

Translation of Exerpts from
Selma Ellenberger's Diary

No. 1

June 25, 1905 - September 20, 1906

No. 2

September 25 - March 19, 1916

There may be nothing missing in this
but pages with numbers 21, 22 and 24
are not here in Part I.

by Amelia Mueller

Translation of Excerpts from

Selma Ellenberger's Diary

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June 25, 1905 - Reichenberg

Today I am twenty years old. This time I am not celebrating my birthday as usual at home with dear Mother, but here in lovely Reichenberg, where I am with my relatives for recovery. Today is a lovely Sunday, full of laughing sunshine, and in addition a Sunday, a real day to celebrate. Yes, it was the Lord's Grace which brought me out of my misery and bestowed health on me in Canstatt, and not only that great thing did he do for me, but he through Herrn Osteritter, who in a special way is filled with and led by God's Spirit, my Savior told me it will still take some time before he can take hold in my case; what is included in my case he knows and I know, and last year I brought him as a birthday wish that he fulfill everything as it is good and will bring glory to Him. I know that he will carry out everything gloriously and I will await quietly how he will carry it out . . . Yesterday was a real visitors day. Amid pouring rain Heinrich and Frieda, our young married couple came from Würzburg to visit me. In the evening, after the Würzburgers had said good-bye with their little child, which had made me, the young aunt, especially happy, we three cousins, Lisa, Anna, and I, made our escape with the three guests to the lovely garden house.

June 27, 1905

Today Elisabeth is celebrating her birthday at home. Yesterday I sent the things from my birthday, together with a letter, home with Aunt L., because for many years we sisters had always shared our birthday tables. Alfred in Würzburg also has a birthday today. Now this little friend is the age I was seven years ago. How lovely it was at that time in the Reichenberger forest! How far behind me lies that lovely vacation time. In the afternoon I received another card for my birthday from Alfred. So he did remember it, and wished that everything will go well for me, and even underlined the word "well" five times. Toward evening we sat in the garden house. There we three Annas - Anna from this house, her niece, Anna Schaub, and Anna Keller from Albertshausen, the home village of my dear mother. Anna is the only daughter of a childhood friend of my mothers and her brothers and sisters. Anna and her mother live in my grandfather's house, all of which adds to the depth of our friendship. She is a nice, dear girl and has had to go through so much with her sick mother, and is sick herself. She is here with her relatives to recuperate and we happened to meet her in the woods when we were out walking there. She is very happy to be together with me, and we had much to tell each other. To heighten the cheerfulness in the garden house we enjoyed the rest of my birthday platter, and Marie, the faithful house maid, with her humor and her love teasing, brought us from one spell of laughing into another. Anna Keller promised to visit us oftener, which will be pleasant for her and for us.

June 29, 1905 - Friday

Just now I received a card from Elise, my best friend, who writes that she, with some others from Gelchsheim will get to visit us here in Reichenberg. A whole carriage full is coming. Anna and I are sitting in the Gardenhouse and are happy about the company. . . . In the afternoon we two sat under the trees in the castle garden. In the distance we heard the noise of revolving wheels and soon the Gelchsheimer carriage came around the bend, white hats and light blouses glittering in the sunshine. As I rushed down the stairs with the others whom I had called together, the guests stepped down from the carriage, six girls and three boys, the three young sons from the Gelchsheimer house. What a joy that was, especially since Elisabeth was also along, to my great surprise. Sister A. was taking good care of mother so Elisabeth could venture to come along. While the other guests went into the living room, Anna, Elisabeth

Translation of Excerpts from Selma Ellenberger's Diary

June 29, 1905, continued

and I locked ourselves into Lisa's room since the order loving sister could not see me walking around with such a hairdo in front of the guests; she got to work at once at the customary task of properly combing through my hair, which from the frequent dabbling of water onto my tired head had become all frizzled up. During this job we three naturally had a merry time. Then we also went into the living-room and now I could relaxedly observe the group. Martha called to me to sit with her on a chair by the window. Marie, Lisett, and Elise were happy that I was getting along so well and would soon be able to come home to Gelchsheim. The three boys were happy over the little wagon. The most important person, Elisabeth from Bockschaft, looked around her in wonder, as one looks around when one is in a place for the first time. She is a nice, slender lady, the sister-in-law of our older brother. How will she like Reichenberg? After coffee the whole group went into the woods (forest). Anna on Elisabeth's arm and I went slowly behind the rest of the company since Anna because of her legs can only walk very slowly. Sister Elisabeth kept saying how so surprised she was that I looked so rosy and well and walked along so briskly. Yes, God be thanked, I am getting along well, and how Mother will rejoice when I am able to come home. At the large open place in the forest the group all sat down, some on benches, some on the ground. Then the guests decided to go deeper into the forest and look for strawberries, so Anna and I were alone, but not for long. Martha had soon enough of looking for berries and came to us; then Elise and Elisabeth from Bockschaft. The latter offered me a large bouquet of strawberries which she had picked for me. I thanked her and said that the three of us - she, Anna, and I would divide them, and that's what we did. As we were sitting there, new visitors came up the forest path, Mrs. v.d. Smissen with her three smallest boys. They had come by train. Now they sat down with us. The boys were happy to have found company. The others also came back from picking berries, and so we were a large group, that played all sorts of games. Later we could see figures between the trees, and as they came nearer we saw that it was Mr. v.d. Smissen with his two oldest sons and his daughter Lydia with the deaf and dumb Anna B. What a greeting and joy that was. Now there are enough guests. In the evening we went back into the house, we had lunch, and looked at various things in the garden and yard. Then for a closing, with Martha accompanying on the Harmonium, we sang "Star upon whom I look." Then the Gelchsheimers had to leave. We looked after them until they disappeared around the bend. Later the others also went home on the train. Now it is again empty and quieter in the house. And homesickness wanted to come for me. Anna comforted me, and I can be satisfied and content since Mother's condition at home has not gotten worse. I composed myself with the thought that it must be for some good purpose that I cannot go home today and have to go to Würzburg again. I would rather not have to meet all of the persons there again.

June 30, 1905

As I came into the living room this morning for coffee, I heard from Frau Lene that Lisa and Anna were in the castle cellar picking sprouts off the potatoes. I could hardly wait until I could look for them. At the door of the cellar I called their names since in the huge cellar I could not find my way. Following their voices I came to a stairway and both of them in the background called to me to be careful so that I wouldn't come tumbling head over heels to them. Luckily I got to them. There they sat among the potatoes and were pulling off their long "tails". Anna made room for me and laughingly sat down in a large potato basket. Lisa and I were enthroned on folding stools. And then we started in. What one didn't know to talk about, the others did. And so we also started in on ghost stories. I told about some of my grandmother's experiences in that area, so that Anna, who usually laughs at us about such stories, began to feel uneasy. In order to get started on a pleasanter topic, we got started on poetry. The great poet Geroock found the greatest acclaim. We especially talked about a lovely moonlight story, which both Anna and I

June 30, 1905 continued

knew. And so the forenoon passed quickly and when the necessary supply of potatoes had been rid of their sprouts, we went up into the house to eat. After the meal Anna took a siesta, and when she woke up, we went up into the forest where we reated under the firs. After we had been there a while a figure came toward us under the trees, which turned out to be Anna H. She was happy that she had found us and told us all sorts of things from Albertshausen. After it got too cool for us under the trees, we went up a side path to the edge of the forest and sat down on the ground. When we parted, Anna had to promise to visit us some time.

July 1, 1905

Another month is beginning, what will I experience in this one? I drew for myself the verse: Psalm 55: 23 - "Cast all of your cares on him". So I will not worry; things will go well for me even if I have to go to Würzburg tomorrow. In the morning Anna and I sat in the garden and wrote letters to Miln in Holland. Anna wrote four pages and I eight. After we read each other's letters we both had to laugh over our funny result in the style of our letters. In the afternoon I sat with Anna in her room with her sister Lene. Among other things I was very much interested in Lene's album from her childhood. Anna, who simply cannot find any interest for such things, laughed at me, which however didn't bother me in what I was doing, naming reading through the albums. Lene, on the other hand, was happy that I was really interested in her things. I want to write down some of the verses in the album which especially interested me. After this visit in Lene's room, Anna and I sat in front of the house door. Then Lene came and brought me a lovely little basket, which she had made herself. It was made from little cardboard pictures; each picture has a Bible verse. I was naturally surprised over this gift, and sincerely thanked her for it. But Anna laughed again over my childish joy, told me confidentially that Lene had prized that basket and that others in the house thought that Lene must think a great deal of me if she has even sacrificed the basket to me. I hope I will be loving and nice to Lene, who in spite of her peculiarities, means well. Afterwards Lene and I visited her sister down in the village. I liked it there very much. Lene's niece played the harmonium and we sang to its accompaniment. In the evening we again sat in front of the house door; Lisa also was there. We made up poems, which turned out to our satisfaction. Even the Head of the House enjoyed them. It was so quiet around us up there. The stars became more and more visible in the sky, and I began to feel sad - this is my last evening in Reichenberg. Then above us on the wall in the castle yard Baroness Lili appeared among the trees. After she noticed us, she hurried down and sat down on the bottom step of the stairs. She is a brilliant and fascinating conversationalist. We got started talking about contrasts in the lives of people and at the last about ideals. Well, I have experienced and written a lot for today.

July 2, 1905

Today is Sunday, and what wonderful Sunday weather. Lisa went to the church services in Würzburg. Anna and I went into the forest where it was so quiet and solemn. Anna sat on a bench and I on a folding stool leaning against a tree trunk. As Anna and I sat there completely absorbed in what we were reading and in the beauty of the forest, a figure appeared under the trees in a light colored summer dress. It was baroness Henriette who was looking for her sister. When she saw us she came and sat down on the bench. She has always been friendly to me and is also the same age as I, except that she has not yet had her 20th birthday and mine is just past. Our conversation soon became quite lively; we got started talking about the war and about the sad circumstances in South Africa. The baroness is concerned about an officer in the war there; she told us all sorts of interesting things about the young man. At the last I asked her his name and she said, "Hans". Anna and I looked at each other and our expressions

July 2, 1905 - continued

looked startled. We had made a bet in which the name "Hans" had been stipulated. So this was amusing to us. While we three sat together in interesting conversation, Baron O. came by on his bicycle with his dog. He is the baroness' uncle who is spending the summer here. His niece asked him where he was hurrying to in this heat, and he answered that he was going to the train station to see whether his trunks had still not arrived. His servant had sent them as freight instead of by passenger or mail train, and he needed his lamp and frying pan. This disclosure amused us very much. As the baron went on, a rude boy came that way and threw stones after him. The stones were probably intended for the dog, but the baroness scolded the boy soundly. Then the maid came and called us to dinner. So we broke up and parted at the path after we had wished each other a good new year of life, the baroness wished it for me belatedly and I wished it for her ahead of time.

In the evening, July 2, 1905

Now I am here in Würzburg. Frau Lene brought me here. In Reichenberg we sang together as a farewell, and then I said good-bye to Reichenberg and those that live there. Lisa and Anna waved until we disappeared from sight around the bend at the bottom of the mountain.

July 5, 1905 - Gelchsheim

Now I am here again with dear Mother. Here I feel best. Today at midnight I arrived with Mrs. and Michael Horsch. I would rather have stayed a little longer and not have had to ride during the night, but since neither of the women, only Heinrich asked me to stay, I thought I had better go on. When we were finally sitting in the train car compartment and the well lighted train station with the many people disappeared, I noticed how very tired I was. Also I noticed it was beginning to lightning, and I am so afraid of storms. M asked me to tell about my visit in Würzburg and I marshalled all of my strength together and described how all of my acquaintances and especially the relatives were so happy to see me so well. At the station we first drank some Selsus water in the depot and then got into the coach that was waiting for us. I would rather have waited until the storm was over, but Mr. M. hoped that we could drive away from the storm. However, it came nearer quickly and as we drove along on the hill, strong wind gusts almost swept us out of the carriage. This was followed by lightning streak after lightning streak, accompanied by a sinister roar because of which one could not hear the thunder. So it continued and continued during the entire two hour trip. The area was lighted brighter than daylight; it was horrible. And I? My agitation had reached the point where I could not become more agitated. I sat there motionless. But then wonderful quietness and a blissful peace came over me which I had never before experienced. This feeling of security was sent to me by my Savior. He watches over his poor child who in all of these troubles and experiences that rush in upon it so that it does not know the right way to go, and in trust and faith that it will go the right way, places itself in Goe's hands. This is the way I felt about our going out into the bad weather. Nothing could happen to us and we arrived safely in Gelchsheim. There Mother and my sister were very much surprised that I had gone along in such weather, and thankful with me that the Lord had sent his angel to guide the horses that in such stormy weather nothing bad had happened to us. The coachman had had to experience a lot of fear since we sat much more out of danger than he. After this night I feel quite exhausted.

Gelchsheim, July 6, 1905

Martha came back today from Würzburg, but in an unusual way. The coachman could not go after her, so an elderly daylaborer was sent. Martha did not know him and he did not know Martha. So she went past him and his carriage and hired a carriage in the town, which brought her safely home. It cost seven Mark.

July 7, 1905 - Martha went walking with me a lot in the lovely meadow. She told me about the hopes she has for her future and said that I should certainly be at her wedding. I was to write that into my diary, which has been done.

