"The Beatrice"

University of Chicago.

1892. Sept 21. I reached Chicago in the early morning a little after 7 a.m. and drove immediately from the Hyde Park station to the Beatrice, the temporary dormitory for the women students of the University. We found the house in a much confused state. As it was not yet completed, carpenters, lock-smiths, painters, etc., were still at work all over the building. None of the University people were about so before going for breakfast, we thought.
we better wait for our trunks. Soon however some one arrived, who kindly offered to see our trunks, and we went off to breakfast.

That first night we spent at the Vendome. The next we spent at the Bertrins in spite of the utter lack of furniture, and the unfinished condition of the house. Mattresses piled on top of each other on the floor, answered for all kinds of furniture.

On Thursday September 22, the examinations for entrance to the University began. Papa said we'd all Friday.
evening, walking over to Cobb Hall with us, and coming back again after us, when the examinations were over for the day. Then, finding that he could not learn the results of the examinations any earlier by remaining he decided to go back to Indianapolis. After he left on Friday evening, the others in the house went up to Bell's and my room sitting around on the mattresses on the floor, with Miss Alice Freeman Palmer, and Miss Marion Talbot. We girls heard about the proposed new dormitories to be completed in May. That evening's talk was full of
interest to us all. It was the first talk of any length we had had with Mrs. Palmer, and from then on we loved her.

Saturday was spent in examinations; Sunday in resting.

The first or six days intervening between the examinations and the opening of College were full of suspense. One evening Mrs. Palmer, Miss Talbot, and the six "aborigines" were invited to dinner with Professor Jaffrey at the Hyde Park Hotel. The evening was delightful. Another evening Band...
I spent with Miss Sterne.
During the evening a German doctor came in to see Mr Sterne. He sang some little German song to us. Reminded me of "Little Baci" in "Little Men".

Wednesday September 28. I learned the results of the examinations, and proceeded to matriculate at once.

Gradually the Beatrice has become, for it is becoming settled furniture appears piece by piece.

Friday afternoon President Harper took the students of the Academic College. Professor Anderson and Miss Palmer addressed us, and afterward
President Harper spoke of the aims of the College, and explained some of its methods to us.

Saturday, October first, College opened. Classes met, work was assigned and some methods of study were explained. Saturday at twelve-thirty the first Chapel exercises of the University of Chicago. Attendance at Chapel is not compulsory, but the Chapel was full, people standing all around the hall.

Sunday, Oct. 2. Went to Chapel at nine. Mr. A. T. Stagg led an
Earnest, helpful, my Bep, and I tried most of the afternoon to find Cousin Ike’s home. Failed and did not know the address.

Tuesday, Oct. 4. This afternoon Blind Talbot led the first reception. She asked Bep and me to assist at the tea-pouring, etc. A great many of the professors called. Dr. Harper and Mrs. Harper called and we were introduced to them.

Sometimes this week, which day I cannot remember, we girls went out to hear the discussions about a College “Yell.” None definitely
decided upon. The favorite song was, "Chicago! Chicago! Chicago, go-go! Go to Chicago! go to Chicago! Go to Chicago! Go to Chicago!"

Saturday October 8th. In the evening (early), the illness of Mr. Williams came on so suddenly that Mrs. Williams came to see about adding some women's voices to the choir. Until this time, it had been a choir of men's voices. The younger Mr. Williams sang several selections very sweetly. They left early. Later Mr. Stagg, the Professor of Physical Culture, and his assistant, Mr. Joseph E. Perry, who had both voices calling...
on Dr. Foster come into our reception hall. He told him singing, dancing, etc., and knowing about his voice, naturally enough asked him to sing. For our amusement he sang some ridiculous college song. His ability to change his facial expression in a twinkling, from a merry laughing expression to one of severe gravity is comical. It was a treat to meet him. He is so full of fun, and still we know how to be so earnest.

Sunday afternoon B and I took tea with Prof. and Mrs. Lawrence of Cambridge, England. They had a guest, Mr. Bingley, with them. The conversation was of English affairs.
and so interesting!

