

## **Cora May Otto**

Cora Otto was born May 23, 1873 to George and Sophie Otto, pioneer family in Santa Cruz, California. This was a family of eight children all born and raised on Church Street which was then a long street of small farms of early citizens. Cora was the fifth daughter, and only her brother Arthur was younger than she. Her sister, Minnie Otto born in 1868 was her best friend. She had many friends among her schoolmates and at the Congregational Church Sunday-school. Even today we have photos of Minnie and Cora, Cora and Clara, and Cora and Sil. We also have some lovely portraits of just Cora.

Cora enjoyed going to school and enjoyed teaching school even more. She was considered one of the finest teachers Santa Cruz ever had. She started her teaching a Castle Rock Elementary School. This school was in session five months a year and Cora alternated between Castle Rock and another five-month school. Some of her students would also alternate between the two schools and take board and room in the community where school was in session. (There were no busses or automobiles then).

In 1898, Cora was given the opportunity to teach the ten month K-8 School at Loma Prieta. This was a lumber mill town and actually open only as many days as the weather would permit the children to get across creeks and the often flooded millpond. The rainy days were lonely days for Cora. We have a diary and some snap shots of this period of her life.

There was a narrow gauge railway running from the mill into Santa Cruz almost every day. This allowed Cora to go home and to church now and then. But Cora still longed for the day she would be able to teach in the city of Santa Cruz. New teachers, especially those who had received their credential by passing the county exam, were given the country schools. Cora's family did not have the money to send her to San Jose Normal, so she had studied on her own after finishing high school. This was not an uncommon way to become a teacher in those days, but obviously a more difficult way to do it.

Shortly after the school year of 1900 had begun, Cora Otto was asked to come to Santa Cruz to substitute for the first grade teacher at Mission Hill. As it turned out, the teacher who originally had been assigned to Mission School was not able to return and Cora was assigned this position. This was the kind of teaching Cora had always wanted to do. She really loved the little children and excelled in teaching them to read and was certainly able to motivate the children's minds to all manner of learning. In 1907 she received her Life Diploma for teaching from the State of California.

She really enjoyed her chosen career and would attend teacher's conferences every year to renew friendships with her colleagues and gather new material and ideas for another year of teaching. In the summers, she would travel to the western National Parks to learn about the American Indian, flora and fauna of various regions of the US, and would take photos of grand scenery of these places to enrich her teaching and her life.

In Santa Cruz, she was a member of the Congregational Church, and there she taught Sunday school and led groups in missionary work with a great understanding of people all over the world. She belonged to the Friday Night Shakespeare Club and to Native Daughters. She and her sister Minnie were gracious hostesses in their Cleveland Avenue home to family and friends. Her married sisters and their children and

grandchildren were always welcome in the Santa Cruz home. We have photos of the house and its furnishings in our possession.

It was almost like a museum to go there as the family had many fine pieces of artwork they had collected through the years. Some were kept in the attic to be changed with those in the living part of the house at the discretion of Minnie who kept this home so beautifully. Somehow there was a feeling of warmth and sharing we seldom felt elsewhere. Both Cora's brother Ernest and Cora had built this house for their mother in 1908. Grandma Otto was a part of the spirit of the Santa Cruz home all the years she lived.

Another wonderful contribution to this house was the books purchased by Cora and her brother Ernest Otto. Most of these books have been passed on to the younger generations and are a part of our heritage. Some of the furnishings from this lovely home has become a part of our homes and we love telling our children and grandchildren about the wonderful Otto home.

We have other memorabilia that had belonged to Cora personally. Most prized is her pressed wild-flower collection made in 1898. We have the small bell that sat on Cora's desk in those early schoolrooms. Everyone was so sad when Cora was called to her death in 1928 after a short illness. Even the school children brought flowers to decorate her grave. She was too young to die at 55 years of age, but she has never been forgotten. Just recently at a social function in Santa Cruz, I was tapped on the shoulder by an elderly woman who said, "Cora Otto was my first teacher, I have never forgotten her." Nor has anyone who knew her. Cora Otto's life made a difference and our family dedicates this diary of her early teaching to those who care about the history of the people of Santa Cruz.

*s Patricia R. Brien  
Great-niece of Cora Otto  
September 1994*

Dec 31, 1898 11:40 PM I regret this last night of the year, 1898, that no record of the past month has been kept.

The sunshine & the show, into each life, must come. There has been much sunshine & comparatively little shadow during the past six months. True, I have been influence indirectly by the shadows falling upon others, but it was then that the joy in Christ could be exerted. "In His presence there is fullness of joy, & at His right hand there are pleasures for evermore. It is a blessed life to abide in Christ. A close fellowship with Him has revealed wondrous things to me. The growth of a Christian life is beautiful. The perfect, simple life of Christ teaches us how to unfold & expand our lives. We are to grow like Him. It was for our sakes that he left heaven for earth that we might leave earth for heaven.

The year is nearly gone & a new one presents itself. This is to be the best year of my life. "The Lord is my light & my salvation whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life, of whom shall if be afraid?" Psa. 27:1.

Aunt Alice came to our home last May & remained with us until August 8<sup>th</sup>. Those were precious hours & days. She is a sweet follower of Christ. She came into our home to do good. Already the fruit appears.

My prayers go out to the dear ones of our home who are out of fellowship with Christ. May the gathered harvest of 1899 find among others; papa, Minnie, Arthur, Gertie, Josie, Grace & their husbands. May this be a glorious year in spreading the Kingdom of God on Earth. What would Jesus do? This to be our first thought. Led by His Spirit we may hasten His kingdom on earth. To do His will be my earnest effort.

Sunday, January 1, 1899 The rain pours, but we are so thankful for it. God's blessing upon the year 1899.

There was a beautiful service this morning. The communion was a fitting preparation for our new resolves. Mr. Orr gave us some beautiful thoughts. Christ the incarnate truth. "I am the way, the truth, the life."

Christ, the revealer of God. To know God we are only to study Christ's life. His was a life of sympathy, love, gentleness & tenderness. He did what the Father would have done. If we but touch the hem of His garment w may receive His virtues & then are we able to impart it to others. Christ imitated to grow like him day unto day.

Christ was God's love letter to the world. The Word became flesh & dwelt among us. He revealed God's message in person.

May I gain wondrous truths from Thy word, O God. Teach me to study thy work aright.

There were twelve who united with the church today. One, a Mrs. Tracy, was to have united last Communion but on account of sickness could not do so as she thought slighted by Mr. Orr because he neglected to call her name with the others when they were received into the church. First he received those on Profession of Faith, then those by letter, & then he called Mrs. Tracy. Mrs. Tracy was feeling so badly over it that I was led to speak to Mr. Orr. His sympathy is so sweet and tender. He seemed so depressed over something that I hesitated to speak to him but found when I did speak that he had already spoken to Mrs. Tracy. She is an invalid & very nervous & so the omission of her name affected her very much.

The C.E's sent Mr. Orr a sweet New Year's Greeting & a pot of fern. The teacher's officers gave him a beautiful silk umbrella.

Jan 2. Scott's Valley Jessie Hicks called for me his P.M. & took me out to their mothers. It has rained quite a little today. Mrs. Hicks & I have enjoyed the day together. I always have quiet rest & a Pleasant visit then I am in the valley.

Sat. Jan 7 It commenced to rain last evening. The rain is a great blessing to Cal.

Mrs. Hicks & I drove in yesterday. Found a gift from cousin Marion when I got home – "The Message of Peace."

It was Ernest's 28<sup>th</sup> birthday Wednesday. Miss Morgan had a birthday on Tuesday & she invited Miss Austin, Miss Trovinger, Mr. Orr & Ernest to dinner.

Monday Jan 9.

Yesterday & today are 'days' for which I am most thankful & grateful. I believe I am in Santa Cruz to stay. My prayer has been answered. I anticipated a change & even prepared for the same. I found that there had been a meeting of the trustees & several teachers appointed but I didn't receive an appointment. Mabel Meade took Mabel Drennan's place & Josie Cooney was appointed to supply for Miss Haslam until she returns. Although disappointed I still believed some change would take place & I might receive an appointment. It came to me yesterday. As mama & I were on our way to church, I was stopped by Mr. Palmer who with Mr. Clark & Mr. Lincoln were standing at the door of his drug store. They wished me to supply for Miss Pope who is quite ill. Miss Pope's condition is of such a character that she shouldn't teach this term. I am so happy to have been the successful applicant. It has sent joy into my heart for now. I am to be at home and can be of greater help than I ever been before. God is good. His love & kindness is over all, but unto His children he bestows his best fits.