July 8, 1905

Today Martha and I had musical entertainment at the old piano in the corner room. After Martha had played all of the music that was there, I got a booklet of lovely melodies and student songs that my very musical brother in Würzburg had given me. Martha was enchanted with them, and couldn't get enough of playing them. Those that were respectable we also sang. Ernst, the oldest son of the house (Michael Horsch's family), my little friend, begged Martha and I to go with him into the meadow, where he discovered a lovely quiet place by the brook, which he showed us. It was really lovely there by the murmuring brook, the corner of which was hidden under bushes. In the background we had the Earl's woods, the old castle and garden. Ernst was very pleased at our joy and recognition of the place that he had found. We were there for a long time. The sun shone golden, everything in nature had on a festive dress.

July 9, 1905 - Sunday - Today I was in the public worship service in Giebelstadt for the first time. We were five girls and also Mrs. Hodel, Elise's mother. That was an enjoyable trip, but we got there late. The whole congregation was already assembled. Minister F. (Fellmann?) already stood at the front. He looked up as I slipped into the second pew, and I noticed that he was greatly moved inwardly. The song, "Praise ye the Lord" was sung. The sermon text was Psalm 146. I marveled how those words fit exactly for me, and also the sermon was word for word as though just for me. A great happiness rang through his words and was noticeable in the sermon. He also looked at me frequently. Martha asked afterwards whether I had noticed that the sermon was for me and how the minister had looked at me. And I thought that he must be happy that after the stormy night, I still felt good enough to come to the church services, after the long time of sickness and infirmity. Yesterday evening I experienced something funny that should not be omitted here. In the cool of the evening Martha and I went for a walk in the meadow. Martha was enchanted over the idyllic meadow-land. She then went with me to the garden to enter it, but I didn't want to because I saw R.'s uniform among the draping foliage. R., who noticed us, quickly opened the gate for us. Martha walked toward the draping foliage and I walked behind her so that my little figure was completely hidden by her larger one. As the men saw us, R. became embarrassed, so very embarrassed that his face turned red. I did not think that he would be so ashamed since I had treated him the same as always in Würzburg. Martha and I sat down on the children's bench, which stood near the large bench. Soon we noticed figures at the garden gate and Mr. B. went to open it. We thought it might be the cousins from the Burg (the castle where the Landes family lived that shared in renting the Gelchsheimer farm land that had once belonged to the royalty that owned Gelchsheim) and it was them, Ernst Fellman also with them. The cousin from America was very happy to also see us ladies. He sat down on the bench right beside the small bench where we sat, and then things started. I asked cousin Hans when he was leaving for America again, and he said in eight days, which I didn't know. He explained why he was leaving so soon and then asked why I had not come over to the castle. I told him that I wanted to come tomorrow with Martha, but he said that he would not be at home tomorrow since he was making farewell visits. He was also going to Reichenberg. I asked him to please greet my dear Anna for me. Then I told him that when I was at Reichenberg recently we had waited for his coming for a whole week. One day Anna and I sat in the arbor where we could watch the steps coming up the mountain. Lene came to us and then Anna played a prank on her and me. She said suddenly with great excitement, "There comes the cousin from America up the mountain steps", and really, a figure was climbing up the mountain. Lene hurried up to the upper garden fence where she could look over the Hof (courtyard). Finally she came back, irritated, but also laughing

July 9, 1905, continued

and said, "Well, Anna! That was the minister. Didn't you see his frock?" To which Anna answered, shaking with laughter, "Yes, I saw his frock, but the hat was Hans'." At this story of mine the whole group broke out in loud laughter, especially cousin Hans, who laughed the heartiest. Then he got started talking about America, and told me that in five years I would also go over the ocean. Will that come true? Then he said that he would be glad to take me along if I could get ready before his departure date. And I in my teasing mood answered, "If it has to be, I'll go with you to America yet this evening." He immediately came back with, "Give me your hand on that", holding out his hand to me and I slapped his hand, but he held it tight and pulled me to him. The whole thing became too "dangerous" for me and I pulled back energetically, which he noticed and stopped pulling so hard. I said abruptly, since he still held my hand, "Good night!" Then he let go of my hand, but he begged me to stay longer. The whole group, during our banter had again laughed heartily. Since I saw my sister at the garden gate, I quickly made the round saying, "good night", saying that I noticed that I was being looked for. Elisabeth then said, when Martha had accompanied me to the gate, that I should not have hurried so, she had wanted to stay in the garden for a while, too, and I begged her to go back with Martha. Michael and his wife Marie? Horsch came just then and took the two back into the garden. They also wanted to take me back, saying that big Ernst had asked about me. While Martha and I waited on the carriage at Geibelstadt after the church services, a large shadow appeared near me and a deep voice said, "Selma!" It was the big Ernst who greeted me happily, like yesterday evening in the garden. In this gorgeous weather a party was made into the forest. Martha insisted that I also go along. In the carriage (wagon?) R. (Rudolf?) sat across from me. While He had greeted me before in the hall. I noticed how he observed me, ^{then he asked me} what I thought about the fact that he had slept from yesterday evening at 11:00 until noon today at 11:00. I saw that Mrs. M., who was sitting with her husband on the driver's seat, was watching me, and I asked her if it was true about the sleeping. Then I discussed with the gentleman the reason for the sleeping, but we came to no satisfactory conclusion. When we arrived at the forest, we had to, on the side where I was sitting, constantly defend ourselves from slaps from the overhanging branches, and I as the one in front, had it the worst. That was a hullabaloo in the wagon, and I, who had constantly to bend ^{over} because of the branches, said, "as thanks for the slaps one has to make obeysance." And Martha thought that this trip with the green slaps had to be written into my diary. Then we got off and walked through the woods to the large forest meadow where we sat down under the hanging branches. The two Marthas and R. sat down on folding chairs they had brought along. I heard R. suggest that we play games, and we then played several group games. When we arrived home after a lovely drive, Martha told me that we were going to sing together at the piano. I went upstairs to Mother to get permission. As I came down the stairs, Mrs. M. met me with a strange expression. I told her that I was going to Martha at the piano, the sound of which one could hear. How surprised I was as I came near the room and through the open door saw R. by a post, the two apprentices also in the room, Martha at the piano. I sat down in my place in the corner. R. suggested one merry song after the other out of the booklet, and sang with the two other gentlemen with full voice. Mr. M. also came in and listened for a while, then went out again. I in my corner had to wonder and be amazed how jovial R. was. He seemed to be celebrating a big triumph. Then they all had to go to eat. Martha still told me quickly that as she entered the room to play the piano, R. was already in the room and was paging through the book and asked her to especially play certain songs. When I went upstairs to my sister I found out from her that she could guess the reason why R. picked the songs out of that booklet to sing. Yesterday in the garden, Martha had told about our entertainment, that we had already happily sung together, and after that Mrs. M expressed herself very reprovingly about our singing out of that booklet. R. had heard this conversation. He had then expressed himself positively

July 9, 1905, continued

about pretty folksongs, saying that by the young men under him at the barracks much folk music is sung. And so today he probably wanted to demonstrate that he also liked such songs and others like we sang yesterday, and in this way he defended me. After the meal Martha and my sister Elisabeth went to the castle to our relatives. Martha wanted to say good-bye there. So I was alone with Mother. Looking out of the window I saw R. standing by the wall in the yard, watching our window. He often did that before. Then he went to the bench to Mr. Eberhardt, Mr. and Mrs. M also came there. I went out into the lovely meadow to meet the two. (Elisabeth and Martha?) I stood still at the brook, since I heard voices in the willow bushes, I called over to ask whether the two were still there. Immediately the bushes parted and cousin Peter sprang over the brook to tell me that the two were coming the other way. He accompanied me back slowly, the two soon caught up with us, but Martha was in a hurry, she was afraid she would miss R's departure, and for that reason they hurried ahead, Peter with me behind them. Since he wanted to meet R. he came all of the way with me, where we also still met the group on the bench in front of the house. I sat down with Martha, there was still very lively conversation before the little carriage with the horse and driver came and R. said good-bye to ride out into the night to the station.

July 10, 1905

After dinner Martha left, so I am now without a congenial companion. At four o'clock I went through the meadow to the relatives in the castle. It was really nice in the garden of the Castle. Lisette, Mariele and I had a good conversation. It is a good change (diversion) for me, these visits to the castle.

July 12, 1905

Today Ernstle, the little son of the house, has a birthday. He is very close to me since from earliest childhood he came to me to look at pictures and listen to me tell stories. He was at the little well (probably the spring) with me today, he guarded me in knightly fashion, namely, he held my left hand tight in both of his while I bent down to the spring and filled my right hand with water (to drink?) He was very happy to be my protector. He is now six years old; may he grow up "in favor with God and man".

July 13, 1905

Cousin Hans is here again. He is finishing his farewell visits. I had to play chess with him in the garden house. At my request Elise accompanied me there with little Helmut in the children carriage. (This Elise is Elise Hodel, sister of John Hodel of Morton, Illinois, later of Carlsbad, N. Mexico. Elise was the nursemaid who took care of the Michael Horsch children at the Hof in Gelchsheim. When I was in Germany in 1949-50 she was taking care of the next generation of Horsch children at Hellmannsberg. Her mother was a sister of Aunt Selma and Mama's mother, and the Hodels also lived at Gelchsheim for a time as did Grandma with her family, in the home of their oldest full sister, Michael Horsch's mother.) In the garden house there was a merry group, Hans, the rogue, the jolly Peter who also came there, who was again and again absorbed in watching Elise's charming face to my secret delight. As we broke up because the sun was casting long shadows on the meadow behind the garden, the two cousins accompanied us. Galant Peter immediately helped Elise get the baby carriage over the brook, and I, since I am too little and too fearful to make the leap over the brook, was lifted over like a feather by cousin Hans. He laughed merrily because I thought I was too heavy for him to lift. He accompanied us a long way, but always with me, at a

July 13, 1905, continued

big distance from Elise, who was silently amused at us two. It really must have been amusing to her to see me walking along on the arm of this distinguished (or stately) cousin who was so lovingly interested in me, and I couldn't openly resist him, but had to be loving (friendly), too. I will never be afraid with him, because he himself said, with you, little one, nothing can be started because you wouldn't give in.

July 15, 1905, Gelchsheim

Today I went to the castle with Elisabeth to pick currants. The cousins Hans and Peter saw us coming over the bridge and came to meet us. Then it was nice, picking berries in the bushes. Cousin Hans naturally showed an interest in me again, and with Peter, the rogue, I teased as usual. At the last we sat in the garden house, a whole group of us after Elise came, who had a message to deliver to Uncle (who lived in the castle) from Michael Horsch. Hans sat down in the middle, Elise sitting on his right side and I on his left. He crossed his arms and so had a hand from each of us in his. He told some very interesting things. At the last we spoke about his departure tomorrow. We then had to go home since we were awaiting company, Frieda and Heinrich from Würzburg, with their darling little girl. They soon came. I was there when Lisele was put into her little bed; I was struck by the fact that Frieda and her sister Mrs. M (Mrs. Michael Horsch) were so quiet. I put it together with the stormy night since Elisabeth wrote to Würzburg that she and Mother were very surprised that they had let me go out into that night. Unfortunately, Mother is not feeling at all well right now.

July 16, 1905

Cousin Hans made his farewells. He was very serious. I went with him into the house where he looked for the relatives, Aunt in her room, the others in the kitchen. He spoke courage to me, I should never again be sad, that was not good for me. We all watched him from the housedown as he strode through the gate like a real English (American?) gentleman. Whether he will come again in a few years as he promised his parents? In the afternoon I sat in the guest room and watched Lisele's bed, as Frieda came in and told me that R. had probably already had an understanding with E. from B. She noticed something like that in her sister's demeanor after she had been alone with R. in the living room. From E. she couldn't find out anything concerning the matter; she was as silent as the grave. R. then said to Frieda that as soon as he had vacation, he was going to travel to B. (Bockschaft?) and she should give E. greetings from him. Frieda's manner when she told me this hurt me very much since I knew her intention well. Later we went to visit at the castle. Cousin Peter sat beside me in the garden house and brotherly divided currants with me. (shared currants with me.) Then we had a forest party, a whole wagon (or carriage) full of people. We again rested in the large meadow. As we broke up, the others took a walk through the woods. Elise with the children, and I with the apprentices as coachmen, rode through the woods. That was a merry drive. After we got home this Sunday ended quietly and peacefully.

July 18, 1905 - Heinrich and Frieda left today for B. (Bockshaft probably, which was Frieda's parental home.) Heinrich talked over with Mother that he thought I should go back to Cannstatt to the Institution again since my nerves still badly need strengthening. I really look forward to this prospect. Since the sister and brother-in-law of M & M (Mr. and Mrs. Michael Horsch), missionaries Claassen (Mrs. Claassen was a sister of Michael Horsch) are awaited very soon, the girls asked me to practice a song with them for the welcome of the "Honored People". We decided to ask the lady of the house whether we could ask the three gentlemen of the house

to sing with us so that the music would be in more parts and have a fuller tone. This request was graciously granted and we practice every evening now in the gable-room where the old, but good Harmonium (Parlor organ) is. The gentlemen feel honored to be allowed to sing along. The elementary school teacher is with us as "guardian angel", as I called it.

