July 1870 411 W-9- St. Toledo

Thurs. 17 Cousin Will Farnsworth, took supper with us this evening. The days are warm.

Fri. 18 Cousin Will here again today: awfully warm.

Sat. 19. Really quite busy. Cousins Maud & Emma Howard called this afternoon and Gwen Pepper (my third cousin) staid all night with us.

Sun. 20 We went up on State House dome this morning or just to the dome, with Mr. & Mrs. Brown. The view is grand. We went to Church this evening.

Mon. 21 I have a mighty good mother-in-law, if I have got a cross husband: his mother, stands by me always.

Tues. 22 Mother, Johnny & I, went to see Frank Shaw's this evening. They all seem to think lots of me.

Wed. 23 Not much to do, but I read my Bible and try to live a good life every day.

Thurs. 24 I wish I could get my husband into the Church.

Fri. 25 Cousins Maude Howard & Prudence Pepper, and Mother, Johnny & I went out to Potawat, to see Balloon Ascension by Prof. Craig. Marshall's Band also gave a concert.