I am teaching the Third grade at the Branciforte school. The children are very nice & the work will give my great pleasure.

Mr. Orr was at his best yesterday. The character of Christ's first converts was the theme for the morning service. The acceptance of Christ's blessed invitations and the great desire that filled the disciple's hearts to go into their own homes and invite their brother to come to Christ also.

Christianity should enter into our own homes. There is a dim radiance that illumines the soul of man. If we are Christians, it will not be necessary for us to tell it – our lives will show other what we are. O, that the divine radiance may reflect upon the hearts of papa, Minnie, Arthur, my married sisters & their husbands. To be given words to say, to exert an influence of the Christ life is my prayer.

Mr., Orr pressed the necessity of earnest, systematic bible study. We study into other subjects to meet the demands of the intellectual world – why, oh why, do we so neglect God's precious word. I am very, very anxious to study God's word. I desire much but feel so helpless in gaining what I so desire. Still a way had already been opened.

I expect to stay at home & I haven't so much schoolwork to attend to. This will give me more time for many things & chief among all will be the study of God's work.

Mabel Drennan led the Endeavor. She led it so sweetly "The rest in Christ" was her central thought. Dear Mabel is so happy.

Jan 10 A very rainy day. School passed nicely. There is much to accomplish & sincerely hope I may obtain excellent work from the children. Call on Mrs. Snyder after school. May & her husband returned last evening.

Saturday, Jan 14. Spent the day at home. Marcia spent the afternoon with me & remained to tea. Percy Hicks also called & staid to tea. Marcia is just as happy as happy can be. Mr. Cliff & she anticipate a bright future. He is an assistant pastor at Hanford in a Methodist church there. Active service draws us into close fellowship with Christ.

Mr. Orr is to give a series of sermons on Future Punishment. The sermons to be given are: 1<sup>st</sup>, From the standpoint of Unitarians, Universalists & Probationists, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Annihilations or Limited Immortality, 3<sup>rd</sup>, Everlasting Conscious Suffering, 4<sup>th</sup> "The Pastor's Own Views on Hell". It a subject to be greatly concerned about. Seek to live perfected lives here so we may gain a future life. It isn't our life only but the lives of humanity – Those in our own homes and the world around us whom we are anxious for.

I am anxious to make a study to the bible for enlightenment upon this subject. I am so ignorant of these truths found in God's holy word. Mr. Orr's sermons will give us much information.

School passed pleasantly this past week. I hope I may hear the position is mine.

Sunday, Jan. 15 "It is beautiful to be with God," so said Francis Willard to Anna Gordon. These words so sympathetically given from the pulpit by Mr. Orr has had a re-echo in my soul since I have returned home from Sunday School. I felt that my service in the SS was so poorly accomplished today. I had prepared my lesson and felt ready to teach a class if called upon, yet I was so anxious to remain in Mr. Orr's class. It is such an inspiration to the soul to gather the fruits of his study. Miss Morgan, dear earnest worker asked Mr. Orr for a substitute. He asked one and another who had been relieved of duty today on account of the wet weather & were happy to be in his class. Miss Morgan wished to excuse me for she has received my help a number of times & knows that I enjoy the Bible Class very much. I volunteered – something said go. I answered it. I felt so discouraged after SS. Did I have any influence over those boys? O Christ, teach me to teach others.

It was a helpful that we heard this morning, "In Him was life; and the life was the light of men" John 1:4. "I am the light of the world; he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." John 8:12.

Christ is our guide. He the Creator tells us how to live. We cannot find the instruction we need in his Holy work, we can find it by direct communion with Him.

All animate beings are given some manner of ???. The deer its fleetness, the tortoise its shell, the bee its sting. God protects us. He protects us that we may make use of our usefulness. We are to use ourselves for Him, which required us to return often to Him. The carrier pigeon is guided to its place of designation, but when freedom is given to it, it circles high & then flied back to its resting place. Christ is our resting place.

We are given wonderful instincts. These instincts guide us. Our conscience is a guide. We have inherited the divine breath of God from our first parents. The lofty and

refined nature is to be found in every child of God. This nature is what we must strive to develop. Plant it in God's garden & under His cultivation it will blossom as the rose. To change a common pink rose into one of rare beauty & size need transplanting and tender attention. Our souls are as angels whose arms will be thrown around ....give our consent & under such protection we can grow and develop. "He that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life".

Tuesday, Jan 17 I feel a little troubled tonight. I do not find the third year as far advanced in some of their work as I had expected. I fear I have passed too many remarks to Mrs. Radke. I do not wish to have her think that Miss Case hasn't been doing good work. It is true Miss Case didn't seem satisfied with her work for she desired me to tell her in what I thought the pupils deficient.

Mr. Orr is having a canvass of the city made to find the number of children who do and do not attend Sunday School. I have quite a canvass to make & did a little this afternoon. It is quite hard for me to do, but I was received so pleasantly everywhere that I came home feeling repaid for the ....? To start out.

Sunday evening, Mr. Orr gave the first sermon of the new series, The Universalists, the Unitarians and Probationists views were given. He left this line of thought with us. What more will God do for us in another world than he has done for us here? Has he another son to give? Will He inspire men to write another Bible?

Sunday, Jan 22. "But grow in grace & in the knowledge of our Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ" 2 Peter, 3:18. The benediction adopted by the churches often fall upon the soul and kindle thought & we leave the house of God the better for being there.

The possibilities of a Christian growth are infinite. There is no limit to the development of a Christian life. "In Him was light & the life was the light of men." Accept Christ & the new life is given. It does come to us. We do feel the indwelling of the Spirit – how it came we do not know. It is a fact & we accept it. As soon as a ...? born into His family & became a child. God takes what we give & as soon as we give it. When we consecrate ourselves, he accepts. The divine act is instantaneous.

Mr. Orr touched just a little upon this evening, and next Sunday evening sermons. After years of study and prayerful guidance, he presents his thoughts from his knowledge of the Bible concerning the life that is to come. There is everlasting life promised to those who believe upon Christ, the unbeliever shall perish. The wages of sin are death. He is unable to find any passage of scripture that speaks of everlasting punishment. From what he said I gained these thoughts. After death our spirits pass to another world but do not pass into the presence of God. "This day thou shalt be with me in Paradise." Call the place what you may; it is here the spirit remains until Christ comes. The accepted ones are to pass into the Home of many mansions eternal in the heavens. Those who reject this life of Christ to pass into oblivion. The man who utterly rejects God may like this theory & as the saying is "chuckles in his sleeve." Must we face everlasting punishment to make us better men & women – we can't altogether be frightened into religion. The spirit of God is like a dove. God the Father of love, tenderness & gentleness who sent His Son to us & who pleads & makes intercession for us will certainly not submit the unbeliever to everlasting punishment. Such men receive their one reward on this earth. A spiritual life is the greatest life to gain, but if men

deliberately ignore their spiritual welfare, they can choose the pleasure of the world. If they feel satisfied with what they obtain, then do they receive their reward. "Virtue rewards itself".

"For none of us liveth to himself & no man dieth to himself"

"For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; & whether we die, we die unto the Lord; whether we live there or die we are the Lord's." Rom 14: 7-8.

Thursday, Feb 2, 1899 I so often wish to write the thoughts that come at particular times. No great things occur in my life but the 'little' do make a life. I have passed through a struggle but received the peaceful assurance this morning that "All things work together for good to them that love God, to them that are called according to his purpose. Casting all your cares upon Him for He careth for you." Seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud? Of witnessed, let us lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. I have been greatly concerned about my appointment as a substitute. I had been led to feel that Miss Pope wouldn't return ... very anxious to resume her work. I have spoken to Mr. Lincoln & Mr. Clark about the school, but they were unable to give me any decided answer, as Miss Pope hadn't written them any word. The past week has been so unsettled. I couldn't help thinking about the school. I have been expecting hear from Loma Prieta, theirs and no word from the trustees or the Santa Cruz schools have caused me to be somewhat anxious. We should be careful in all things, but anxious... nothing for God will sustain in all our trials. I wasn't willing to return to Loma Prieta after being home. The town work is so different. At Loma Prieta the school duties are so arduous & I get so worn out. Every night given to work – never any time to call my own. Then again, the privilege of being home is so sweet and beautiful. I love my home and long to remain here, still if I am called away, I believe God wills it and there is a work .... Return there, I will give my strength, energy and love to the work of the school-room and the community.