July 20, 1905

What a busy day today is! In the morning a telegram came which announced that the missionaries would already come at noon, and so there was still much to get ready in the room assigned to them as well as in the whole house. Wreaths and bouquets were made and everything which belongs to such a reception. At the designated time all of the persons from the house stood outside the house and waited with suspense for the arrival of the coach, which soon drove up. Mrs. Missionary, our cousin, is still the same as always. She had her little daughter on her arm during the greetings. The little person with blond curls cried bitterly because of fear of so many strange faces. The missionary is a real foreigner (Russian Mennonite) but looks very ill. If only he can recover well in Europe. So finally the long trip with all of its difficulties has been surmounted (is over) and they will be well taken care of in her parental home. Our singing will not work out now, but we hope we will have a chance to do it on Sunday. While out walking today I again found, after six years, a four leafed clover.

July 22, 1905

As I came home today from the little well (spring?) where I had gone to get drinking water, Marie, the house maid sat on a bench picking over lettuce. She said, with a secretive expression that I had received company, and at my astonished questioning, she said that the two gentlemen, Mr. Claassen and Michael Horsch had brought along Alfred from Würzburg where they had gone to get the trunks. When I came upstairs I was told that the little friend had immediately looked for me and was then very much disappointed not to find me. I went into the corner room to the piano. Then Ernstle came in and gave me a meaningful look, and as I turned around, Alfred was standing behind my chair. Now it was really nice together. We even sought out my favorite place in the meadow. Alfred is really happy to be able to make such walks with me. When he had visited me before, I couldn't do that. In the evening he was also there when we practiced the singing and made things completely merry; he also criticed us.

July 23, 1905

Things went better than expected. We seven singers stodd in the hallway in front of the bedroom of the missionaries and sang our two songs: "Star on whom I Look" and "Praise to the Lord, O my Soul". The missionaries were really happy over our singing and expressed their thanks for it. As Mr. Claassen, who at first did not know for whom the song was intended, found out the fact, he went down the stairs after the two apprentices and thanked them expecially warmly and heartily. The gentlemen were very happy about that. The listeners, expecially Aunt, found the singing very nice. Aunt was surprised that the practicing was carried out so quietly that she did not find out anything about it. Also Mother, who was listening from her bed, said our singing was really well done. So we can be satisfied. Elise and Lisett got some beer for the gentlemen in the dark of the summer night. They didn't find what they wanted until the third tavern they went to since on Sunday more beer is used. The three sat on the bench in the yard, and we said to them, "As thanks for their trouble and that they stood by us so valiantly in this very important action, we walked around in the whole village for their beer. They were very well satisfied and even drank to our health (toasted us).

July 25, 1905 - In the loveliest summer weather I walked down to the meadow today and sat down on the sweet smelling hay piles. But I was not alone since two day-laborer women, under the supervision of the apprentice B. were turning the hay. These three had a good conversation with me. Since they urged me to stay, I stayed for quite a while on my sitting place and watched them. Mr. M's small carriage drove by on the highway with the coachman in it, and at my question as to what visitors he was getting from the train, he answered that Mr. B. and Martha were coming today. I was very much surprised. I knew, of course, that Martha would want to come to see her Aunt Claassen, but did not surmise that it would be so soon.

July 27, 1905 -

Because she is not feeling well, Elise is with her mother for several days; Mariele, her sister, is taking her place for that time in the house. I visited her today, and since she was supposed to get out into the fresh air, I talked about meeting her in the meadow at the brook. So in the afternoon I sat down on the designated pile of hay. Elise soon came and we then lay there and talked about all sorts of things. Elise told me that on that holiday when the company was in the garden, among them R., she was standing at the window of the master and mistress' bedroom and became the unintentional listener to a conversation carried on by the two apprentices, whose room was directly below, with Mr. Eberhardt. Mr. B. grumbled about R. He noticed, and also understood as Elisabeth did, what R. said in the garden about E. from B. Now I also understood what B. meant when he let all sorts of things "fall". We two friends really laughed over this overheard conversation, and Elise was also indignant that R. is in such a hurry about E. from B. (Elisabeth from Bockschaft?) Well, it doesn't concern me.

August 4, 1905

What all one can experience in a short time! Martha certainly caused something "fine" for me. I should have known her since I was warned about her envy and jealousy in regard to young men, and now I, dumb, innocent thing, still got caught in her defamatory net. Since R. on that Sunday sang out of the folk song booklet with the apprentices, they came now and then in the evening to the corner room, which is open to them as a second living room. They are especially happy if someone is playing on the old piano. They are both homesick, and so this, they said, was a change for them after the day's work and heat. Since Martha has been here she has been playing the piano every evening and the gentlemen often sang to that, but only proper, respectable songs. I noticed right away at the beginning that Martha noticed that Mr. St., who is a fine, capable gentleman who comes from a rich Catholic landowning family, very well brought up, according to Aunts (Martha's grandmother) own words, was very much attracted to me. I naturally held back from the very beginning, but Martha, who cannot get over it that R. (whom she would very much like to have) at that one time sang about the "Dark Brown Maiden", (I am dark brown and she is blond and blue-eyed) in her stupidity brought all of this together and slandered me horribly to Mrs. Claassen, and Mrs. Claassen then to Mr. Michael Horsch, so that he, in a very insulting manner informed me in front of Alfred and the van der Smitten girls, who are here on vacation, informed me and Mr. St. that the door to the corner room would be closed to us because we sang love songs together. The children and the maids, who do not like Martha, and especially the apprentices show their contempt for Martha in every way they can. One can notice that Mrs. M. is sorry that she could not prevent this from happening to me. She said to me, "Instead of being happy that you are well, they treat you like this." So, just shortly before my departure to Constaadt, the Evil Spirit was able to cause this irritation for me. Still, Jesus is Victor!

August 6, 1905

Now I am on the way to Canstatt. This morning came the drive to Giebelstadt to the worship service. Paster F. spoke on the words in Epesians, especially on the words: to the praise of his glorious grace. I noticed that in his prayer the thought expecially of those who are sick, saying "help them bear what you permit for them." Little Veronika sat beside me during the service. Milli's big sister had to be the organist, so the child was in my care. It was very good. In the "Aunt House" where we relatives always visit after the services, I had to say good-bye in order to ride with the Reichenbergers. When I was happily on the Reichenberger's little carriage, Prediger Fellman and his two daughters were also along, we merrily went out of the village in pouring rain. We sat safely under the awnings. Marie and Christine L (Landes?) from G., who get to go to Reichenberg on vacation, had fun over the dripping of the awning. When we arrived at Reichenberg, we were heartily welcomed by Anna and Lisa. Now the "clover leaf" is together again. After the meal we sang together to the accompaniment of the harmonium. I would have enjoyed the wonderful singing much longer. Preacher F with his lovely tenor voice, Mrs. Leñd, with her well known alto voice, and Lisa and Milli's voices added. I, and also Anna and Lisa, noticed that Prediger F. watched me very much. Anna said to me, "Since he is watching you, does he have something in mind?" At five o'clock he drove back to Wlrrzburg. Milli, with the little sister could stay until the seven o'clock train, obviously for my sake. We girls thensat together and played merry games. Later we accompanied Milli to the train. She is very loving to me. But she has also become a fine lady since I saw her last. She will be happy when her time at the Institute is over. Anna and Lisa then told me various things, gave me suggestions how I should act toward Lene, who is so gracious and will accompany me to Canstatt. They were astonished when I told them about the uproar about Martha. Lisa knows Martha from "rich" experience, and I decided that I can be happy that I am here today, and not in Celchsheim, since R. rode along there. Now Martha has him to herself. I told him a little about the song booklet. He needed to know what he unintentionally caused by his singing. Through Milli I found out that R. wanted to take his brother "S" along to Gelchsheim, but this was not carried out. I had to think, why couldn't he have been along today; maybe he would have come here.

August 8, 1905 -

Villa Leckendorff Cannstatt. The long trip is now over. The ride was boring in this hot weather. As we arrived here at 5:30, there were evening services in the chapel, we therefore went immediately to the chapel. On the way there the gardener W. met us, who always comforted me. His eyes now opened wide as he recognized me. Also Miss H. and Rickele, who sat on the stairs beating out the carpets, were surprised. We got there for the close of the services and then went with the other guests of the Villa into the house. The newcomers had to wait in the little drawing room until their place in the overfilled Villa was assigned to them. I stood on the platform in front of the drawing room door, as this was opened behind me and Herr O. greeted me. He looked deep into my eyes, and said, "Praise and Thanks to God" when I answered his question about things were going for me, saying that they were going very well. We were then shown to our rooms. It was the same one in which I stayed in the spring. It has the lovely roomy balcony on which one can look around so nicely. I have two roommates with whom I got acquainted. At nine o'clock everyone in the Villa goes to bed. I, as the smallest one, am sleeping on the sofa. The roommates have a prayer hour together before we go to sleep. It is certainly nice to be able to be among genuine children of God in such a house.

August 9, 1905

This morning we had devotions in the chapel, led by Herr O. His text was I Peter 3: 9. There was a wonderful interpretation of these words, experiences of Herr O., continued by Miss Zeller who talked about the "denying of oneself" of the children of God. One needs to withdraw into quiet solitude to seek diligently the silent communion with our Lord to be healed by Him. After the devotions I went into the lovely park, wrote home and to Anna. At eleven o'clock there were devotions by Mrs. Osterritter for the women and girls. She spoke on the words: With this sacrifice - - ". We sang the song "The Lamb of God". After dinner I got pen and ink from Sister Rickle, since I was referred to her by Herr Osterritter. I had a conversation with Mrs. D. on the veranda in front of the drawing room. Everyone was happy and surprised that I am now getting along so well. The contrast between now and in the spring must be very great. At five o'clock there were devotions in the chapel again by Herr Osterritter. The text was Revelation 2:13; the song "Gott ist Getreu" was sung. (God is Faithful) The roommates again held their prayer hour. I made a moon promenade on the balcony and talked with our neighbors through the window. They are two dear girls.

August 10, 1905

Slept well this night; got drinking water for myself at the well (or fountain). On the way back I met the household servant Gottlieb, who got me at the train in the spring. He was also so very happy that now things are so completely different with me than at that time. At the morning devotions Herr Osterritter spoke on I Peter 3: 9 and Isaiah 43: 1. We belong to God in three ways: 1. Through creation, 2. Through redemption, 3. Through giving ourselves willingly to Him. In the afternoon there was again a prayer hour in the chapel. The text: Isaiah 6.

August 11, 1905

In the morning there was a sermon by Herr O. In the afternoon I went with three sisters whom I learned to know here and Miss Lene and another girl to the city cemetery to the grave of the head mistress of the Villa, who died only last year. When the sisters asked Herr O. for permission to leave, he asked us what the grave of the Superior would mean to us. When we got back the sisters said to him that the grave had called out the words: I John 2:28 to us.

August 12, 1905

In the morning devotions were held by Herr O. on the text I John 1: 7. At 11 o'clock a prayer was led by Mrs. O. on Numbers 19, on the contrast between the cleansing from sin in the Old Testament and the New Testament. In the afternoon preparations were made in the whole Villa for the visit of Mr. and Mrs. Inspector Rappard from St. Chrischona, Switzerland. At 5:00 there were evening devotions again, a continuation of I John 1: 7. At the close, a telegram came saying that the visitors would not come until 8:00 in the evening. The guests of the Villa had a get-together under the trees in front of the Villa for the purpose of practicing a song for the welcome of the honorable guests. The song "Praise ye the Lord, O my Soul" was selected. I marveled that this song for the third time played a role in my life. (Lobet den Herrn, O meine Seele). Mr. and Mrs. Osterritter had gone to the train station to meet the guests. We singers stood on the veranda in front of the drawing room, the alto singers on the right side, the soprano on the left side, which included me. A gentleman who bears a striking resemblance to "S" stood close beside me. I had already noticed before that this gentleman watched me. Has he perhaps also found a resemblance to some acquaintance in me. Since the arrival of the awaited guests was delayed and twilight set in, two candles in silver holders were set right and left on the railing of the veranda. Finally the awaited guests arrived and were welcomed with singing. Herr Osterritter said, "Children, you sang very nicely." Inspector R. spoke a few words about the poem, "Wer diesen Herrn zum Beistand hat, Findet am besten Rat und Tat" I stood where I could look directly into the speaker's venerable face. It was all so festive and lovely

August 12, 1905 - continued

the magical lighting, in the background the darkness of the tall trees, and over us the lovely starry sky.

August 13, 1905 - Sunday, and also the 16th anniversary of the death day of my dear father. Three years ago on the same date, Heinrich received the "yes" from his Frieda. At the morning worship Herr Osteritter told us that Inspector R. would have holy communion in the chapel. Everyone is invited to take part. Each individual should bring everything into the open to the Lord, especially anything unforgiven against another. I was innerly not quite at peace whether I should take part or not since I had so much to forgive and forget, so I quickly had a conference with Herr Osteritter, and at the end of the conversation I went back to him again, since I had forgotten to tell him something, to see Herrn Osteritter very much moved, with tears in his eyes. Was it perhaps because he now knew that that time in the Spring it was a terrible mistake about me and I suffered everything completely innocent. Up on the balcony I was alone briefly but happy moments with my invisible Friend. I asked Him to give me a Word from the Bible and I opened up the Bible to the High priestly prayer, John 17. Herr Inspector R. used the same chapter for the Holy Communion celebration, to my delighted surprise. The celebration was uplifting, one felt oneself lifted above everything earthly. In the afternoon at 2 o'clock in the chapel, Herr Inspector R. preached on Matt. 7: 15. It was announced that Herr Inspector would stay until Friday at the Villa and would hold worship services in the chapel every morning during his stay. The evening services were changed to 2 o'clock since Mrs. Osteritter wanted to hold a lesson for the women and girls every evening from 5 - 6 o'clock. At the evening meal I found a card beside my plate from Heinrich and Frieda. They invited me to come to Bockschaft on the way home. I think it will be best if I accept the invitation.