Monday, Oct. 10. I went over
in the afternoon to see one of
the football games. Of course
the U.C.'s won. Washington
Park is where the games,
most of them, are played.
Many of the men on the team
U.C. Boys never have played
football before.

Wednesday, Oct. 12. Today was
Miss Talbot's second "fly".
I assisted Miss Cary at the
the pouring. A lot of people
from Millersby, and from
Cornell. It's such fun—
so interesting to meet them.
all. The professors call on these days, and we girls who happen to be at the tea table meet them. They are from almost all—not but from many different States and countries. Our American ways must seem strange to some of them.

Thursday evening, October 13, we had our first Choir rehearsal. About thirty were present. Things we shall enjoy the Choir practice.
Friday, October 14,

This coming week the members of the Academic College First year must send in essays comparing the influence on American literature of the two great American authors, but lately passed away, Thoreau and Coon. So Mrs. Palmer, who knew them both very sweetly consented to talk to us about them. Early in the evening many of the Beatrice students gathered in our little reception room. Mrs. Palmer then, standing in the door between the reception room and hall, told us of the sweetness and nobility of Mr. Thoreau's character.
Loyalty to friends, and his great tenderness toward them, then of his keen sense of humor, and love of music in spite of his broken life and training.

Some of the stories she told us of him were so grand.

He was seated by the fire one day in a friend's house with Mrs. Parker. All visitors forbidden as he wanted to be quiet. A rustle of silk, a maid looking distressed, and horrified as an elegantly dressed woman rushed past him through the door, into the parlor, up to Mrs. Platter (who had risen in his courteous way as she entered) and as she grasped both his hands in an eager, quaking manner,
said, "O my dear Mr. Hittin! this is the culminating moment of my life. Hittin, touched, blushing like a school-boy instead of saying the gracious thing expected of him, stammered out as he succeeded in his struggles to get his hands free and behind him, "Do - it?"

Mrs. Palmer, overcome by the ridiculousness of the situation, stood laughing and looking from one to the other in the sudden silence which followed. Then to relieve the embarrassment of all concerned, asked the writing to be seated. As for an instant her attention was drawn from Mr. Hittin, he fled from the room.
Later after the visitor—who "thought it very strange and rude, she did so want his autograph"—was dismissed he was found sitting on the floor of his room in great agitation. The sight of the great man so overcome by the shock felt his modesty was again too much for Mrs. Palmer's gravity. But her merry laugh, was interrupted by Hitting with, "Alice Freeman what are thee laughing at? Why do thee laugh? Suppose a strange man thee had never seen before were to rush into a room and take hold of your two hands, and say it was the "Sublimest moment of his life"—would thee think it funny?"
Some friends were joking him one day as they sometimes did about him being married—he who was such an admirer of woman kind. One lady said, "What about the little blonde girl who said you do she could not go abroad you?" After these friends had gone he turned to Mrs. Palmer. "They may laugh as they will, I have made a mistake. If I had my life to live over I never should live it alone."

Looking one day at a little Quaker doll, his "last plaything," he said in a playful way, "Just think I ought them had just such a looking little woman for
my wife.” Ketchum was telling Mrs. Palmer about a woman who came to him trying to raise a subscription for a new fence for a very old grave yard. "Tell what you say to her? Did you subscribe?" asked Mrs. Palmer. "No," I told her I didn’t think there was any great need for a new fence. At least, I knew the people inside couldn’t get out, and I didn’t believe the people outside wanted to get in.”

He talked much of Heaven, and all it might be; he thought he could hardly be happy in Heaven with no one of his own spirit.”

After a long night.
every moment of which the watchat
at the bad side thought would
be the last, he died at daybreak.
As the first rays of a bright-beautiful
day came through the opened
window he spoke his last message
to his fellows-men. "Give my love
to the world."

Monday October 17.
In the afternoon Mrs. Palmer
addressed the women of the college.
She spoke of the great advantages
of college life, and of college
life in the midst of a great-
progressive city, urging the
Students to make the most of their advantages in musical and artistic matters, and to cherish well and thoughtfully the strengthening companionships of student life.