Later received word from the L.P. trustees. The school will open on the 13<sup>th</sup> if convenient to me. I thought it so kind of them to add that clause.

We had a splendid prayer meeting last evening. Subject, "What is Sin?" Sin, as one expressed it last evening was the conformity to and transgression of God's law. Still another answered it was, sin was not in harmony with God. The greatest sin is the rejection of God. The magnitude of sin grows with the perfection of our human lives. As we rise to higher levels, we confront sin which at one time we thought was no sin.

Received a beautiful letter from auntie. She has been so occupied in her home. Edith & Norman have had LaGrippe. In a letter to Minnie, Auntie desired that I should dedicate my diary to her. (Return it, dear Auntie, you and you only may read it. Ernest can carry it home again. I am ....) It isn't an account of my daily life .... Things that transpire that I never record a few incidences in my daily life.

Last evening after prayer meeting Ernest, Miss Morgan, Mr. Orr & I went to the restaurant & had oysters. When in Mr. Orr's presence you long to attain to higher things in life. I am so underdeveloped and earnestly desire to know more of this marvelous universe and profound word of God.

Tuesday, Feb 7. So much has occurred the past few days. Received a comforting letter from Aunt Alice. The dear Father gave our souls an affinity of love one for the other. I could pour out my heart to Aunt Alice and her true sympathetic nature understood me and soothed my troubled spirit.

In the 'Quiet Hour' I find the sweet peace given when I need it. How beautiful it is to open our hearts to the Heavenly Father. I have been troubled & have needed divine sustainment. It has been hard for me to give my all to the? school. .... to return again to Loma Prieta. I was so happy here and when asked to supply for Miss Pope, received too much encouragement that I almost felt that the position was a permanent one. A month ago, the trustees knowing Miss Pope's physical condition and no idea that she would be able to teach this term. These things were told me and of course I had great hope of remaining home. It was hard for me to become reconciled to the change but probably there is some special work for me to do at L.P. I truly wish to give myself to any service that God desires me to do. It is my prayer that my eyes may be opened to the special needs at Loma Prieta and that something may be accomplished.

It was hard to leave the children yesterday. Miss Mead has taken my place.

I made Miss Morgan a short visit at school today. She is a dear, earnest enthusiastic Christian. (My life, so Miss Morgan said, was a help to her)

Adeline and I called on Chas West today. He met with an accident some time ago, hurting his knee and has had to undergo several operations. He seemed pleased to see us and I felt better for going.

Sunday was a day of good things. It will be a pleasant memory for me since the Sundays that are to follow will be so different. I'll be at Loma Prieta. It seems so hard to be deprived of Church service. The past two months have been such happy ones. I have been drinking and feasting upon spiritual things and have felt the stir of a new growth for still higher things. That I may reflect this growth and continue to grow stronger is my desire.

Each day is a life. To live it to its fullest capacity should be our ultimate aim.

Mama and Minnie haven't been very well. Mama's feet trouble her greatly.

"Endurance" was Mr. Orr's sermon Sunday morning. Every life should have some great purpose to live for. It was a helpful .... In the evening the C.E. celebrated their 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The service, a most delightful one, was conducted by the Endeavourers. I was asked to read Mr. Clark's letter. Beautiful letters from absent ex-members were also read. Mr. Lowell gave a good address. Mr. Orr wasn't well at all.

Sunday, Feb 12. Left home yesterday morning for Loma Prieta. I found it very hard to leave. I never felt so before. It almost seemed that I couldn't leave home & Santa Cruz. When I left Loma Prieta last Dec. a feeling within seemed to convince me that a change was to take place for one short month. It was a happy time and I couldn't keep down my feelings yesterday morning when it came time to leave. Everything sees so dark and I passed an unkind remark to Minnie about Loma Prieta. Before me arose that desolate and dreary pond, all water gone, debris and the end of pinkers? pointing ....

...in which they lay buried was the only aspect I had of Loma. Why such a scene should crowd out the beauty, I do not know unless it was my heart for that moment was heavy indeed. We do become ungrateful for the good things bestowed upon us. Because

I had been hme for eight weeks and had enjoyed the comfort of a quiet home and the companionship of friends, and the privilege of church attendance and sweet service, the changed seemed great, indeed.

Tomorrow, my schoolwork commences. Relying upon the Lord Jesus for strength, I intend to do my best to promote good work in the schoolroom. The time is short and there is much to accomplish. I need much guidance in the direction of my work. To live a pure Christian life before my children so that actions may often speak when works can't be expressed.

I'll miss the services of the day. It is hard to give them up. I feel the need of them very, very much. We do have such beautiful inspired services since Mr. Orr has been with us. Under his teaching, God's teachings re made so beautiful. We are led into closer fellowship and communion with our father. It is near church time and in the hme, I expect mama is getting ready to go. I wish Minnie would go also. I wish to see her life yoked with Christ's. There is Arthur and papa also. How happy we would be if all their lives were wrought under Christ's yoke. He ever helps us on though we may encounter many a rough patch. We nerd not surmount the obstacles alone, but God helps us to surmount them and every time we surmount one we are stronger.

Thursday, Feb 16 Four days of school have passed. It has been so much easier than I had anticipated. Whenever I thought of returning to Loma Prieta, it seemed as though I couldn't ..... "My strength is sufficient for thee"

Alma Denison didn't return – this gives a grade less. It is a wonderful help.

A strange and absurd thing occurred the first day. School opened the 10<sup>th</sup>, but by two families – Mrs. Kent's & Mrs. Cook's – it was considered an unlucky day for opening the school and they kept their children out. Superstition far fetched – I certainly was surprised at it.

Received a nice letter from Mrs. Hicks this week. She wrote a dear letter to cheer me up for she had called the morning I left and they told her how hard it had been for me to leave home. Receive a letter from Minnie today. She sent me Mr. Orr's scripture lesson on Quietness – last Sunday morning's sermon. He had handed the same to Ernest for mama to read for mama wasn't able to go to church. In the evening he gave his views on "Future Punishment", I insert the clipping.

Monday, Feb 27. Went home Friday night. I was a joyous home meeting. Two weeks seemed a long time to be away.

Ernest, Minnie & I attended a "Keramanic and Curio Exhibit" given by the Ladies of the church. The rooms were decorated beautifully. A good musical program was given.

Saturday evening developed two films, mostly taken by Ernest on the 22<sup>nd</sup> at the picnic given by the Camera Club. Ernest received a nice letter from Aunt Alice. The snowstorms have been fearful in the East. From Marian, I heard they were the severest storms experienced since '57.

This verse has strengthened me all the day: "Casting all your care upon him for He careth for you."

Saturday, Mar 4.

Remained at Loma Prieta this week, but am already anticipating the pleasure of going home next Friday rather go home every week but find it so very, very hard to leave home after being there. It isn't very pleasant to remain here but still I find time to read and meditate. There is so little time for this during the busy days of the school week. I find the 'Quiet Morning Hour' so helpful and strengthening. There was a time and only a short time ago when I thought it impossible to find any available time in the morning for God's word. I love to take the time now and do find it. I hope I receive a letter from Aunt Alice today. I've been looking for one all the week.

Sunday, Mar 5.

Auntie's letter came yesterday. It was filled with inspired words of cheer. It is one of her letters that I prize the most. Her letters help me to live a better life. It is the Christ life that radiates her whole being & when in her presence you feel the warmth of its reflected ways. Many beautiful thoughts were written – the companionship of a Divine Friend has led her to read beautiful thoughts and to think upon divine things.

Wednesday, Mar 8.