August 14, 1905 - In the morning at nine o'clock, Herrn Inspector R. had a talk on Isaiah 40: 1-8. Mrs. Inspector spoke at the women's meeting.

August 15, 1905 - Wrote to Bockschaft that I would accept the invitation, and at the same time invited Heinrich and Frieda to come here as long as Herr and Frau Inspector R. are here.

August 16, 1905 - Received a card from Heinrich and Frieda that said they would come tomorrow.

(These last three entries are much longer in the hotebook, where she writes about the activities of the day in detail.)

August 17, 1905 - As I found my way through the bustling throng after the morning worship service, I saw Heinrich and Frieda standing by Sister Lene. (She tells about the various services they attended, also about Herr O. saying, "So, that is good that you want to look out for your Selma.") Heinrich and Frieda had to go to St. for the night since the villa was more than full. (*But you want to take her away?")

August 18, 1905 - This morning Heinrich and Frieda left. Lene and I went with them to the train station. The two will visit at L (Lautenbach?). Tomorrow morning we two will meet them at a station near Heilbronn, and then will travel on to Bockschaft. After dinner I went with a letter that a lady wanted to have go out in a hurry, to the train station. On the way there a little lady came toward me, whom I recognized as Mrs. Neumeister, who was in the Villa with me in the Spring and at that time showed Motherly concern for me. Our mutual surprise was great. She went back with me to the train station since she could stay only briefly at the Villa and wanted to spend as much time as possible with me. She was all excited with joy to see me so favorably changed and said over and over, "God still lives!" She thought about me a lot and prayed for me, now we saw each other so unexpectedly. She had gone through a lot of difficult things since Spring. Her son was sick for a long time and died two weeks ago. His 24 year old wife with three children is much to be pitied.

August 18, 1905 - continued

She repeated many times that the miracle that the Lord had done for me served to greatly strengthen her faith. At parting she remarked that I had now crossed her life's path twice. She thinks that I will still meet her oftener in her life. Will this come true? I was again at Mrs. Inspector Rappard's Bible Hour. Since I hadn't found a place to sit and was tired of standing, I went back into the balcony where there were still empty benches. If I had not done this I would have missed out on a big pleasure, because when the hour was over and those sitting in front of me stood up to leave, a young woman in front of me turned around. Recognition came for us at the same time, and with the double exclamation: "Hedwig, Selma" we grasped each other and hurried down the stairs. Hedwig had to go on the train, so we had very little time. She had seen me once before, but could not get to me in the large crowd. With the promise to pray for each other and to write soon, we parted. It was too bad that we had so little time, but I am again very glad that I stayed here for today and didn't, as Heinrich and Frieda wanted me to do, go along to Lautenbach. If I had gone I would not have seen Mrs. Neumeister nor Hedwig, these two children of God who were so lovingly concerned about my unhappy condition in the spring. Mr. Osterritter talked with me during the "Evening Rest", and prayed over me. He told me that I should not with a single thought think back over the past. To Heinrich he said that he had the conviction that there would not be any regression any more in my physical or mental health, because the way I had been prayed for could not remain without blessing. May the Savior hold his hand over me.

August 20, 1905, Bockschaft

Here I am, for the first time in Frieda's parental home. It is very lovely here in every way; I had not imagined it this way - and the many other guests who are here beside me: The Gelchsheimer with their four boys and Elise. Miss Lene was also persuaded to come along. The old Grollebas, who was formerly the children's maid in the house, who was in Gelchsheim last year, is so very happy that I came. In general, all of them here are trying to make my first stay here as pleasant as possible. The two M's would probably rather wish me anywhere else than here with them. Already yesterday as they got on the train, (they came from L. (Lautenbach? Lußgard?)) I noticed something, especially from Mr. M. They probably read H's letter in L. and it is no wonder then if it isn't pleasing to them (to see me or have me here?) If they will only humble themselves under God's discipline, then everything will be made completely all right. Otherwise there is no outlook that they will change as far as people like we are concerned and not think they can treat those beneath them as they please. But I don't want to have any bad thoughts against all of them who injured me so much. Father Abraham read this morning from I Cor. 10:13. It was still very nice yesterday morning in Canstatt. Mr. Osterritter prayed for me and Lene, even two times and had us sing the song, "Take Thou my Hand, oh Father" as a farewell. Before we left, we, as all of the guests in the Villa do, had to go to him in the salon. As we came in, he excused himself and went into the adjoining room for a long time. When he came out his countenance was like that of an angel. He probably prayed again for me, but he did not say that. I believe that I can assume that he knows something good for me from the Savior. I can wait until His hour has come, and he willingly enters into my affairs. Mr. Osterritter prayed wonderfully over me and Lene, then we parted. I had to promise Mr. Osterritter to write often. May this blessed time I was able to spend in the Villa not have passed without effect, but that the blessing will continue to work on my whole being and life. This morning we were at the worship service. Frieda's father preached on Psalm 103. The song: "O if I had a thousand Voices" was sung. Frieda told me afterwards that the sermon was ^{for} ^{benefit} in my honor, which I had also noticed. They are all very happy that I am getting along so well. After the meal we young people sat under the large chestnut trees in the garden and played

August 20, 1905, continued

all sorts of merry games, also had coffee out there. I had a strange feeling. Twice, before I realized what I was doing, I was up in the bedroom where Lene and I sleep and was kneeling there to pray for S. A mighty force, I want to say, influenced me to do this. I could not explain this, and used all of my little energy to work against it, or it would have continued like that all afternoon. My leaving was not conspicuous in the garden. Ernstly, my little friend, who is happy to have me here, showed me the lovely meadow of his grandfather, next to the garden. We entertained ourselves together there until Frieda came and called us to eat. I found a four and a five leaved clover in the meadow. Luck and bad luck together. Frieda also found a four leafed one, whose usually large pretty leaves were all eaten up. It touched me when little Ernstle said to the others in the house: "Aunt Frieda has eaten-away luck." But why am I writing about four leafed clovers?

August 21, 1905 - Bockschaft

Elise, my faithful friend, told me, when we were alone for a little while, that Martha is being ignored by the apprentices, which she notices to her great chagrin. Also, Milli was in Gelchsheim for eight days, she said that her parents are very much worried about S. because he is so peculiar that it is alarming. I heard something similar some time ago, that he has been like that since spring. I had to wonder whether my experience yesterday was connected to that in any way. I took a walk in the woods with E. from B. (Elisabeth from Bockschaft?) and Miss Lene, and there something comical happened when Lene was very much afraid to sit down on the carpet of moss because something was rustling in the leaves. She thought it was probably an otter. So we stood waiting until a little weasel hurried into view and disappeared on the other side of the path. On August 23 Lene and I want to go to Neidelsbach and from there on home. The Gelchsheimer traveled home today. Little Ernst took two little rabbits from his uncles home with him.

August 25, Reichenberg

Now I am again in lovely Reichenberg. We stayed in Reidelsbach only a few days. There all of them were happy to see me again after six years. I experienced very much love there, which I will remember thankfully. Neidelsbach is still unchanged and secluded. I told the children stories and played games with them, which they enjoyed very much. Their father drove us to the train in his new express wagon. Babette went with us. She looks so tired. We got to Reichenberg in the evening. Lisa came to meet us down the mountain steps. When she saw me she called up to the windows, "She is along." Whereupon there was a loud cry of joy from Anna. It was really too lovely, and the way I was greeted and received from the dear relatives is really worthy of thanks. The being together of us three cousins was then the best of all.

August 27, 1905

Went to the woods with Lisa; we sat on a tree stump. There was such a Sunday stillness around us. We heard the train from Würzburg whizz past the woods. I had such a definite feeling that it was bringing visitors, so we went to the house. As we entered the house door, the door of the living room opened and our Babette (Mrs. Lene and Lisa's second mother) came along the hall; she came with Mrs. Lene of Würzburg to visit me. After Lisa went with the visitors to the train, Anna and I sat in the garden house. Lisa joined us later and told us that her mother had confided to her that Mrs. Claassen had slandered me to Mrs. v.d. Smissen; she also told them about singing out of the song booklet. Lisa defended me, saying that she knew Martha from other experiences, etc. Her mother thought that one did not know what to think. Mrs. Claassen (who is greatly held in esteem as a missionary from our circle, but who is very conceited because of it) said it was so, and one hears it is so, but she could not find in me that which Mrs. Claassen specifically mentioned.

August 27, 1905, continued

Hearing all this naturally disturbed me very much, Lisa and Anna were also upset at this behavior by Mrs. Claassen. I knew then why she had looked at me like that in Giebelstadt and why I had had the premonition that company was coming today.

September 1, 1905

The agitation was not good for my weak nerves; I did not feel at all well and we were very much concerned. Thank God, these storms are over and Jesus was the Victor over the Enemy's trick. I was in the woods for a long time today; I still found some ripe strawberries. They apparently delayed themselves for my sake. I received a package and a letter from home.

September 2, 1905

Took a delightful walk in the woods. I got to a part of the forest in which I had never been and finally to the edge of the forest where one could see Würzburg lying in the bright sunshine. I sat down on a tree stump, and could not get enough of listening to the rustling of the wind in the mighty fir trees.

September 3, 1905

Rainy weather. Mr. and Mrs. Landes went to the worship services. I sang with Lisa and Anna at the Harmonium.

September 4, 1905

Took a walk in the forest with Lisa. It was glorious under the fir trees at the edge of the woods. Squirrels played close to us. A wild looking stroller (tramp) frightened us and we hid ourselves in dense bushes. We looked at each other in fright as he walked close by us, but he did not notice us.

September 5, 1905

Since I lost my large hairpin yesterday, which I miss very much, I went into the forest to look for it. A man with his lively children met me. Since the children were surprised at the strawberries in my hand, I gave them the little bouquet, to their great delight. The man wondered whether I didn't feel uneasy all by myself in the deep woods. I told him that I had only gone so far into the forest because I was looking for my hair needle. Soon after I had met them, the call of the children sounded through the woods, "We have the needle." I hurried after them and one of the nice little boys happily and proudly brought me the needle. Anna, who was waiting for me on a bench in the forest, teased me a lot about my luck. On our way home the baroness Lili overheard us from her window. We then had an interesting conversation with her.

September 6, 1905

Today Mrs. Lenentook a longer walk with me to Fursthaus Guttenberg.

September 7, 1905

Last night there was a violent storm. Lisa came from her room to mine since I am so terrified of storms, and sat on my bed. I told her an interesting story: "Two Summer Nights and one Winter Day". In the afternoon we were together at the edge of the forest under the fir trees, near which there were some tall nut trees. I accidentally stepped on a fallen nut, and since we thought the squirrels would get them anyway, we looked for some more nuts for us until Lisa's bag was full, then we sat on the grass and ate them with the greatest enjoyment. Unfortunately we didn't notice that the owner of the nut tree was picking pears near by. He came and told us that picking nuts was not allowed. Lisa offered to pay for the nuts when we went walking tomorrow; today we had no money with us. But the man was polite; he thought we were the ladies from the castle, and we let him think that. But we had to laugh a lot about our adventure.

September 8, 1905 - Rainy weather. Imprisoned indoors, we entertained ourselves with singing, small talk, and playing "Mühle", which all three of us still enjoy from our childhood.

September 9, 1905

Was in the forest with Lisa, again found nice strawberries. Tomorrow we two want to go together to Würzburg to the worship service.

Sept. 10, 1905

Such a lovely Sunday as I have not experienced for a long time. Going to Würzburg was carried out. I ran, in the morning since it was already somewhat late, at a "gallop" down the mountain steps where I overtook the master of the house who was slowly pushing his bicycle down the side of the mountain. He teased me by saying that I would be too late, the train had already gone. As I hurried even faster, he reassured me. At the cemetery Lisa caught up with me, and at the train station we met other acquaintances who were also going to the services at Würzburg. I had a beautiful bouquet of asters for Lydia van der Smissen, whose birthday was today. As we got to the hall in Würzburg, where I had never been, many people were already there. Alfred sat in the front with the children, he noticed me at once and nodded a greeting. Also his father came to the bench to us and greeted us very lovingly. Lisa remarked to me afterwards that one could notice that he was very pleased. Then we heard a very good sermon from him about Mary and Martha in Bethany. First one has to let Jesus serve us, He alone can give us everything, before we can serve Him. Lisa said afterwards the sermon contained everything which she exactly needed. After the close of the services Alfred and Big Ernst worked on me to come to their home with them. The one held me tight on one side, the other on the other side. Ernst then left because many of the onlookers were laughing. Then Alfred's mother spoke to me. She was very loving; also wanted to take me along, but Lisa promised that we would come in the afternoon since we were supposed to go to Heges for noon. So I hurried arm in arm with Anna until we caught up with the others. It was very nice at the Heges. All of them were so loving to me. Conversation, singing around piano, the children, small talk, etc. At three o'clock we went to van der Smissens. There we celebrated Lydia's birthday. It was very nice. Then Mrs. van der Smissen went with us to Fellmans. There we were met by the grandmother who called the lady of the house. The master of the house had gone for a walk with his sons, but soon also came back. Lively conversation followed then, also singing. It was very nice in every respect. I was happy with the children especially the little Veronika. Mrs. Fellman showed us around the house, for a variation, also into her big boys' room. It was very nice there! I thought they have a loving parental home in every respect. Mr. Fellmann then accompanied us to the train station. He walked beside me and joked with me, looking at me jovially, exactly like his gay, lively boys can look. I noticed that Mr. and Mrs. Fellmann were happy to have me in their home. So I experienced much love and happiness today. In Reichenberg there was then lively talk about the day's happenings.