In the evening the Beatrice gathered in the reception to hear Mr. Stagg talk on Foot Ball. He drew the field on a sheet of paper and hung it on the wall, marking the positions of the men with dots and crosses. He explained the different moments very clearly. After he told us of the great physical mental and moral strength the game demanded, and what a fine discipline it is in all three times we were prepared
to enjoy it with greater zest than ever.

Tuesday, Oct. 18.

The Committee on constitution for the Class of '96 met in the afternoon. Three young men, Miss Hulbert and I formed the committee. The president of the class kindly met with us.

The first prayer meeting of the University — in the evening. Attendance good.

Wednesday, Oct. 19.

In the afternoon assisted at the tea table at Miss Salbot's reception.
The second choir meeting in the evening. Mr. Stone sang Mr. Heard and stayed a little while after the next lift.

Thursday, Oct 20.
No college recitations today and tomorrow on account of the world’s fair. Spent the morning decorating the Beatrice with U.S. flag, and "flagging" and the college colors.
(Read, wrote) rested all afternoon.

Friday, October 21.
Spent the day from half past nine to about half past four at the world’s fair. Watched the people and listened to the chorus.
The Dedication exercises began more than an hour late. But it made little difference. The hall is so huge and it was so full of people that little could be heard except by those up near the speakers. The chorus was fine. The sight of so many people together—something to remember always. The Hall had a seating capacity of 70,000; counting standing room, will hold 135,000.
Sunday Oct. 23.
Our dear Dean Palmer left us today, after staying with us just one month and three days. How we shall miss her! And how dearly we all love her!

Second meeting of the Committee on Constitution Committee finished its work. After we had adjourned Mr. Pike asked to see me. Then offered me the assistant-editorship in the "Frankly." I accepted.
looking to improve by any opportunities.

But—who did let you get it to me?

It will be of great advantage to me in my English work.

Mr. Pike is business manager.

Wednesday, Oct 26.

Miss Tadlock and Mrs. Crow left for Washington to attend a convention of women graduates of fifteen different colleges. It is an organization of ten years standing, and interests itself in all educational movements of interest to women.

In the evening the students meet with Mr. Williams to form a University Chorus. Only about
forty were present. The selection
for the evening was "The Heavens are
stelling."

Stayed with Antoinette all
night, because Miss Talbot
was away. "Rin."

Friday, Oct. 28
Doctor Foster entertained a
few of us at her rooms on Wood-
son Avenue. Read "Jan Bibber"
and played telegrams.

Saturday, Oct. 29
Spent the afternoon writing
items for the Weekly andading.
Already I find the work inter-
taining, very.

Sunday, Oct 31st.

Spent the night with Antoinette.

Monday October 31.

A few or more of the Beatrice girls arranged for a Hallow en party. I sent out invitations to the rest of the house hold and one outsider, Mrs. Stagg. The receiving committee made the Oxford caps made of white paper and yellow postcards, and draped sheets like Oxford gowns. The guests wore their sheets and yellow cases as they chose and
many of them came masked. As Professor Togg was being draped in a sheet in the reception room, Dr. Nordell remarked, noting the but half-completed condition of the draping over the shoulders and back I "Half-tack." Bea Messick spoke up, "As tonight he is center much." He was the only unmarried man invited. The Dining Hall was draped with yellow, the lights turned low, and the Jack o'Lanterns shed but a dim light over the white robed figures. I played games and ate candy and chestnuts for a while. Then, Dr. Nordell read us Burns' "Tam o' Shanter." Mr. Togg complied with our request to "give us his little drama."
It was very funny indeed!
He is a man of widely varied talents. His "senor" was a short but exceedingly laughable song.
Then model games and robbing for apples, and it was time to rearrange the dining room, and set the table — for the maids had gone and we had been granted the use of the hall upon condition that we serve it ready for breakfast. It was great fun.

Tuesday Nov. 1.
Miss bullet returned from Washington. It was most indeed
to see her.