It is always darkest just before the day. Into each life some rain. Some days must be dark & dreary, but behind the clouds the sun still shines. Good news came this evening. Mr. Porter called at the house to have me go up to his home with him – he said Mrs. Porter has some news to give you. Mrs. Porter has known just how anxious I have been to get a school in town & so had spoken to Mr. Porter concerning it and he has spoken to the trustees about it. He saw Mr. Lincoln yesterday who told him that Miss Wenck was to take a trip to Germany and that they'd like to have me supply for her and that next term I'd receive a permanent position. I'm to see Mr. Lincoln next Saturday. What splendid news to carry home. Although I have known of the probable change, hearing of it from Mr. Lincoln, Mr. ? & Mr. Clark still I didn't know just when it would occur.

God is gracious and his goodness is beyond our expectations.

Tuesday, Mar. 14. It rains. A steady rain has been falling all the day. It means so much for California. Another dry year has been the .... This rain lifts the year and fills the heart with prayers of thanks to the Great Giver. The crops are not lost, the cattle will not starve, and it brings prosperity to those people who have been so discouraged. The needy may have plenty. Truly, God is good.

Enjoyed my visit home. It was very pleasant. Had to call upon Mr. Orr for Mrs. Porter & had a pleasant visit with him.

Mama suffers greatly with her feet.

Wednesday, Mar. 22. It is the time for the "Quiet Hour". A burden is upon my heart that I hope may soon be lifted. A series of meetings are being conducted in S.C. by Mr. Orr. Dwight Moody was in S.C. Monday and held two meetings, I desired to go home but couldn't go. I am confident his visit accomplished much. O I pray that among the number who have made a change in their lives are to be found, papa, Minnie & Arthur. These meetings during the week will be such a help to all who have accepted the Light.

Thursday, Mar. 23. It rained so hard yesterday afternoon that word was sent to me to dismiss school. The pond was rising rapidly, great quantities of drift was coming down and they were afraid the bridge across the dam might give way. It was only an hour after that a part of it broke away and a little later all of it was torn away. The rain is a very hard one and hasn't ceased to fall at all today. A large crew of men are working on the pond to save the mill. I started for school this morning, but met Mr. Porter who advised me to close school for the day. It was well to do so for no pupil could have come to have remained all day in damp clothing.

There are a number of slides between Aptos & Loma hindering all trains from coming up. It also keeps me here another week.

Have been reading to Mrs. Hoke the greater part of the afternoon. She doesn't get any time to read & I find it a great pleasure to give her this pleasure. We enjoyed Titus very much & are now reading a splendid temperance story by Grace Strong.

Received the Surf containing an account of Dwight Moody's visit to Santa Cruz on Monday last. Will cut the clipping and past it here for keeping. A beautiful growth in the Christian is typified in Dwight F. Moody.

Tuesday, April 4 I received a dear letter of comfort tonight. Aunt Alice's letters have so often come when I have needed them the most. Today has been one of the hard days of school. I felt it this morning and prayed earnestly for strength. It was given to me. The day's effort made me extremely nervous. I so needed a change and expect to leave Loma Prieta this next Friday. My work doesn't commence until May 1<sup>st</sup>, but I feel that I am in need of a rest.

I long to visit Baltimore. Auntie sent a number of the home pictures. They make me homesick to see my dear Auntie and her family. The group pictures show how dear and sweet Auntie is to her children. O, if I were but sitting there too.

These were helpful thoughts today. "Let go all things which you cannot carry into the eternal life." "Whatever we really are, that let us be, in all fearlessness." "God gives us always strength enough and sense enough for everything he wants us to do." Spent Easter Sunday at home. The morning service was a joyous hopeful one for Mr. Orr who stated through a beautiful sermon, "The Infallible Truths of the Resurrection." Easter is a heavenly bird of hope with wings of faith and love. Easter brings joy and hope, for the curtain is parted and we behold an immortal life to those who follow the life of the risen Lord. Christ passed through all and conquered all that we might feed from his unfailing strength. The Endeavors led a delightful Easter service at the hospital. The S.S. orchestra was there and played. There were songs sung, among the number sung was a duet by Anna Linscott and Clara Avery and a solo by Anna. There were over twenty-five who went there to carry a little Easter cheer to the sick and feeble.

In the evening, the S.S. held a very nice concert.

Sunday, April 9. Home ?? sweet to write it for now. I expect to know again its true value. More precious today than it was when I first left nearly five years ago. Why do I say more precious – because I now appreciate it more. The summer of 1893 I graduated. It was a happy bright period of my life. Then came the months of preparation for the "Teacher's Examination." Life was different – not so easy nor so well defined as when a student of the High School. The last year of school was a trying one. It was almost

ruined health for ambitious advancement. To be among the first seven who were to read their essays. Yes, I wanted to be one of them and so silently suffered that I might continue my work. O the folly that we risk our physical as well as mental faculties for the gain of distinction. There is a restless longing in the hearts of men to rise higher. This is not wrong for we should unfold these lives of ours. But, God does not ask us for broken lives. The fault is within ourselves and those who rear us. To develop strong mental faculties we must give much attention to our physical life. These three ?? lives of us: physical, mental and spiritual are united yet separate. There we find interdependence. A high spiritual life is the golden? that makes these lives of our complete. First develop this life. It is with us in earliest childhood. Then is the time for its development. The purity and innocence of childhood is beautiful to see. Let it grow, stunt it not' then may we expect early blossoms whose fragrance lasts forever. Under the careful cultivation of years as we continue to grow, larger grow the blossoms and the fragrance is even more ? Such a life teaches us to care for these bodies of ours and if we are anxious to accomplish His work we must prepare our minds for service. Body, soul and spirit we give to Thee.

Failure came to me. I didn't pass the examination and it was a year from graduation time before I obtained my Primary Certificate. Then came the weeks when I sought for a position. Here again I was disappointed for a school was promised me and I was getting ready to take up that work when the Wednesday before the meeting that was to be held on the following Saturday I was told that another young lady who had taught in the adjoining district had also applied and being well known had gained the consent of two of the trustees. But she was willing to help me gain a position that had been promised to her. It was a district far from home and one that I hadn't applied for, for I had said I do not wish to teach the Castle Rock District. It was here that God desired me to teach. I obtained the school and I taught in the Castle Rock and Fair View Districts for 2 ½ years. I have written concerning my life, the second year of my work there. The experiences of my life have been many and they have been forcible teachers. Then commenced the time when I grew to appreciate home the dear ones there. A delightful change came in the fall of 1896. Through Miss Malcolm's recommendation I was asked to take the Loma Prieta School. She and I were only acquainted but a warm attachment had grown up between us for we were working together ? several Examinations and had received certificates at the same time. I commenced my work at Loma Prieta in Feb 1897. Yesterday I left Loma Prieta after teaching there nearly two-and one-half years. I have been asked to supply in the Santa Cruz schools. It is a happy change for me. Again, I am at home. They need me at home and I am so very happy to return to it. To be an unselfish, loving, affectionate sister and daughter to make the home bright and cheerful by being thoughtful, kind and happy shall be my aim.

Mr. Orr this morning gave a beautiful picture of that home in Bethany where dwelt the two sisters Martha & Mary with their brother Lazarus. Then he also gave the picture of the feast at Simon's the leper house when Mary broke the jar of precious ointment and poured it on Christ's feet. It was a sweet truth that he drew from this lesson of Mary anointing the feet of Christ. We are the possessors of a precious ointment given us as a gift from the heavenly Father. This gift is to be used. Anoint the feet of the world for a burial in Christ. Give the contents of our precious lives all that is good, pure and noble in our lives should be given to Christ. Life is service & should be service for

Christ. The aroma of the ointment filled the house so may the aroma of our lives. Come in contact with the world. Rom 12.

Sunday, April 16. It is a beautiful Sabbath day and I am so happy to be at home. Mr. Orr's sermon was so good and so helpful. To the Sunday School teacher it was especially helpful and I needed the help for I was given Mrs. Henry's class of girls to teach. O, that a sweet spirit of love may be awakened in these girlish hearts that they may be the children of God. To live grand lives – lives bearing the likeness of Christ. To, Thee O Christ do I give these girls. May they soon find Thee and serve Thee. Our lesson today, taken from John 13<sup>th</sup> was the beautiful lesson of humility – Christ washing the disciples feet. No duty is too trivial if a noble purpose prompts it. Better a lowly act or deed for a noble purpose than some great deed without such a purpose.