Sept 11, 1905

Today company came - Mr. and Mrs. H. (Horsch? Hodel?) from Louisgarde. And while we were sitting at coffee, there was a knock at the door and Alfred came in with his brother R. and cousin Karl. They had taken a walk through the forest to see me, and we had a nice time together; wrote a funny card to Ernstle in G (Gelchsheim?). In the evening I accompanied the three boys through the lovely autumn forest. When I came back the Luisgarders drove off to H Hof (Heuchelhof?) I made arrangements with Mr. H., my cousin, that tomorrow morning I would come to the highway where they would pass and they would pick me up and take me along to Giebelstadt to the "Aunt House". From there I can then go home. In the evening Anna and I sat in the front of the house and "celebrated" our parting.

Sept. 12, Reichenberg, 1905

Lisa had to leave today to go to her sister and I am also going, so the house will be empty and quiet for Anna. We still sang several songs as a farewell with Mrs. Lene.

Sept. 12, Giebelstadt

I arrived here towards evening. Aunt Bethel lay on the sofa as I came in and her surprise and happiness was great, also for the others.

Sept. 13, Giebelstadt

Took a walk to the spring, then was in the little church playing the Harmonium. I had an audience, two students who were going by on the main road (or highway) and saw me through the big window sitting at the instrument. They quietly opened the door and listened.

Sept. 14, 1905

H's (Heinrich's?) birthday is today. Mrs. Chr gave me a greeting card to send to him, since I didn't have any with me. I looked at the many photos in the albums.

Sept. 15, 1905

Adolf's birthday today; also sent him a card. Received a card from Heinrich and Frieda from Würzburg. Heinrich regretted that they did not meet me in Gelchsheim, but I know the way to them in Würzburg.

Sept. 17, 1905 - Sunday

Now I am at home again. This morning at worship services in Giebelstadt. Before the services Lydia and Elisa (van der Smissen?) quickly prepared a birthday table for our Babette in the "Aunt House", set this into the living room. We stood behind the door singing "Gott ist Getreu". Mrs. Christine and Babette came into the room when they heard this singing, and Babette was very happy and was moved by the song. So there was something for the birthday, even though it wasn't a big celebration, and I like to think back to the days in Giebelstadt in the fall. Elisabeth had also come along to the church services, and also Martha, who played the organ. In this role she likes to shine and felt very flattered when big Ernst went up to her at the organ and in his roughish way said something to her. I rode home with the relatives from the castle. Cousin Peter was the driver; he was very happy that I rode along. At home I was greeted by everyone, also by the apprentices, who were sitting on the bench in the yard as I came back from my walk with the girls and the children. ("girls" probably means the hired girls who took care of the Horsch children) Mr. St. was very embarrassed. Sister Auguste told me that the gentlemen felt very sorry for me because I had received the order (not to go into the music room anymore) because of them. Mr. St. had said that someone must have said something about me, to which Mr. B. remarked, it was plain that Martha was behind it.

Sept. 18, 1905

Was in the castle with the deaf and dumb Anna B., who is here for two weeks. While I was still at Uncles, Elisabeth came with a telegram which announced the death of our aunt in the Palatinate, the oldest sister of our father. Elisabeth left right away to go to the funeral, so I will be alone for several days with dear Mother. She said that one knows that Aunt died at peace with God, so one can be at peace.

Sept. 24, 1905 - Sunday

The Pastor held a Bible hour on the Passage Psalm 111. Sang the hymn "O That I had a Thousand Voices". After the hour I went with Mrs. M and "Old Grolle" who is here from B. to sew at Mrs. M.'s, and with deaf Anna to the relatives in the castle. Cousin Jacob is at home since yesterday; he passed the examination brilliantly. Had a merry reunion with the cousins.

Sept. 25, 1905

Anna and I took a walk along the street toward the village R. to look at the steam plow that is working there. From a distance we saw a gentleman standing in the field with his bicycle, who when he saw us, came from the field onto the road to meet us. I recognized Mr. St., who very graciously exchanged a few words with me. The steamplow was very interesting for us. The children with their father, Mr. M (Michael Horsch?) were also there to look at the steamplow. I was very glad that the latter did not see Mr. St. talking to me, and still happier when, after Mr. M was gone, Mr. B came across the field from the woods. He was surprised to see me there, and I was amused that I met the gentlemen anyway, even though they wanted so nicely to keep us apart. Anna and I stayed for a long time on the lovely forest meadow; it was gorgeous, the evening sun made everything golden. Anna had her little slate along so we could converse with each other. She enjoyed the walk I took with her very much.

September 27, 1905

Anna and I sat on tree stumps outside the village. Two Polish Jewish men came along the road and asked me about the way to the village K. I told them the right way. Because of my dark hair and eyes they thought I was also an Israelite, which evoked an indescribable exclamation from Anna when I wrote it on her slate.

Oct. 3, 1905

Anna is gone again. We girls are practicing the songs "Gott ist Getreu" (God is Faithful) and "Harre meine Seele" (Trust, my soul, trust in the Lord) to sing to the Grandmother in the house (Mrs. Horsch) for her birthday. The Master and Mistress (Michael Horsch and his wife) are on a trip; also the Claassens are gone to L. to Martha's parents. Martha also went along and will not be coming back here since she is dispensable here and at home her mother needs her to help with the 12 sisters and brothers. It seemed to me that Martha felt a little penitent toward me anyway; also Mrs. Claassen was humble (or gracious) toward me. Grollebas (Aunt Grolle) told her something about me. Since we girls were unsupervised we decided - Aunt Grolle strongly confirmed us in doing it - to sing a farewell song for Mr. B. who will leave tomorrow for always. Sister A. told him about our plans and he came with great delight to hear the song: "Ich möchte Heim" (I Desire to go Home). I often had to play this song for him when he was so homesick. He then told all of us "Lebewohl!" (Farewell)

Oct. 5, 1905

It is nice that both of the apprentices could have such a nice ending to their stay here. That was also the "revenge of fate", for not only did we honor Mr. B. at a farewell, but we were also in the "Corner Room" again to practice when Mr. St. came in. "Aunt" Grolle, whom the girls say has been very friendly to the gentlemen, immediately extended her hand to him in greeting, and encouraged by this, he extended his hand to me. He seemed very happy that he could be here in the Corner Room undisturbed one more time, and Sister Anna explained to him that we had sung a farewell song for his colleague and would also like to sing one for him. We sang "Weicht ihr Berge" (Fall you Mountains). He, like Mr B., had tears in his eyes and thanked us heartily. I said again that it was very nice that now their last day here was so pleasant after things happened so that it was full of rumor and insult in the summer. No lack of love or falsehood can take away from me the idea that a child of God should see a soul for whom Jesus died in every person, and that one should deal in that way with our "neighbor". A young woman does not need to be motivated by such motives as they accused me of. Also, yesterday Babette came from Niedelsbach so I again have a congenial companion, but B. is ill. On Monday she will go with me to Würzburg to consult a doctor for advice. Her aunt in N. sent her home to recover.

Oct. 8, 1905 - Classens came yesterday; because of the birthday tomorrow they shortened their visit in L. Mrs. Claassen acts very embarrassed toward me. Her sister in L. probably told her about the letter and that humbled her. We practiced the songs for the birthday with Mrs. Claassen and Gröllebas' daughter who came along yesterday. And tomorrow we will go to Würzburg.

Oct. 9, 1905 - Würzburg. The first day in the lovely city on the Main, and what have I already experienced! This morning I rode here with the two M (Michael Horsch and his wife?) and Ernstle, as well as Babette H. A congenial visiting together in the morning, then B. had to go to the doctor. Frieda went to F's (Fellmanns?) to get advice about a doctor for B. Mrs. F. immediately offered to go with B. and for this reason I went with B. to F's since she did not know the way. We were greeted by the mistress of the house and taken into the living room. The oldest son of the house also came and greeted us. He walked around the room restlessly until his mother came and went with B. Mrs. F. told me which stopping place of the electric street car I should wait for B's return.

October 11, 1905 - Today there was a large "coffee gathering" at our place (Heinrich and Friedas?) There were 15 of us, and the main guest was Anna from R. who is here with her sister at the time. Yesterday we made a visit there and there it was decided that today Anna would be brought here in her wheelchair and stay until evening. And that is what happened, and it was very nice. Anna's niece and nephew, four children of van der Smisens and four from Fr. were the other guests. In the evening B. and I accompanied Anna back to the A. Street, Heinrich pushed Anna. It was like a fairytale to go along the brightly lighted streets in this way. Coming back we rode on the electric streetcar, which for Ernstle and me was a special enjoyment, since yesterday I rode on one of them for the first time. Progress of the modern times.

October 14, 1905 - Visited Emma H. today; she came home with me. On the way I delivered the umbrella at F. and since I met Mr. R. I thanked him again, but he said: "It was nothing". The G (Gelshsheimers?) were here today and took B. and Ernstle along. Grollebas (Aunt Grolle) and her daughter Luise came along. I am a good friend of the latter. I slept at van der Smisens, where it is very nice. Aunt M. is on a trip so I took her place.

October 15, 1905 - I explored the city with Luise. Tomorrow she and her mother are traveling home.

October 18, 1905 - This morning I rode with the two to the train station; in the afternoon I celebrated sick Daniel's birthday at the van der Smisens. As I was going home, Mr. R. caught up with me. He was very friendly. Took a long walk with H. (Heinrich?)

October 22, Gelchsheim - It is Sunday and I am at home again since Thursday. I rode with Mr. and Mrs. Cl (Claassen?) who had been visiting in Würzburg. Sister A. came on Thursday morning to my surprise and delight; she was on her way through, had unexpectedly been called to Th. in Württemberg. She wanted to tell me good-bye and at the same time to announce visitors for Claasens (or to announce Classens's visit). In the afternoon I rode with her to the train station; in the afternoon I stopped at the A. Street at Anna from Reichenberg's home. I found her in the process of tasting a jug of sweet cider (or wine). I slipped behind her chair and covered her eyes. She yelled out loud; that was fun. Since her back was turned to the door she did not see me come in. So we sat together by the jug of cider and could hardly keep from laughing as Anna's brother-in-law and Classens came in. After I had shown Claasens the way to van der Smisens, I hurried to Heinrich and Friedas to get Alfred's violin, which I delivered on the way to visit a sick school chum on the same street. As I stood with Mrs. F. in the hall, S came in at the front door from the gymnasium.

Was very sick at home, had fever. Where could it have come from?

Nov. 17, 1905, continued

that all of the buttonholes were visible, and the whole assembly laughed. This was my first conference which I attended, and I liked it very much. Lisa and I were both happy that we were together again. During the intermission we walked around in the town and Lisa told things that left me astonished. She had recently received a letter from Mr. Eberhardt in G, her former fiancée; he again wants Lisa, since he hopes to be able to win out over his father's pride of money (he is a rich farmer). So Lisa is now in a state of happy excitement. Will things still work out right for these two, even though the outlook is not so?

Nov. 19, 1905, Sunday - Würzburg

Went to the worship services in pouring rain. Pastor F spoke about following Jesus. I went home with Heinrich. Mr. Oscar with his colleague N., a jolly Pfälzer (a person from the Palatinate) accompanied us for a little way. Oscar promised to come and take a walk with Heinrich and Frieda. He did come and drank coffee with us, holding little Lieschen (Elisabeth Borchers) on his knee, feeding the little one very nicely to our amusement. Then the child had to show its accomplishment: being able to walk alone. She tried this venture for the first time today. Heinrich wrote into his diary with three exclamation marks: Elisabeth walks alone!!! So I must do it, too. When the three had gone I entertained the little one with looking out of the window; saw cousin Peter coming, who already had greeted me happily this morning. I welcomed the good cousin happily; I would not be so alone after all. He liked it; he likes to come into "our" nice home. At a given time he had to be back in the L. School, and so I still was alone for quite a long time before Heinrich and Frieda came home in the darkness and fog.

Nov. 29, 1905

Uncle is deathly sick. Everyone is anxious and concerned about him. Lisett said to me, when I asked about the dear sick one: "O, we still need our father so very much!" She meant by this that God would keep him living. One hopes and prays for this. Visitors were here: Mr. and Mrs. v.d. Smissen and F. They visited Uncle. I gave Pastof F. (Fellman?) a note for "ours" in Würzburg. They had also taken the opportunity to send one to us. A letter was written to the unsuspecting Peter in the L. School (in Würzburg) and when Uncle's condition worsened, they also telephoned him. Uncle from Rottmannshart also came; this morning I was in the castle. After I had greeted Uncle (from Rottmannshart) and also was with the sick one, who was sleeping, I left again. As I was going over the bridge, the carriage came with cousin Peter. I stepped to the side to get out of the way; he raised his hat in greeting. I had to think: What a contrast! In Würzburg he left me so happy and mischievous, and now this serious situation. Since the oldest son died (Hans is in America) Peter is the support of his parents and his homecoming is a serious situation for him. The entire castle household has a sorrowful demeanor, everyone in the yard and house goes around quietly.