The chorus met for the second
time in the evening. There is
still a great deficiency in
soprano voices. One of the tenor
songs with us. The bass and
tenor parts are fine. Mr. Stone
walked home with me.

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Thursday, Nov. 3.

Mrs. Crow talked with us in the
evening about her trip to Washing-
ton, and the different questions
discussed in the Convention.
The mental development of children
is being studied by a committee.
Some very fine results have already
been reached from the in-
investigation, as far. Much more good is expected of those still in the future.
The question of scholarships is under consideration, as well as many more of equal interest.

Friday, Nov. 4.
Our month at Miss Talbot's table with the "aborigines" is over.
This morning's breakfast was our first meal at our new table of this Miss Wallace of Minnesota.
Mrs. Asst. as lead. The others we found there were Dean Judson,
Professor Houlton, Dr. Henderson,
Professor Blackburn, Mr. Howland,
Mr. Totaw and Miss Mathes.
They are very genial, and delightful talkers. Thus so much happy joking — altogether we have delightful times.

Saturday, Nov. 5.
Saturday afternoons are really the only times we have for shopping. Bill and I spent this one $5.

Monday, Nov. 7.
Spent the morning mending. About twelve o'clock past, Hattie Shepard, Estelle Rogers and a friend called. They are
writing in Chicago. It seemed very good to hear some home news.

Tuesday Nov. 7. Wednesday Nov. 8.
Mrs. Pike gave us tickets to the Wednesday matinee at W. Dickens. I had an afternoon recitation and could not go. Mrs. Roche and Betty went and had a fine time. The play was a pretty comedy—"By Proxy." In the late afternoon heard Professor Woodton's lecture. The last in the "Tempest" series. His finest subject. He told me when speaking of this individual lecture. It was a most beautiful
Thursday Nov. 10.
On my way to the Beatrix from Cobb Hall met two Old Classical girls who have recently moved to Chicago.

Friday Nov. 11.
Examinations for the term were held today. I had three French, German, and English [Rhetoric].

Class meeting at 1:30. The question of the wearing of Cap and Gown at Class meetings was considered; and a motion to wear them carried, much to the delight of some of the class. For a time we were...
some of us very feared the vote would go the other way.

After the meeting some plans had
out measures taken for the much-
discussed garment. The caps come
later.

Friday evening President Harper
addressed the students in a body
in Cobb Hall.

Saturday night went to the Towner
Orchestra Concert at the Auditor-
ium.
Tuesday (Nov. 15) Chorus meeting.
Still practicing Farmer's Glory, "The Hymns, the Feeling," from the "Moorish" and "Had the my Baby."

Wednesday evening (Nov. 16) First Chorus Concert at Cobb Hall. The weather was fair, and the audience, though appreciative, not large.

Friday night some of the girls went down to the bakery and got some cream and cake and between half past ten and eleven.
We had a merry spread in Beth and my room. The hour of separation was late. Consequently, Saturday morning we rose late. At an early hour, Papa and Gertude surprised us. Papa came to Chicago on business and only stayed till night. Gertude was much delighted with the College and dormitory life.

Tuesday. Chorus Meeting. Practiced the same music.
Wednesday (Nov. 23.) Professor Woulton Lecture on "Science in Cobb Hall.

Thursday (Nov. 24.) Thanksgiving Day. Spent the morning in Miscellania. Dined at four long table in the upper dining hall at half past two. Grace and I walked a while before dark. In the evening the household gathered together for games and dancing, as there were supposed to be no dancing men in the house, in the same upper hall. The professor in the lounge danced—but only one.
Sunday, Nov. 27, I did not go out at all all day till four o'clock. Then Grace, Bess Necess, Bob and I went to prayers at a little Episcopal church some seven or eight blocks from here. Tiny little church, but very sweet, calm service.

Monday (Nov. 28.) Went to the library on 33rd Street with Mr. Pike to read up for an essay on Turner's 'Legend'.
of Sleepy Hollow.

Tuesday Nov. 29. At half past two the Committee on Games met in the Chapel to discuss the amendments for the Social Meeting of the Class. Library party decided upon other games suggested. Mr. S. kindly met with the committee.