I couldn't write a word Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday for too dark were the days. I was asked to supply for Miss Merrill on these days. She was away and so I taught her class of Fourth Year pupils at the Laurel school I found the pupils very hard to manage. Never have had so much trouble with the behavior of children since I commenced teaching. I was told it was a very hard class to manage but had formed no conception of such naughtiness. I felt to miserable over my failure for I didn't accomplish much if I accomplished anything those three days. I found them hard children to please and found it impossible to manage them by gentle & kind methods. Only strict firmness is needed and my experience of three days work couldn't have much effect. It hurt me & made me sad to find my efforts did so little, still the teachers tried to encourage me for I was told it was a very hard class to handle. There were some dear good children. What a source of relief to a teacher to have pupils who try to do their best and also try to please their teachers by being good themselves. It was a hard experience to pass through. I feel so sorry for Miss Merrill for she said today that she had a very hard class to contend with. Of course they took advantage of a new teacher.

This evening, the Methodist church is to be with us. The Epworth League is holding a convention here and since the Methodist Church is too small to accommodate the many who wish to hear Rev. McClish this evening, our church invited them to hold their service in our church. The Cong. Endeavors are to unite with the League tonight.

Minnie received a letter from Aunt Alice yesterday telling us that Edward Wilson Sicked had arrive in George & Grace's home. A dear baby boy to bring new happiness into the home.

Monday, April 24. Mr. McClish, who preached last Sunday night a week ago, gave an excellent sermon the "Possibilities of Man". Man was made a little lower than the angels. His grand thoughts were expressed in a fluent manner and revealed in a marvelous many a character who had made use of their possibilities. Set a high standard on character. Build a true and lofty character, then it is that men are capable of doing greater things than they ever thought themselves able to do. A true religious man performs great things. This is an age of wonderful progress. What was a myth centuries ago is a reality now. Men dreamed these fancies but no longer are they such. Earth and heaven are but the servants of men's greatness. They give unto man the material and under this magical power they are transformed into wondrous things. Truly God is mindful of man.

Monday evening a week ago a party of twelve drove out to Happy Valley and Mr. Orr gave a splendid talk upon the subject, What is a Christian. It was a delightful service and is sure it helped all who heard it. What a treat it must be to people who seldom have an opportunity to hear a religious service. He urged a careful study of God's word. Do not stay outside of Christ's kingdom because much of the word of God is obscure. Diligent study will reveal much and again God makes his work clear when we earnestly study for the truth. He spoke upon the four gospels. Teach written by a different person very unlike indeed, but they all had the story of Christ's life, there was continuity of thought. Tuesday night Minnie and I attended an illustrated lecture on Manila and the Philippine islands by Noel Jacks of Oakland who is sent out by the Christian Association to give this lecture which helps a measure to support two young men of Oakland who have gone to Manila to do good. Evil influences are many, but there is little being done for the uplifting and help of character for our boys who have left their homes and given their service to the government. Reading rooms are established where reading and writing material is provided. Religious service are held, bible reading ? and any Christian service that may be given is cheerfully given by these young men. Had a severe headache Wednesday, and was unable to attend prayer meeting.

Thursday evening Minnie and I heard the Rev. John Watson ? lecture. It was a great pleasure and to him was given the closet attention. There was a sweet musical accent to the pure Scottish dialect when he read sketches from his stories. He was so simple in expression, so pathetic and yet so humorous that the feelings were constantly played upon. To understand character and be able to give a perfect description of his character to his audience. It was the characteristic of Scottish character that he lectured upon.

Friday and Saturday was spent in Watsonville. The county convention of C.E. was held there. Mabel Lincoln & I room together at Mrs. Barnhouse's. We enjoyed the convention very much. Ernest & Mr. Orr roomed together at a Mrs. Ingmans, a very lovely home. Saturday afternoon the Endeavors were taken for a ride through the Pajaro Valley. Shirley Shepherd took Mabel & I. Yesterday was a day of good things. Mr. Orr's sermon was a splendid one. Paul preaching to the Athenians. In the evening his sermon was on "The Man with a Hoe", a poem written by Edwin Markham of ? He is attracting much attention from critics in the literary world. Markham describes "the man with the hoe as the innocent victim of oppression & that for his condition his "masters, lord and rulers', must answer. "How Christ makes use of Common Lives" was the Endeavor subject last evening and was led by me. The members were ready with many beautiful thoughts and we enjoyed a good meeting.

Monday, May 1. Another week has passed by. Today is a holiday to commemorated Dewey's victory at Manila. A year ago today there were many anxious hearts, especially were the people of Santa Cruz fearful for the safety of our little city. A Spanish fleet was upon the Pacific, our coast was not defended and if they had desired to destroy the "Powder Magazine" so near our city, which would have been a great loss to our government, we would have been helpless in their hands. Today we have this fear removed yet the war hasn't ceased and Dewey is still in the Philippines. The army is reduced, only occasional fighting taking place. Oh, that all was might cease. Our new possessions bring with them greater responsibility; our government must meet them. To

lift the standard high in these countries that have been trampled upon by a country who seem to have had little interest in them – labor and heavy taxes have crushed the spirit of a people who now are free. May education and the gospel make rapid incursions for these people are in need of these things. Teach Jesus to a people oppressed and soon their burden becomes lighter. Received a few lines from Grace last Monday. I cannot write her condition. She is sad and depressed. Al is no longer a husband nor a father. He would not live the life he is living is there was any love for wife & children left. It is liquor that has done it. It is our worse curse! Christian people must unite and sweep up from our land. Poor Grace! What can we do for her? If she were nearer home, we could help her in many, many ways. It fills our hearts with sadness to know that she and her family are in need and fear him whom they have called husband & father. It is the dark shadow. O that the sweetness of God's love might enter into that home! Into the soul would steal a peace that nothing could disturb. Sister Grace needs thee, O Father. Enter into her life and give her peace.

Spent the day visiting Miss Wench last Thursday. I am to teach her room. Will commence my work tomorrow. There are about forty pupils in the first and second year work. I am so anxious to do well.

Our Sabbaths are always beautiful. We are strengthened in our spiritual life. Mr. Orr gives us the work of God which is manna to our hungry souls. His text yesterday morning was one given him by a Sunday School teacher years ago. In all thy way acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Pro. 3:6. There were only three of my girls at Sunday School. The excuse of two absentees were given. There are two who have been very irregular in attendance and these I must try to see this week. I am so interested in my girls. To win them for Christ must be my ultimate aim.

Miss Morgan led the C.E. last evening. Topic: How shall we divide our time? A good meeting.

In the evening was the monthly musical. Mr. Hastings had provided a male choir. It was excellent. Mr. Orr gave an excellent talk upon the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Cromwell. The principal of the divine right of the people which he represented made him one of the greatest of the historical characters. The spiritual lessons were also beautifully given. Our Lord is king of kings. Interpreted king of kingly people. We ever carry the stamp of our life with us.

Thursday, May 11. So much has passed during the pass two weeks that I shall just write in a few words what has occurred. George & Della are here this evening. Commenced my work at the Grant school Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. The first week wasn't easy but am getting along nicely now. I enjoy my work very much. The children are so dear. I am so happy to teach the little ones. The day is a busy one for I have first and second year. Also a C class. There are a few naughty children, but most of them are good. I hope to have them still better. Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup> was Dewey Day. Minnie and I were on the beach in the afternoon. Also attended the ball game between the Santa Cruz team & the Watsonville team. There was a large excursion from San Jose.

Tuesday evening, May 2<sup>nd</sup> the teachers and officers of the Cong. S.S. gave Miss Morgan a surprise. That gathered at Mrs. Bliss' home who had invited Mrs. Morgan and Mollie to spend the evening. It was a complete surprise. The evening was a very pleasant one. Each person represented a book which was guessed by the others. The title

of the books were acted out in character. I represented "Drummond's Addresses". A picture of a drum was pinned on an envelope on which were written several addresses. Wednesday evening, May 3, Mr. Orr reviewed the book "The Spirit Filled Life." It was also a preparatory service. Six new members were voted into the church. The review was good, after which a discussion followed. O, I am so, so sorry it took place. There were misunderstanding and to speak for myself, I must say that I felt that some had gone from me. Just at a time when we should have felt the presence of the Holy Spirit, there was a feeling that something that we needed & wanted was gone. Is the Bible an Inspired Book? No, because the original writings have been greatly effected by translation. We could understand Mr. Orr's statement and views upon the subject; still there were young Christians and non-Christians there who didn't understand.