Dec. 1, 1905

God be thanked and praised, Uncle's illness is waning; the danger is past. Everyone is relieved. I was in the castle, was also taken into the sickroom. The patient was sleeping the sleep of convalescence. Uncle from Rottmannshart visited with me in whispers. Peter was also present; he later accompanied me into the dining room, where the cousins were all congregated, all of them so very happy that the great concern was averted. We sat and stood in the large window niche, I in the middle; it was very nice going together. Peter accompanied me a little ways, I was to give a greeting to someone, which I faithfully did, and also reported minutely everything that had happened in the castle.

Dec. 5, 1905 -

Uncle from Rottmannshart left again, he was with Mother several times. She was happy to see him again, even though each time she thinks it will be the last time. When he said "good-bye" he said, with tears in his eyes, pointing to me, "There stands a reason for thanks." He was very much surprised to find me so well and healthy, a big contrast to formerly, especially his last visit last year. Yes, he is right that I am a reason for thanks, oh, if I am only really thankful as I should be.

Dec. 10, 1905

Already the second Advent Sunday. I was at the worship service in Giebelstadt today. Mr. Claassen preached on Matt. 1: 21. The sermon was earnest and nice. This was the first time I had heard this missionary preach. He is a very able man. Mrs. Claassen can be very happy that she can call such a man her own. Uncle is feeling better and better, even though it goes slowly. Peter went back to Würzburg today by way of Giebelstadt. Elise was also in Giebelstadt and as she and I stood on the steps of the "Aunt House", he went into the church. He laughed and tipped his hat, and looked our way again before he disappeared through the door. Both of us laughed. When saying good-bye he made a comical face, the roughest. Elise's sister Kathrine is at home for a visit; that is a happiness.

Dec. 17, 1905

The third Sunday in Advent. Today we found out from Mr. Eberhardt, who got together with his Lisa in Würzburg, that Lisa's brother-in-law, the jolly master of the house in Reichenberg, has disappeared. They are afraid it is mental derangement. What a mourning that is. Mr. M. and H.H., Lisa's and Mrs. Lene's brother, drove to R. right away today to give advice. As I was with Ernstle to tell him some stories, Elisabeth got me since cousin Jakob with H. Hodek had come to ask me to practice Christmas songs with them. I was long ago asked to play the harmonium in the castle on Christmas Eve, since nobody in the house knows this noble skill. This is also their first Christmas without their oldest, so I am to help to fill this big void at least to a small extent. Heinrich liked to sing and sang well, so we want to sing the same songs which he always selected and accompanied himself. So we practiced hard this evening. Elisa and L. sett went with me as companions and since it was Sunday they had permission to go. Mrs. M. was happy to give it to them. On the way home we had a merry time in the starlight.

Dec. 20, 1905

Every evening the entire past week the cousins have come after me to go to sing. At a designated time they stood at the gate of the yard with their lantern. I looked out of the window for the signal, then I flew down the stairs and out to the citadel. Today a letter from Anna from Reichenberg arrived. They believe firmly that the faithful Lord will bring their Heinrich home again. She enclosed a note that told me that Lisa and Mr. Eberhardt are very happy that the wedding will still take place. One wishes God's blessing for that.

Dec. 25, 1905

First day of Christmas. All of the confusion and joy of the Holy Evening is over. Christmas - what splendor and joy that word includes. I was richly showered with presents from all sides. What gave me the greatest happiness among my presents is an interesting book from dear Mother. She knew that I would be happiest about this, since I had very much regretted that this book, which I had formerly possessed, was lost by loaning it to others. I want to describe Christmas Eve in more detail. First "ours" (Heinrich and Frieda) came with the darling little Elisabeth and the friend from H. Lisele is simply so amusing. At the distribution of the presents she was first beside herself with joy over the many lighted candles on the tree; then, when I went through the room to answer Elise's call, she sat very tired on her father's knee. Elisa told me that cousin Jakob with Christel was standing above on the stairs waiting for me to come; I hurried as fast as I could to go along with them.

Dec. 25, 1905 - continued

Jakob had his lantern along and so we went merrily and briskly to the Castle, where we had to wait in another room until cousin Peter had finished the preparations for the Christmas room. Finally the door was opened; everything was decorated beautifully in the Christmas room and in every possible place a candle had been set. The Harmonium stood in the large niche, beautifully entwined with pine greens, and everywhere where they would not be in the way, candles had been set up. The cousins stood around my chair, Tinele, who to my great happiness and companionship was also there, squeezed into the corner of the niche. And then the singing began with my accompaniment. It went perfectly. We were only sorry that Uncle could not come down from his room and so was absent from the celebration. I received a lovely pincushion made of red velvet, a little white dog on it in a sitting position, and there was great amusement when I thought cousin Peter had become confused with the many presents and had given me a toy, since only the head of the puppy looked out of the wrapping. All of the cousins accompanied me home. Tinele lighted our way for a little ways, but since we were being watched through the windows by certain inquisitive occupants of some houses in the village, Jakob, at Peter's suggestion, blew out the lantern, and as if at a command the two cousins took my arms on both sides in order to bring me safely home in the darkness. We merrily arrived at the Hof where the lights from the windows lighted our way. While cousins Peter and Jakob said goodbye to me with a lot of teasing, Heinrich H. stood on the bench in front of the house and looked through the window at the colorful gay gathering and the Christmas splendor in the room. I had to laugh when I thought of how the two gallant cousins brought me home. If cousin Lisette had seen that?! She who is so concerned about us young girls. But she does not have to have any fear concerning me. - - - That was a lovely Christmas Eve for me, especially when I thought back to last Christmas, how wretched that one was for me, and because of that for everyone. Yes, how much I have to be thankful for. My past life seems to me like a bad and difficult dream, and no one else can really know fully how I feel that I am well now. It feels to me as though I am first beginning to live. O, that I may live a life that will be pleasing to my Saviour and will redound to his honor who also for me

Came destitute to this earth

Taking pity on me

So that I might in heaven

Become like his loving angels.

December 26, 1905 - Second Christmas Day

All 16 of the Louisgarder children are here. The house is full from the bottom to the top. All of us girls were at the gift distribution in the children's school and after that we went to the castle. Cousin Peter teased us a lot about our shawls, which he had hidden on top of the cupboard until he finally took pity on our vain search for these "warmers" in the cold, and brought them down.

Dec. 29, 1905

Today the house is empty and quiet again; the Louisgard children went home, also Heinrich's friend left. Little Elisabeth is so darling; she calls me "Mamma". In general she is early in learning to talk. She really enjoys being with her Grandmother; we put her up onto the bed and the dear Grandmother is so very happy over her granddaughter. Frieda gave me a letter from her mother to read; she feels so very sorry for the Reichenbergers; It is really an unexpressible sorrow, the uncertainty about where Johannes is. We especially think about his wife, Lene. Anna wrote very sadly to me; what a disconsolate, dark Christmas!

Dec. 31, 1905

The last day of the old year. How much of difficulty, but also how much help, love, and goodness and faithfulness from our Jesus ^{we} were allowed to experience in the past year. What will the coming one bring? It is good that this is hidden from our eyes.

New Year, 1906

The new year has begun. Last night the five girls from the house were in the castle to wait for the striking of 12 o'clock and then to sing under the windows. I woke up over the singing. It was the song, "Now thank we all our God". It sounded very pretty. The cousins from the castle have good voices. Elisabeth brought me two "good wishes" cards from cousin Lisett. She means well and is so loving to me. I received a lot of New Years cards of all kinds in the mail, among them even a letter from Milli. How lovingly she writes. If all of the nice, good wishes are fulfilled, then I will again have a good new Year.

January 2, 1906

This afternoon Michael Horsch and Heinrich came back from a trip to F (France?) where they searched for Johannes from Reichenberg. Unfortunately their efforts were in vain. If only light will finally come into this dark situation! I answered Mill's letter, correcting what she had heard about me which isn't true. She herself wrote that I would be surprised what all she knew. It would be nice in many ways if what she had heard about me would come true, that I would soon become a Würzburgerin. I will wait patiently to see what will happen.

January 4, 1906

Yesterday morning Heinrich and Frieda with the darling little one left for Würzburg. Adolf also went along and will travel to the institution from there. I was still in bed when they made their farewell. I heard the little one crying frightfully. Elisabeth explained to us that the little one was crying because she had to go into the dark carriage instead of where she had thought she would be going. And Ernstle, who is always so disdainful of girls, but puts up with anything from little Elisabeth (or enjoys everything little Elisabeth does) was also sorry like I that she had left. From Anna from Reichenberg I received a letter in which she thanked me for the things I had sent her and her sister. How sad things are in the usually cheerful Reichenberg, where I experienced such nice days.

January 7, 1906 - Sunday

I was alone with dear Mother this morning since Elisabeth went to Giebelstadt to the worship service. Mother has a difficult day today. I experienced all kinds of things this Sunday. The Christmas tree in the large room downstairs was covered for the last time with its sparkling vestment. Ernstle came to get me for it. I had the honor of sitting on the sofa beside Mrs. Horsch; Mrs. Claassen accompanied the songs that we sang on the harmonium. How different everything is for me compared to last year; at that time I was cut off from all of the Christmas festivities by my condition. How much I have to be thankful for. After the celebration downstairs, we two sisters also lit the candles on our Christmas tree for the last time. A singular feeling came over me as we watched as one light after another went out. How will things be when Christmas comes again? Elisabeth brought me a letter from the deaf and dumb Anna B. from Giebelstadt. She thanks very much for the card from me and also writes some other things in her peculiar broken language. At her wish I read the letter to Mother and she laughed heartily with me over it. Mr. Eberhardt, who acted as driver for the carriage to Giebelstadt today, stayed there with his bride. Now there will soon be a wedding. If only things were not so sad in Reichenberg.

January 8, 1906

Was in the castle; Mariele was very happy again at my coming. I sang with her to the accompaniment on the Harmonium; that is a ray of sun in Mariele's sad life. "Sunbeam for the Lord" that song says; that applies for me, too.

Jan. 10, 1906

I am alone again today with Mother; Elisabeth went to Würzburg with Aunt Horsch and Mrs. M. Horsch to the prayer meeting. Yesterday evening I went with Elise Hodel in the moonlight and wind to the castle to deliver a message to the relatives there. We had a merry conversation about something that Elisa heard in G. Today I had to go to the castle again to tell them something, that Jacob by telephone had asked whether he could stay longer in Würzburg. But he has to come home today to accompany Adolf, his youngest brother to the Institut W. (Würzburg?) The little boy could not find his way on the trip, rode a long stretch wrong and since it was too late to go to Würzburg, he then walked the hour long way home in the biggest mud and darkness. Adolf will probably not like that, because in Würzburg it is indeed nice. I wonder whether he will tell about Würzburg when I can also hear it. But I don't need to know everything.

Jan. 12, 1906

Yesterday morning I awoke thinking that I would be alone again with dear Mother. But she told me what happened in the night. Elisabeth rode home again last night with the others from the castle. When they got to O. (Ochsenfort?) the mailcoach was full, but the two little boys could still find room, since the cousins were so gallant as to go by foot in heavy rain and mud as far as Ollingen, where cousin Fritz was waiting with the hunting wagon to meet them. Elisabeth got off at the gate, but the house was locked and she had to walk the long way around the yard to Mr. Eberhardt's window, whom she awakened by knocking, and who opened the door for her. Happily in the house, she found our door also locked, since we expected Elisabeth the next day. She did not want to awaken us, so she found a piece of bread for her great hunger down in the kitchen, then she went into Aunt H (Horsch?) room where she lay down on the sofa and slept well there. On the way there things also happened badly: first they missed the train at noon in Ochsenfort, had to wait 3 hours, but they fortunately still got to the church services in time in Würzburg. In the second place, Elisabeth left her purse with her money in Ochsenfurt in the waiting room. The shock was great when she found this out. At the train station in Würzburg, Mrs. van der Smitten telephoned to Ochsenfurt. There the purse had already been discovered and put into a safe place, so she could get it again in the evening. Yesterday was the death date of Uncle's oldest son. So he has already been "above" for one year. What a difficult time that was at that time. With Elise and Tina, who had the children with them, I went through the meadow and over the brook to the castle yesterday. The back door of the house was locked when we got there. Tina went around the corner to the kitchen window, but nobody heard her, but cousin Jakob, who was looking out of his upstairs window, who was so gracious and opened the door for us. So we happily went into the house where Aunt greeted us in a friendly manner. In the living room Adolf was busy taking the decorations off the Christmas tree. At the request of the relatives I again stayed with Mariele; the girls went home. Lisette also took me to see Uncle, who gave me the photograph of his dead son for us to have as a remembrance of him.