The University Chorus met in the evening. After practicing the *Gloria* for Chapel Thursday and the other selections practiced the weeks before. Mr. Stone walked home with me. Talked of the advisability of uniting the First and
Second year of the Academic College. The second year is very small, only numbers some thirty or forty, while the first year numbers six hundred and twenty-five or over.

Wednesday, Nov. 30. The Executive Committee of "Class of '96" met the Committee on "Uses and Means" of the "Class of '96" to talk of a federation of some sort of the two classes. The Sophomores say they call themselves demand the Presidency and equal representation in all committees. The class of '96 does not favor the terms.
Had a long talk with Mr Stone about the Committee meeting and class affairs.

Thursday, Dec 1st. The Committee on Games met again. The list of games is growing. In the afternoon there was a football game between the Drefel and Anti-Drefel boys. The Anti-Drefel called them Selzer the Beatrice team. On the way over Mr Stone overtook Grace Clark and me and we walked with me all the afternoon. In the interval between halves of the game we walked over to the lakes in the park (Washington)
Some men were "curling" on one of the little ponds in Watch Hill, and they explained some of the points of the game to Mr. Stone. It got back to the football field in time to see the last of the game.

It was a tie 10 to 10.

On the way home we stopped at the Power House of the Cable Car Line. Saw the tremendous wheels—three of them—two running all the time—the third for emergencies.

Then down in the furnace room, the three tremendous self-feeding furnaces were being raked out. The coals
inside were at almost white heat. They inside they looked like little tufts of white cotton.

Friday. Class meeting at 1:30. Discussed Union with Sophomores.

Saturday (Dec 3) Spent the afternoon in town.

In the evening we had the Class party at The Beatrice. The reception committee - Miss Halbert, Mr. Stone and I assisted Miss Saltz. Library party was a great success. Some very funny titles and representations of folks.

The idea of March. Empty dice box - Paradise Lost.
Small advertisement | Armon's
Hans. "Hamlet," Antoinette
Suggested "Tales of Old Italy." One
and I wore a bunch of chest-
nut tied with yellow ribbons.
Met and talked with Mr.
Dudley and Mr. Chase among
others.

Sunday, Dec. 4. Betty and I
spent the day at Cousin Gru
Haughery. The children are
so lovely. We did enjoy seeing
them all. Theodore plays
very sweetly on the mandolin
and in the afternoon I
played for us; and we all sang.

Monday, Dec. 5. Mr. Hewitt called in the afternoon. In the evening Mr. Monard and Mr. Sukper called.

Tuesday, Dec. 6. Mr. Pike walked home from College with me and came in for a talk over the fireplace. In the evening, after the Chorus rehearsal Mr. Stone walked home with me.
Friday Dec. 9, long talk with Grace in the early morning. Sketching with.

In Chapel, Joseph Jefferson addressed the students. For a brief of his talk see Memory Book. He has a most gentle, intellectual face. It was such a treat to have him there.

Saturday December 10th — Mr. Pike and Mr. Stone walked home at noon from College with Grace and me.

Five of the Beatrix girls got a surney and went to drive in.
the afternoon. It was an awfully cold day - and so not pleasant driving - The wind was very strong - drove down up Delph Avenue saw many beautiful homes. But the wind drove us in very soon.

In the evening the University College held its social meeting at the Beatrice. Thursday evening we all went to the Chorus. Mr. Grant an Amherst Graduate went over with us. He is a pleasant polished man. Now Ed. Fallon at Amherst.

Thursday December fifteenth the freshman class met to talk of their proposed union with the
Sophomores. A Committee of three
was appointed to meet a like
committee from the other class.
Mr. Pycroft, Mr. Pike and I
were the three from the first-year
class.

Friday—Mr. Stone came home from
College with Bus. He went out
and Mr. Pike came in and
sang College songs. Mr. S. has
a very sweet touch and plays
very well on the piano. Here, here,
that heard him play on the violin
though they say he plays very well
indeed.