When we become Christian and accept Christ so we make a complete sacrifice or surrender? I believe we do but I understand Mr. Orr to say it was not so for there are new sins arising all the time. Yes, I know that but isn't that an evidence of Christian growth. We surrender all that seemeth evil. We are to present our bodies a living sacrifice wholly acceptable unto God, which is our reasonable service. Last night a calm and peaceful presence stole into the prayer meeting. It was prayer which Mr. Orr spoke about. Together we read the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter of St. John. A beautiful prayer uttered by Christ just before leaving his disciples.

Last Sunday was Communion. A sweet impressive service. In the evening the first sermon on the "Spiritual Lessons from the Yosemite" was given illustrated by views. Sunday afternoon the Endeavors held a meeting at the hospital. Mrs. Itch led, and special music was prepared. Yesterday, May 10 was Lucy's wedding day. It was a nice wedding. Loving friends had tastefully decorated the front parlor in blue, the back parlor in pink and the dining room in yellow. Lucy was a pretty bride and is now a happy wife. Mrs. Avery who is quite ill was able to be in the room for the ceremony. It was lovely to see her there. Lucy is to live near us on Garfield Street. It will be pleasant to have her near. Elery Robertson is a Christian young man, industrious and held in high esteem by his employer and friends. To me fell the honor of catching the bridal boquette. A beautiful one of carnations and fern. A year ago yesterday, Aunt Alice started from California. I am so homesick to see her. Her love and sympathy won the hearts of us all. I loved to be near her and when separated for a week, found it hard indeed. The summer of '99 was a happy one indeed.

Sunday, May 20. I wish to write a little concerning this day in particular, then look back over the past week. The Sabbath day is a day of health and strength. I have been so weak during the past week that I sought for the help that I knew would be given from the pulpit this morning. Mr. Orr spoke upon the reflected life that the Christian should live. Arise and shine. Nothing should come between the Christian and God. The earth passing between the sun and moon eclipses the moon. But nothing passes between our life and God, for God doesn't wish an eclipsed life. One of the clauses in his closing prayer was so helpful – Let your light shine in your home. It impressed me very forcibly. I try so hard to do so, but I so often utterly fail. This past week has been a very trying one. I know both Minnie and mama expect more of me. I am so quiet. I feel the great necessity of work and in my weakness try to do a little. I have been feeling so miserable. Have had a dreadful cold for a week and am so nervous. It is a result of an overtaxed body. I

wish I were stronger. I accomplish so little. I am looking forward to the vacation sincerely hoping I may have a rest that will make me strong again. I want the pendulum of my life to swing slowly and quietly, to wind evenly not all to one side. There are church, home and school duties, care in health and the many things which slip into our lives. To strive to live a rounded out life. Seek for perfection. The perfect pattern must be our guide. Beautifully did Mr. Orr illustrate it this morning when he spoke of Phidas who captured Zeus. (Have the life express love) When he gave the illustration of the young man who was seeking one who lived a perfect life. And as he studied and sought for such a life he was living day by day the ideal life he was seeking for. Hawthorn's "Great Stone Face" is another excellent illustration. Mrs. Scott came to the house Friday afternoon and made us a visit. She left this afternoon. I desire to take my rest at Castle Rock at her home. She is a sweet Christian little woman and I am sure I'll find the rest I need in her home. I'll never forget last Tuesday morning when I asked mama if I might have Mrs. Scott visit us. Yes, she made the visit & mama seemed to enjoy her visit also. It seems so strange that mama objects to company. I never feel free to ask anyone to visit us. I love to have my friends visit me but cannot. I know it is hard for mama & Minnie. I am too selfish & much deny myself this pleasure. It also keeps me from visiting my friends. Probably it is a little test and I didn't stand the test. Let your light shine in the home: This is why I was especially helped this morning. Mr. Orr has just returned from the State CE convention, which is in Oakland. Ernest left last Thursday morning. He told us that our delegates were greatly enjoying the conventions. It was an enthusiastic and spiritual convention. On the second Sunday in June, the delegates would give reports of the convention. Last Saturday, a week, Miss Hall of the Loma Prieta school visited me. She remained until Sunday afternoon. It was a pleasant change and she seemed to enjoy the visit. Saturday morning went to rue de l'Eau. In the afternoon went to the beach and on our way home met Tom McCreary and Ernest who took us to the Big Trees. It was a beautiful ride for Miss Hall.

Lucy is home and is keeping house. She is so happy. Friday evening a reception was given, Lucy & Ed, Mr. & Mrs. Little at the Methodist church parlors by the young people of the church.

Received a nice letter from Aunt Alice. It was a year ago the 17<sup>th</sup> that Aunt Alice was with us. I didn't get to see her until the 20<sup>th</sup>. It was a sweet welcome for I loved her, oh so dearly. A look and I felt the warmth of affection. It was spontaneous. I was giving & receiving. Auntie writes that she isn't well at all. I do hope she may soon be well again. She is a patient sufferer, but God ? her life.

Wednesday, May 24. I jot down a few thoughts concerning this evening's blessed service. It was especially sweet and impressive. An informal reception was given the members of the church who have entered during the time Mr. Orr has been with us. Mr. Orr and the standing committee sat together. From them & to others was given helpful & encouraging remarks upon the reading of God's word, prayer & service. I cannot write the good things which were said – that were uttered from those who have relied upon God for years in their Christian service, they were spoken by those who haven't had years of experience but who are loyal follower of the Christ. Prayers, the reading of the scriptures and singing were all beautifully woven into the meeting. It was good to have ? there. We feel that there is a work for each of us to enter into. Too often we feel that ?

power are so insignificant – what can we do. Yes, we can give ourselves over to God. He can make use of our simple lives. Moses' rod performed wondrous things. Touched by God, our lives are kindled and we are not ourselves.

Tuesday, May 31. The day has been appropriately celebrated by the G.A.R. The exercises were good. The school children marched to the Armory. The Grant School was upon the program. After the exercises at the Armory, the school children marched up Pacific Ave. To the Upper Plaza where they saluted the flag.

Pleasant surprise was sent Mrs. Snyder today. Letters from Adeline, Kate, Mr. Tanson, Mr. Orr and myself were sent her. It will please her very much. She misses her many friends. Their presence helped her bare her pain. She suffers greatly, but is wonderfully patient. 9:58 AM rue it is that this sublime virtue belongs only to the suffering.

Sunday was a blessed day. The services were so helpful to me. I felt rather discouraged with my work in the class. I want to do more. I want those dear girls to be taught aright and to be led into the kingdom. I felt the presence of Christ with me on Sunday last. The Endeavor meeting was very helpful I feel so weak and find it hard to do even a little, still in my weakness comes the strength from above and I am helped to do my little. I wrote Aunt Alice a letter last evening. I miss her and wish I could see her. She is so loving and gave her love abundantly to us all.

Tuesday, June 6. Mabel's wedding day. Another milestone reached and a new life to live. May her married life embody all the true and good and noble qualities of such a life. It must be a sweet and beautiful life to live. It should be an unselfish life because there is another to think about, plan for and look after. Then the unity of two lives is so beautiful. The two lives, yet one may live for others. Mabel is a beautiful girl – a character of great depth has stamped its seal upon her life. All love her who know her. Alton will make a devoted husband, one who will care, cherish and protect Mabel. It was a very pretty wedding, but will I have an account of it instead, will slip the account given in this evening's Surf in place of it.

There was sorry great and deep in the Avery home last Thursday. Mrs. Avery who has been ill for a number of months passed away last Wednesday night. I wasn't her death so much as the manner of her death that shocked everyone. Her death had been expected for she had been failing rapidly. Great mental trouble and physical weakness must have caused insanity for we are sure Mrs. Avery in her right mind wouldn't have taken her life. Marcia Holway found her in the morning hanging to the bed. Some time during the night she had committed the terrible act. Strength was given her for she sank upon her pillow exhausted when put to bed. She cut a strip of cloth from an old red cotton flannel curtain, placed this around her neck and so ended her life. She was a dear Christian woman, a loving mother who has suffered great sacrifice for her girls. It is fearful trouble for the girls to pass through. Only a few weeks ago (May 10), Lucy was married. Into her life a shadow has entered. It is so hard for her. Clara has gone to San Francisco where she will meet her lawyer and will have to pass through considerable law business. It was the loss of \$3,000. and over that resulted from the failure of a bank in San Jose that was on Mrs. Avery's mind. Being a stockholder in the ? has been considerable trouble in the courts. The depositors are trying to get something in return

for their deposits. It involves considerable lawing. It is too bad for Clara to full through this also. The girl hasn't the strength for it. She is extremely nervous. Lucy has lost her cozy little house and is living at the home. This too is hard for it constantly reminds her of her mother.