Jan. 13, 1906

With Tina and the two children in a wagon I went down the street today. Ernstle with two robust horses, who had the appearance of two unruly boys, hitched with the new harness received at Christmas, ran ahead. On the way we took along his school friend Hugo, who wanted to follow the team. In the grass I found a large key, and Hugo said this belonged to the teacher here, who had looked for it for a long time. She was at his mother's home. On the way back Tina looked in at the window of Hugo's home while Hugo delivered the key. Miss Teacher confirmed that it was her key and thanked us very much, saying if only I had found it sooner! She had had a new one made, but it certainly didn't hurt that she now had two. She added that I was getting red cheeks; it was time that I did. At the present time I spend a lot of time in the gable room at the Harmonium. Mother says that up there is my sanctuary, and she is right, that's how it is. Sang the hymn today, "Nearer, still Nearer" which I sang so often with Mrs. Lene in Reichenberg.

January 15, 1906 - Today toward evening I visited Mrs. Administrator (the wife of the administrator at the Gelchsheimer Hof) to help take away the lonesomeness for her. Our conversation centered around Reichenberg, where her husband is for the time being taking the place of the missing man of the house. It is now five weeks, and still the complete uncertainty. After this visit I went into the children's room, where Elise has to be in bed because of a bad cold. I was able to be helpful to Mrs. Claassen when the little ones were put down for their naps. At 7:00 the two M. Horschs came with Mr. van der Smissen from Würzburg.

January 16, 1906 - I read the verse John 2: 4 in the daily devotional book. Today is grandmother's death day. Even though we never knew her personally, she still became dear to us through Mother's stories about her. I went to the spring and got some water. Cousin Jakob came from the woods and startled me and little Heins, who was with me. Then the two of them climbed up onto the house-high straw stack in the meadow. Jakob stood on the highest peak. His silhouette stood out sharply and distinctly from the bright evening sky, and from his high spot he talked with me, naturally in a whisper. He was then so galant as to carry my water jug, also gave me his hand for support in the deep mud at the ridge (between the fields). In the castle we sat relaxed by the firelight from the large stove and I could recover from my fright which the yard dog had instilled in me as we went over the bridge. I am always being teased by the cousins about the great respect I have for their mighty fourfooted guards. In the Mission Hour with Mrs. Claassen, Mrs. Horsch told me that she was to deliver the message to me from Aunt H. that I should go to Reichenberg, maybe I could comfort and cheer Lene a little in her great sorrow. Tomorrow a carriage will be going to O (Ochsenfort?) to the train, so I could have suitable opportunity. So in a hurry it was decided that I would go to Würzburg tomorrow with Mr. Van der Smissen and from there to Reichenberg.

January 17, 1906 Würzburg - Today trip to O (Ochsenfort?), Mr. Van der Smissen my companion to the corner of Rückert St. In front of Nr. 13 Heinrich came toward me to his big surprise. He went back with me and rang the door bell 3 times, as he always does, so that Frieda would think he had come back, then he went on to the Police station to report their hired girl, who had several hours ago with Anna from Bockschaft. As I went up the stairs, Frieda stood under the hall door and the surprise on her face was really comical. She called for Anna and little Lisele to come, and then it was really a happiness. Lisele said countless times, "Lena!" Later Anna and I sat together on the sofa and Anna said she was happy about my coming. I had thought today, "If only Selma were here. Now that wish has been fulfilled."

January 18, 1906 - Drew the verse: 2 Chronicles 25: 8 from my little scripture chest. @God has power to help! Frieda wants to go with me today to Reichenberg. For the situation there the verse fits. With Anna from Bockschaft I made purchases today in town. On the way the youngest from Reichenberg met us. He is fat and rosy! He exchanged a few words with us. The daughter of the teacher of Gelchsheim also met us, and Hedwig, my former school companion said, "If we want to meet each other, we have to come to Würzburg." When we then came home, Lisele was undescribably happy with the little lamb that I had brought along for her.

Reichenberg, January 18, 1906, evening. What all has happened since this morning! At 2 o'clock Frieda and I drove here. We came ~~unnoticed~~ up the mountain stairs into the house unnoticed. A peculiar feeling came over me as I walked into the house in that way. The four cousins sat in the living room and were very much surprised as we came. Anna especially was happy to see us. We then sat down together. Mrs. Lene cried a lot. What grief there was in the usually cozy Reichenberg. As we sat at the evening meal at 5:30 there was a loud knock at the door; I thought immediately: "Now something unusual is coming!" And I was right. The daughter of the teacher came with a telegram. Mrs. Lene was to read it. It came from Berlin and said that Johannes had been found there by the police and apprehended; they want to know whether he really is the resident of Reichenberg. Mrs. Lene immediately went to

January 18, 1906, continued -

the teacher's home to compose the answer with him. They are to keep Johannes; his wife will come and get him. Everywhere, in the house and in the yard there was great joy over the solution to this puzzle and grief. Lene rode with Frieda to Würzburg to go from there with her brother-in-law Hege to Berlin. Thanks and praise be to God that this uncertainty has an end. Anna told me that today at my unexpected appearance she had to think: "When the little wild rose comes, that indicates something more."

January 19, 1906 - Last night I slept with Lisa in Lena and Johannes' bedroom. A violent storm raged around the house. It was really horrible to listen to it. The storm was at its worst just at the time that Mrs. Lene was to leave the train station in Würzburg with Mr. Hege. In the morning when I was combing my hair, Anna came into the room and carried on a conversation with me about Lisa's fiancée. When everything is all right again here in the house, Lisa will be allowed to openly announce her engagement. After the meal we three sat together and happily chatted with each other. Before I made my farewell, I drew a verse from me from Anna's little chest: Josiah 1: 9

Würzburg, evening of January 19, 1906 - This afternoon in Reichenberg, Lisa went with me to the train station. On the way we visited Mrs. Schaub. Anna from Bockschaft was at the train station to meet me when the train with which I came arrived here at the train station. As we got to the R Str. the van der Smitten daughters were there to visit both of us. We sat down comfortably around the table and enjoyed the confections Anna offered us. Later Anna and I sat on the sofa and had a talk about old maids. Then at the last everyone read by lamplight.

January 20, 1906 - With Anna and Lisele in the wagon I took a walk along the Main River. Heinrich met us as he came from the Gymnasium. He and Anna went ahead of us. I was so tired and for that reason walked slowly. If only something would come and take me along, I thought; but that, or rather, that one, naturally did not come.

January 21, 1906 - With Anna at the worship services in the Stephan Church. The Dekan (Dean) gave a good sermon on Romans 5: 1-5, about the glory of the Christian life and the power of the gospel which gives the true Christian courage and strength to forsake everything for Christ's sake and to endure the worst difficulties in following Jesus. In the afternoon we two, with the little child along, took walks, later, towards evening, the van der Smitten daughters came and brought me from a letter from home, the contents of which was that on Wednesday there would be an opportunity for me to come home by way of Wittighausen.

Gelchsheim, January 24, 1906 - Rode to Wittighausen (?) with Anna of Rottmannshart. It was very nice on the way. We two were alone in a compartment. As the train passed Reichenberg, we let our handkerchiefs flutter out the window as long as the castle was in sight, hoping that someone up there on the height would notice. But the dear Reichenbergers had no idea who was on the train which was going past just then. The handkerchiefs were frozen when we pulled them in again, which wasn't very comfortable for our noses. In Wittighausen the carriage was already standing there waiting. It was then a very cold trip to here, we had to cry involuntarily since the cold drew the tears from our eyes and we said in amusement that because we hadn't cried willingly at the farewell in Würzburg we were now forced to cry. Arriving at home, it was nice to again be at home and Anna also was very happy about her visit to her sister here. Elise Hodel unfortunately is still confined to her room; she had been very sick. I also visited Mrs. Administrator (The administrator's wife). I had a lot to tell her about Reichenberg.

January 25, 1906, Gelchsheim - Received a letter from Anna in Reichenberg today. Considering the circumstances, her brother is getting along well. Naturally he is emotionally very upset. He told them that he often stood in the train station in Berlin to go home, but then the heavy struggle and the fear came over him again so that he did not dare to come back. They assume that in Berlin he could not collect his thoughts. I reported to Canstatt how it is with Johannes, the prayer petitions there also helped that Johannes was found. At that time Mrs. Osteritter wrote Psalm 91 for the Reichenbergers.

January 27, 1906, Gelchsheim - Yesterday I celebrated Mrs. Vorwalter's birthday (The Vorwalter means the manager of the Hof, so this would be his wife.) at her home with Chr. Marie, who constantly made us laugh. Vorwalters had received a large cake for the celebration from her sisters in Reichenberg.

January 28, 1906 - Sunday. This afternoon, we - a large carriage full - drove to Louisgarde. Anna from Bockschaft, Lisette H., the children, Christi M, Tina and I, even Miss Teacher was along. As Tina asked to be excused from the Sunday School because she wanted to go to Louisgarde, Miss Teacher said that she would also like to go along. So she got into the carriage at the schoolhouse, leaving her students with the order they were not to leave school earlier than 1:30, so that the minister who lives nearby would not notice anything about her leaving. It was very nice in Louisgarde, the 16 children were all together, since Lisett was also with us. On the way home we had a merry time. We sat so comfortably in the sheltering carriage and outside it was dark. Miss Teacher gave a loud cry each time when it jolted or when we went over a little ditch in the forest, through which we had to drive for quite a ways two times. At the very last something very annoying happened to her. As she stepped out of the carriage at the schoolhouse where the coachman had stopped, the horses started up again too soon and she fell off the step into the deepest mud in the street. We had to leave her to her misfortune, what else could we in the carriage have done? At home there was laughter when we told about this adventure, naturally we were also afraid that Miss Teacher might have hurt herself in her fall. For this reason Elisabeth went to see about her, but she found everything dark in the schoolhouse, but in the parental house of little Hugo she saw through the windows a large, merry social gathering, Miss Teacher also there. So it did not hurt her.

January 29, 1906 - Toward evening Anna from B. and I made a visit to Miss Teacher to find out how she was getting along. She was very happy about our visit, laughed about yesterday; naturally the fall gave her a large laundry to do. Added to the fright about the fall another one was added. As she went into her house a fellow followed her as she went into her yard, and she was just barely able to push the house door shut and lock it. It was probably another prank of the afore mentioned rascal. Miss Teacher served us Makroni and strong wine, which to her amusement made us hot and dizzy. On the way home we almost got stuck in the deep mud of the street and Anna and I still laughed a long time about our getting tipsy. That's the way it goes when one visits such people. I doesn't happen that way every day or I wouldn't write it into my diary.

February 4, 1906, Sunday - I'm alone again with dear Mother. Elisabeth rode along to Giebelstadt to the worship services. Elise H. (Hodel?) and I went out to the road at noon to meet the returning carriage. It was nice out there, the fresh air, the snowy landscape in the sunshine. Since the time stretched out so long before the awaited ones came, we sought shelter behind a huge snowbank with the children's carriage (wagon?) Finally the carriage came into sight. We then loaded the other children in with those sitting in the carriage and followed slowly on foot. Uncle's from the castle also rode past us in the Horsch coach, which they got this morning, since their carriage broke down for them just outside the village. A wheel came off and the carriage sank gently to the ground with those sitting inside, so that they could step out without being hurt. It could have turned out much worse. In the afternoon I was in the castle, played the harmonium and the others sang.

February 5, 1906 - Anna from Bockschaft went home again today. Mr. Administrator is home again from Reichenberg. They do not need him anymore since Johannes is getting along well. He called greetings from Anna in Reichenberg down from his window to me. She is happy now again, as I think she would be.

February 7, 1906 - Today, as I do every morning, I read to Mother from the Watchword book. The words in it became a comfort to me. Joshua 1: 5 - "I will be with thee; I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee." Mark 11:24 - "Therefore I say unto you, all things whatsoever ye pray and ask for, believe that ye have received them, and ye shall have them." The last words especially made me think that today S. has a birthday. Are they perhaps the answer in the thing which again and again drives me to the attic room to pray. In the afternoon I was in the castle. On the way there, as I crossed the bridge H.H. (Heinrich Hodel?) met me, who gave me a message for Elise Hodel, his sister, who had a birthday yesterday, and who, in addition is a patient again. I said to her yesterday, whether a birthday wish hadn't come yet from a certain person. She protested that he wouldn't think of it. Today at twilight I was with her and she told me that I was right anyway because little Gottfried brought her mail from the office downstairs, and it was the birthday greeting I had expected. What a lovely one! And how cleverly it was done so that none of the initiated can guess it. The whole thing made me very happy, and I wish from the heart that the two will not have too many stones put in their way. But there is a long time for that yet. It is good that Lisette H. does not know anything about this card, we have to be very careful because L.H. has all sorts of ideas about this certain someone, which are not true to fact. The most aggravating thing is that L.H. talks about it, in addition in such a way as if ^{what} she hopes is something completely certain. She also confided in Anna from Bockschaft who told it to me and would not let me contradict it. If only something unpleasant will not happen.

February 14, 1906 - Yesterday a card from the mail was laid into my room for me, and as I looked at it, I saw it was from Anna, who made a nice trip by sled to Giebelstadt and is staying there several days, as she wrote. There is a happy note in the words, and the card a lovely rosecard. I wrote a long letter to Anna and a merry one to Lisa. Lenchen will take both of them to G (Giebelstadt?) tomorrow.