Tuesday, June 20. The days glide into weeks and still I do not write in my diary. Yes, I wish to do so but neglect to write. It isn't right to put off the writing for I forget many thoughts which I desire to keep.

I now think back to Monday, June, 12<sup>th</sup>. It was the day Miss Morgan & I went to Pacific Grove. We sent a happy week together. Miss Morgan is a delightful companion. A woman filled with vital energy, a developed intellect, a kind a sympathetic nature, a beautiful spiritual life – to be with her was new life. Our trip was a great benefit to both of us. I am trying to lose myself this vacation, trying to find such changes that will quiet my nerves and strengthen me physically. Stopped with a Miss Long, the same cottage Adeline & Nellie had last year, and where Aunt Alice & I spent such a pleasant time with the girls when we were at the Grove last year. Monday afternoon took a walk along the cliff & through one of the pine groves. Also called upon a friend of Miss Morgan's besides walking around a little to see the Grove.

Tuesday morning took a walked to the Chinese fishing village and Monterey. At the fishing village met a Mrs. Neilson who was acquainted with some of Miss Morgan's friends. We found her a very pleasant companion. Her husband is an artist and lives in Alameda where he has studio & is the drawing instructor in the Alameda schools. We took pictures of the village and at Monterey took pictures of the monument of Junipero Sierra, the old Customs House & the San Carlos Mission. Called at the usual places in the afternoon and took a walk out to Lover's Point. Met Rosie Bishop while out in the afternoon. Saw her going into a house and so stopped and had a visit with her. Invited Miss Morgan & I to spend the day at Moss Beach the next day.

Early Wednesday morning (7:15) we started for Moss Beach. It was a lovely walk through the pines and pass the san dunes. Moss Beach is nearly a mile in length. It is a beautiful beach. The waves are never quiet. "Restless sea" as one wave after another rolls in. Returned home ? on the bicycle path thro the pines, pass the Lighthouse and then home by way of Light-house Avenue. Met Clara Steinmetz and her sister riding along the path. Later in the day, Miss Morgan and Clara rode over to Monterey.

Thursday, Miss Morgan, Clara S. and I spent the day at Del Monte. In the evening, Miss Morgan & I attended prayer meeting at the Mayflower Cong. Church. Mr. Lucas is the pastor. It was a spiritual meeting. There were only a few present, but the Spirit of God's presence was there. After the meeting, attended an entertainment under the auspices of the visiting YMCA's who had come from San Francisco to remain a few days at Pacific Grove.

Friday afternoon took the seventeen-mile drive thru the pines, than along the surf beaten cliffs for a number of miles. We pass the point where the St. Paul was dashed to pieces upon the rocks, the wreckage is still seen strewn along the shore. Pass Seal Rock which are covered with hundreds of seals & whose cries fill the air. Close by are rock covered with thousand of sea birds, large flocks of them continually going and coming. Soon we come to Cypress Point. He we obtain a distant view up and down the coast. The water so blue on the Monterey coast stretches to the far horizon. From the Point we

pass thro the grand cypress grove. It is said that this cypress grove is the only one of its kind upon the American continent. The drive is lovely thro this grove. It runs along a precipitous shore, affording many beautiful vistas, and at Midway Point lies before us Carmelo Bay. The afternoon was foggy and windy around the drive but still so beautiful was the handiwork of God we didn't think very much about our discomfort. Obtained some very good pictures. Two that I prize are the Ostrich Cypress & the Lone Cypress.

Saturday morning Miss Morgan & I went to the Fishing Village. There were pictures that we were anxious to obtain. In the afternoon took a delight drive to the Carmel Mission in the beautiful Carmel Valley, and out to Point Lobos. Words cannot describe the beauty of these rugged cliffs covered by nature's garden of flowers of beautiful in color. Cypressess deep rooted in the solid rock. A sure foundation for the elements have little effect upon these sturdy giants.

Sunday morning attended Sunday school & church. Was greatly impressed by the floral decorations. Beautiful roses, carnations, sweet-peas and ferns were used. There is a gentleman, a gardener who attends to the decorations. A sweet service of love. There was a large cross of white sweet peas that was especially beautiful. As in the prayer meeting Thursday evening, so at Sunday school & church was also felt the same sweet deep reverence. Christ was there. I was taken quite ill just before church closed and had to pass out. It was a very mortifying thing for I was very sick. Severe cramps, etc. Miss Morgan helped me home and gave me the very best of attention. I was much better by evening but couldn't go out to the evening service. That evening after church, the Endeavors sent a beautiful bouquet of sweet peas and roses. It was a very sweet act and affected me quite a little. I fully realize how appreciative one is to get flowers when sent by loving hearts. Monday, the 19<sup>th</sup> we started for home again. It was a lovely week. One never to be forgotten. I found in Miss Morgan a lovely friend. She helped me in many ways. There is something very binding in true friendship. How beautiful it is to have the friendship in Christ. I call you no longer servants; for the servant knoweth not what is Lord Doeth, but I have called you friend for all things that I have heard from y Father. I have make known unto you."

Sunday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Have just returned from a service held at the Hospital. It was a sweet service and over 20 of the Endeavors were there. Rosa Auchler led the meeting taking her thought for the meeting from the 14<sup>th</sup> of John. May Williamson and Anna Linscott sung a duet. The Flower Committee sent bouquets to be distributed among the sick wards. Kate Becker & I were asked to do this service. The nurse took us thro the different wards. May the verses of scripture accomplish much. May they touch the heart and fill it with a holy joy. The Communion service was a very beautiful one. Four united with the church. A new scholar entered my class today. There are only three regular pupils in the class and three irregular ones. I want the class to grow in spiritual truth. I want them to give their hearts to Christ. There have been so many beautiful services in the church lately.

Last Sunday morning, Mr. Orr took the following verse for his text. "And this is life eternal that they might know the only true God, & Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent" John 17. All great men acknowledge Christ. They believe in Him. His theme was to know Christ – become acquainted with Christ. We are to take Christ to others, as it were to lead them unto Christ. Peter, by a vision was taught that he was not to consider a man

of a different nation than himself unclean and so went unto Cornelius preached the gospel. Acts 1? We are to teach Christ, make his word clear to those who understand not. God sent Philip into the desert from Jerusalem to Gaza & there he saw an Ethiopian seated in chariot returning home from Jerusalem where he and gone to worship & he was reading the prophet Esaias. Then did Philip ask him, "Understandest thou what thou readest? And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? Then it was that Philip sat beside him & expounded the scripture and preached unto him Jesus.

Still another thought I remember was that we have all eternity for development. Our spiritual lives unfold like a beautiful flowers, yet the entire flower is not unfolded in this life. Open our buds, let others catch a glimpse of the divine beauty of a Christian life.

The Endeavor Service, led by Mr. Orr was especially impressive. "Grow in Grace" was the topic. The responses were so beautiful for it was Constellations Service & the names were called.

Wednesday evening, the prayer meeting was a preparatory one. The assurance that we are Christians. We know for we have the assurance. We do not feel, we know. Belief in the Lord Jesus Christ assures salvation.

Ten members were elected into the C.E. society at the business meeting held after the prayer meeting. It was a splendid meeting.

Monday & Tuesday of last week I spent on the Aptos Beach with Mrs. Hoke who is camping there. Papa isn't well at all. He is now under Dr. Morgan's treatment.

Gertie & Josie have accepted Christ. They were converted under Chas N. Crittenden who held a service of revivals in Butte City during the month of May. We are so happy. Two more lives into the kingdom. It is so sweet to have two more of the family followers of our dear Savior.

October 7. Mamie, Mr. Lawn & I walked out to the cemetery after school. The flowers looked beautiful – so many testimonies of love and affection. I took several pictures of the flowers. I hope the pictures may be good.

October 8. Percy wasn't at the home this afternoon. The dear boy's sorrow is great. Tomorrow he leaves for Berkeley. My heart goes out to him for it will be so hard for him to be alone. He'll miss Jesse even more than the others for they have been together so long sharing the events of life together, especially their university life has had a very close relationship.

Sat, Nov 4/99. No entries since July 2<sup>nd</sup>, four months ago. Why? I can hardly tell – partly negligence, but not altogether. If love to record all that enters my life but have allowed much time to pass by and now. I look back upon the past four months and recall many things I wish I had made an entry of.

I write this evening of the death of Jesse Hicks. A great sorry for his mother, father, brothers, sister & friends. He so promising, a future so bright, & the possibility of being a power for good in this world: cut off is his life just at the dawn for he had only reach twenty. Oh, if he had only refrained from playing football – a game that should be condemned. God didn't intend to take so bright a life from earth for her certainly had a

future to fulfill, but he placed himself in the path of danger. God comforts the aching hearts but he'll be missed – we wanted him with us.

I feel deeply for Mr. & Mrs. Hicks & Percy. I pray the sweet comforting spirit of God may enter Mr. Hick's souls, so hungry for divine comfort. God will be very precious to Mrs. Hicks & Percy for they will rely upon him for strength & rest.

Auntie Trust passed away, Sunday Aug 27. It was so sudden. A spell of the heard and only about an hour after the attack, she passed away. Auntie hadn't been well for some time & had had frequent attacks of the heart. I was a sudden & dreadful blow to Emma & Uncle.

Uncle has been ill ever since and fails rapidly. Sarah is here from Baltimore.

Papa has been ill since July & since September has been abed most of the time. He is very weak. His kidneys & stomach trouble him. The present doctor, Dr. Ingle (for Dr. Morgan wasn't giving papa the attention he should give him to had to call Dr. Ingle in) tells us his illness is "Bright's Disease" and "Catarrh of the Stomach." Poor papa is so sick. He isn't able to keep his food on his stomach at all. His kidneys are better but his stomach may never be much better.

After Institute I was given the 3<sup>rd</sup> year work at the Branciforte school. I have a very nice class – bright interesting children.

Spent the last two weeks of my vacation with Mrs. Scott at Castle Rock. It was a very restful visit & I enjoyed my visit there – my first district recalled all the experiences of my first year of teaching – the pleasant and unpleasant. the easy & the difficult' yes, all returned to me & it were as yesterday to me, so vivid did the associations of the past come again to my mind.

The Sunday School has introduced a new system of Bible study. The Bible Study Union Lesson System formally called the Blakeslee Graded Lesson System. It as introduced a new spirit into the work of the S.S. Teachers & pupils must work together & the pupils must depend upon their Bible for their quarterlies refer to the references, but do not print them. Was given of class of nine boys who are between the ages of fourteen & sixteen. Find the work very interesting & extremely helpful.

Nov. 7. Jesse was laid to rest today. The funeral services were very impressive conducted by the new president of the University, Benjamin Ide Wheeler and Mr. Orr.

Thursday, Nov 30. A beautiful day – warm & pleasant all the day. A year ago Thanksgiving Day was cold and disagreeable. Attended the Sunrise prayer meeting and Y.M.C.A. Hall.

It was a very quiet day at home. Papa being so sick we didn't prepare much – poor papa is very sick. The doctor called this morning and prepared us for the worse. We may have to give up dear papa at any time. We hope papa may be with us for sometime, but cn not wish him to remain for he grows weaker. Uncle Trust passed away Monday evening. He was buried today. Poor Emma would be lonely indeed, but Sarah is here and she expects Mr. Poehlmann and Emma soon for the start from Balto. On the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> of Dec.

Monday, Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 1900.

The year 1899 has passed away and the 19<sup>th</sup> century closed and today we stand upon the threshold of new year and a new century. The past is gone, the future is before us, but the present is here. "Wisely improve the present, it is thine" It is from God's word and from our communion with him that we are able to gain inspiration and help to carry us thro each day. God provides for us in marvelous ways – nothing is too hard for us to pass thro if we rely upon God for strength and help for truly He is an ever-present help in time of trouble. Because of the sorrow that has come into the home, I write as I do. God has been very precious to us – to me came a sweet solace that no earthly friend could give. Papa's death, though expected found our aching hearts unprepared for it. Dear papa passed away Thursday morning (3:40 a.m.), Dec 14 and was laid away Saturday afternoon, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>. It was the harder to bear because the first death that has ever entered our home, but dear papa was so anxious to go – we miss him the home but thought our lonely hearts grieve for him, we do not wish him back for his illness had wasted his body and taken his strength. God gave him a long life – three score ten and three years. Our home has been a happy one, for papa was a dear, loving father and a true and faithful husband to mama. To him has come sorrows & troubles almost greater than he could bear and for years has been carrying a crushed spirit with his heart, but has faced the world who has treated him so unjustly for the sake of a wife and the children whom he loved. He has suffered, but the love from a wife & children have helped him bear his trouble.

The last few days of papa's illness wrought a great change in him appearance and strength. The doctor looked for his death several days before it occurred and papa too, spoke of dying. It was Wednesday afternoon, a little past two o'clock when the great change took place. Pap was worse Wednesday & noon Ernest told George so he was over soon after dinner. It was while George was at home that papa tried to speak to mama, but could not for his voice was so weak and so changed that it was almost impossible to understand what papa said. When he found he could not speak, he placed his hand to his lips and threw a kiss to mama, to Minnie & to George. Then he put his hand to his forehead, lifted his little black cap from his forehead and placed his hand to his forehead for them to kiss him. When mama kissed papa, papa put his arm around her and said "farewell". He tried to speak several times that afternoon, but could only say a few words. He loved to have someone hold his hand and would throw it out for us to hold. Coming home from school that afternoon, I heard and was with him much of the time. We all wanted to linger at his bedside for we felt that dear papa was soon to pass away. He asked for me to hold his hand and only had strength enough to give my hand a slight pressure, but that pressure, I'll never forget. The doctor called late that afternoon & left medicine for the night. Papa was always willing to take his medicine but refused to take it the last night. About half past ten, papa seemed to have quite a struggle to get his breath. I was alone with him but called mama who also became alarmed and thought best that we call Mrs. Osterhaus over, so Arthur went for her. Papa was quieter when she got to the house but she told us that papa was passing away. Pap wasn't conscious at all – he didn't notice us nor anything that when Mrs. Osterhaus came he breathed more naturally 'till just before he passed away when there were times he didn't breathe at all. Minnie was lying on the bed close beside him and she listened breathlessly for the sound of his breathing again – so it continued for some time – these breathless pauses coming oftener and his breathing growing fainter. He passed away about 3:40 o'clock, so quietly & so

sweetly – A soul had taken flight for heaven. God and stamped His likeness upon the face of our dear father – a sweet peace given in return for long weeks of suffering. Our hearts were breaking – a sorrow too deep for any outward expression as we lingered around the bedside of the dear one just gone from us. To mama came a grief deeper than ours, for a part of her very life had taken flight with his passing away.

God sent us many kind friends, beautiful letters of love and sympathy, and flowers bearing sweet messages of that 'bright and better land'. The service at the home Saturday afternoon was very impressive and comforting one. Mr. Orr spoke from a heart full of love & sympathy and gave our sorrowful hearts a quiet rest and comfort. " And a saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea". Rev, 21: 1? The restless sea of life had passed away & papa like John was so happy to see the New Jerusalem. Papa wanted to pass away –he was so weary & so tired & he wanted rest, God has taken him home and he will wait for us. There can be a united family again & it is my earnest prayer for the year 1900 that Minnie, Arthur, Grace & Josie & their husbands together with Gertie's husband may accept the Savior's Love. Papa & Gertie gave their hearts to Christ last year – God answereth prayer.

---returned home from Sunday school. I felt that my service in the SS was so poorly accomplished today. I had prepared my lesson and felt ready to teach a class if called upon, yet I was so anxious to remain in Mr. Orr's class. It is such an inspiration to the soul to gather the fruits the fruits of his study. Miss Morgan dear earnest worker asked Mr. Orr for a substitute. He as one & then another but they were teachers who had been relieved of duty today on account of the ----