February 22, 1906 - I have experienced a number of things since I last wrote in this diary. On Sunday Lisa from G. came here with Lisa from R. to my great surprise because I did not think that she would risk coming here before her public engagement. I saw her on Sunday only from the window. On Monday I met Elise in the hall and asked her why L.H. cried so much. Elise confided to me that in G. Lisett had heard from her sisters that for them in Louisgarde there would be great changes. Her father, because of his health and debts can no longer be a renter there. For that reason the older children have to go to other people. The younger children and the parents will stay there. M. Horsch and his brother-in-law have taken over the estate (or farm) and are having it farmed by a manager. And this manager is Everhardt, Lisa's fiancée! - - I was very surprised by such information and Mother and Elisabeth also. On the day that I found this out, Lisa visited me and she told me the same thing but under the strictest order to keep it secret. She is very happy that things have worked out so pleasantly for her.

February 24, 1906 - Lisa went home again to R. (Reichenberg?). There will also be great surprise and happiness there over what Lisa will have to tell about her future prospects.

March 7, 1906 - Since three days ago we have the loveliest spring weather. I spent a lot of time outdoors alone and also with Tina and Elise. Yesterday we were discovered by Uncles who were hanging up laundry on the ridge by the large garden. Then it was merrily over the brook with galant cousin Jakob's help, who in his shirtsleeves was gathering willows. We sat on the bench by the wall. Today I sat alone on a tree stump in the meadow. I could not get enough of looking at the blue sky, against which the ravens who were flying over me cawing, contrasted gleamingly black. Larks trilled in the air, also a bee buzzed around me. I sat sunk in thoughts. Last year in the spring, how sad things were for me, and now how much I have to be thankful for. - - Now I already have three little nieces. According to a letter, the third little niece arrived on February 10 in America. It is named Helene. If one could only carry around the little Americans also and play with them like with little Elisabeth in Würzburg. But the ocean is so wide that lies between us and them.

March 18, 1906 - Again lovely spring weather, although last Tuesday and Wednesday it snowed heavily. On Wednesday in the blowing snow a sled drove into the yard, in which a real snow coat sat, which unwrapped itself as Mr. Eberhardt from Louisgarde. On March 2 the open engagement announcement took place in G. and since then E. (Everhardt?) is in his position in L. (Louisgarde?). On March 3 the second daughter of Missionary Klaassen arrived here, named Maria. At first Leni could not quite accept this little crying being. (Leni was an older sister) Last Sunday Babettchen H. came from N. She wanted to stay only a few days, but her parents will keep her at home since she brought along a terrible cough. If only there is not a bad pulmanory disease (tuberculosis?) causing it. Yesterday we were in the meadow and there Babette found the first violets.

March 25, 1906 - Sunday - Everything is again covered with snow, it got that cold, like in winter. Our dear little mother is having a very difficult time. Yesterday was her 59th birthday, a sad day. But in God's Word I read yesterday, "He helps the weak gloriously." Mother's greatest joy and best birthday present is when things are going well for me. How difficult it was for her on her birthday last year in regard to me. The faithful Saviour carried us through that sorrow, he will do it through all of life.

March 30, 1906 - Today I went with Babettchen to the Castle. Tinele with little Leni was already there, and called to us from the window of the young Mr. Landes to come up there. So we obeyed that call to the "bachelor castle" and the occupant of it also came soon. The rogue soon had to leave since his sister Lisette came. I have noticed for some time that then (when his sister comes) he goes away from me. Well, it doesn't matter. Lisette is on the wrong track. After that Elise came from the children's school with the little ones. Peter must have seen her coming because he came into the room immediately after her. But he had to look for her because she was sitting behind his Spanish wall. It is difficult for him to conceal his happiness and the rest. We soon broke up. Peter left, Babette and Tinele parted from us at the bridge. Elise and I went by way of the meadow. I saw cousin Peter at the garden gate looking after us, then he disappeared in the background of the big castle garden where he got to work on the grapevine posts. He called witticisms to us as we appeared and as long as we could look through the leafless tree branches along the meadow path and down into the castle garden the banter went back and forth. Before we disappeared around the corner, he raised his cap at us and made a splendid bow. Then we heard him whistling merrily. In the evening Elisabeth also went to the castle and brought back the news that P (Peter?) had gotten a deep cut in his finger while pruning. In spite of that he was whistling loudly under the house door. I said to Elise, "Is it any wonder that he cut himself, the way his thoughts were 'on his work!'" - - - It was decided that I will go to Giebelstadt tomorrow and from there to Reichenberg and Würzburg.

April 30, 1906 - It is exactly four weeks that I have not written into this diary. How much has been experienced since then! I want to write it down in sequence. On April I rode to Giebelstadt. In the worship services Preacher F (Fellmann?) spoke about the battle of our Saviour in Gethsemane, how the dreadfulness of sin confronts us when we think of how Jesus had to suffer and struggle because of our sins. On the way to G. it was quiet because the wind disheveled us miserably. Mr. and Mrs. van der Smissen as well as the Big Ernst were also along. In Reichenberg the guests entertained themselves with singing and making music. Anna and I slipped away to Anna's room. Lisa had driven to L. (Louisgarde?) to look at her future home and to talk over everything important with her bridegroom. At 5 o'clock we drove to Würzburg. Ernst very gallantly carried my baggage for me, even in Würzburg clear to the house. As I rang the doorbell, Lina opened the door for me and I noticed immediately that my premonitions on the way had been fulfilled, because Heinrich also came near and said that Frieda was in bed and that a telegram was on the way to Mrs. Horsch in Gelchsheim, but the event was not yet close at hand. I had to go to Frieda immediately, and they were happy that I was there, especially Lisele, who soon recognized me. In the evening Mrs. M. came and later also Mrs. van der Smissen, who took me along to spend the night with them. Monday passed with suspense and anxiety. I took the child out riding a lot. In the evening dear Mrs. van der Smissen came to get me again. On April 3, Tuesday, as I came back from van der Smissens, I saw Heinrich restlessly pacing to and fro in front of the house. I could not surmise anything good, but he looked happy and told me that a moment ago a boy had arrived, he was waiting for the doctor because things were not going well for Frieda. I went upstairs with an anxious heart and sat in the kitchen until Mrs. M. came with Liesele and the command that I should take off my things, because I was sitting there with my hat and jacket on. I went into a room with the child until the doctor had gone, and I with Liesele could see the chubby, dark little brother. On all sides there was great joy over this heir because from all sides it had been prophesied he would be a girl. Frieda in her bed had to laugh about the happy father. She was, of course, very weak. Because of that Heinrich asked the headmaster for the morning off work. The Rector (headmaster) sent his maid with a congratulation card and the inquiry how things were going. Heinrich was very happy about the above mentioned interest that the gentleman showed. In the afternoon I made a round trip of the acquaintances to report the arrival of the heir. At F.'s (Fellmanns?) Alfred was looking out of the window, he came with big steps to me and was at first speechless with surprise as I told him that Lisele had a little brother. He then hurried to his father with the little girl, to announce the message and he (the father) then led me into the living room. Milli and her mother then came from the train station, the former came home from the Institute. She at first took me for someone else, then could not marvel enough over my darling little niece. On April 4 the grandmother from Bockschaft came. On April 5 Frau M. and I, with little Lisela, who had been entrusted into my care, rode to Gelchsheim. Before we had to leave Würzburg I still made a trip to town. As I was passing the F. house and stopped to talk to the two little Fellmanns who were in the street, a figure came around the corner; it was S., who stopped for a moment when he saw me and then disappeared into the house. Did he recognize me? - - - - - When we arrived at home in Gelchsheim there was a lot of joy over Lisele in the whole house. The child was also happy in her new environment. So the first day passed, then Lisele became sick; homesickness was no doubt the cause. Finally she got better. It was nice weather so I could go outside a lot with the child. On Good Friday I rode along to the worship services in Giebelstadt. After the services I saw Big Ernst standing with M.H. and our Adolf, all three of them had worried expressions on their faces. Adolf beckoned to me and said that Ernest had delivered a letter from Heinrich, the contents of which were that Frieda was deathly sick.

April 30, 1906, continued

That was a chock! M Horsches went to Würzburg yet the same day. In the evening Mr. M (Michael) came alone with the information that Frieda's illness was no worse. There was then a lot of telephoning back and forth and in the coming days, and after the Easter Days had passed with heavy hearts and worries, the reports began to sound more favorable. The danger mercifully passed. I had written to Canstatt and Mrs. Osteritter wrote so comfortingly, we should expect great things from the Lord for the Mother and children. During the Easter holidays we girls spent a lot of time in the little woods, the cousins and Big Ernst were also not absent from there. The last mentioned and Jakob made a big effort to win the affection of my little niece, they also achieved this, and everybody laughed when the little one said, "Ernst gloser" (grosser, meaning Ernst bigger.)

On April 28 in the evening as Lisele was waiting in her shirt for her turn to get a bath, Elisabeth looked in at the door of the children's room and said that Lisele's father had just come. The child heard him talking and went toward the door. However, when her father then stood in front of her, she didn't know him any more. Only gradually did the recognition come, she told him about all kinds of things, felt his glasses and mustache. He then sat beside her bed and one could not count the number of times the child said, "Papa!"

On Sunday, April 29, Missionary Klaassen served Holy Communion at Mother's bed. Heinrich also partook, and we others who had not had a chance to partake of the public celebration. - - - In Würzburg things are going well for Frieda, for that reason Heinrich had come to get his little Lisele. In the afternoon we, Babette and I, went with the child and Heinrich, to Würzburg in the carriage. The child was good, and shortened the long ride with her amusing chatter. What a vocabulary that one and a half year old has! In O (Ochsenfurt ?) as Heinrich with the child had found a place in a second class coach, the child began to cry when she noticed that "Aunt Memma" was remaining behind. I quickly closed the door of the coach, and my tears flowed also. If I could have, Heinrich would have taken me along, but they will get along without me also. On the way back Babette had really had an entertaining ride since three "elegant" ladies, relatives of the coachman, rode along.

May 2, 1906 - Yesterday evening a card arrived, which announced the favorable arrival of Heinrich with the child in Würzburg. The child still called "Tante Memma" several times in the train coach. At home she recognized her Mother again at once, but she is still not yet completely at home. She is very happy about the little brother.

May 13, 1906 - Sunday - I am alone with dear Mother; Elisabeth went to Würzburg for a visit. Lisa's wedding was May 8 in Giebelstadt. She had lovely weather for the wedding. 10 persons from here attended, but not I. I was happy about the lovely weather and that the guests enjoyed the celebration so much. As the wedding guests came driving up in the moonlight last night, Elise and I looked out of the window of our living room upstairs. Cousin Peter, who was along as bridal attendant, noticed us two and lifted his hat to us in greeting. Anna from Lautenbach and the sister of Mr. Eberhard also came along here. I spent a lot of time with these two ladies. We sat a lot in the garden, where the trees were covered with blossoms, and the wind showered us with white blossoms. Then another guest came, Oscar Fellmann. He took a May walk from Würzburg to here; left home at 2 o'clock in the night and arrived here in the afternoon. Anna from Lautenbach was not very enthusiastic about this visit and was even so impudent as to voice her anger over the guest in really vulgar expressions. It would have been better if she had refrained from that. She cannot change the fact

May 13, 1906 - Sunday, continued

that she did not get that person. She said that in L. (Lousgarde? Lautenbach?) they talk in reference to Oskar F. and his future bride only about a "boy's whim." Miss Eberhart, in contrast, found a lot of satisfaction in O.F. because for her he was an interesting conversationalist and even became her rescuer. Several days after Anna from L. (Louisgarde?) was gone, M. Horsch, with Miss Eberhardt and Oscar Fellmann drove to Louisgarde. Both of the last named sat across from each other on the back seats of the little carriage (or wagon). During the ride the seat on which Miss Eberhardt was sitting broke and she would have fallen down backwards and perhaps broken her neck if Oscar Fellmann had not, with great presence of mind, held her tight. It was a great fright for the passengers of the vehicle.

May 20, 1906 - Würzburg, Sunday

This morning I rode to Giebelstadt to the worship service. Preacher van der Smissen spoke on I Peter 5: 11. The Reichenbergers drove those of us who wanted to go to Würzburg to the train station at Geroldshausen. Rev. Fellmann was also along. He looked so very serious. In Würzburg I found a friendly welcome. Lisele was sleeping when I came, was very happy then when she awoke that I was there. I like Sister Lydia, who is still here to care for Frieda and little Gerhard, very much.

May 23, 1906 - Yesterday I was at the market with Lisele and Lina. I bought the child the first cherries, to her great delight. Today I took a walk with the child in the little wagon. Mrs. Lene from R. (Reichenberg?) was here and visited Frieda.

May 24, 1906 - Ascension Day - Was at the worship service with Heinrich and Sister Lydia. Preacher Fellmann had a serious sermon on Acts 5: 21, about the decision every person must face. He also talked about those near to us, how hard it is when one notices that they do not want to. I had to think about his son, whether perhaps he was thinking about him when he spoke these words. Mr. Fellmann looks so depressed. In the afternoon the van der Smissen daughters and Milli came. We took a walk along the Main, but a storm with rain soon drove us home. In the evening I sat on the sofa with Frieda and heard from her that "S" is not getting along well. That is probably why his father is so sad and it hurts me so, and S has no idea how sorry I am for him and how I would like to bring a ray of sunshine into his life. But he doesn't need me for that.

May 26, 1906 - I took a walk with Sister Lydia in the evening in the City Park. We sat under the tall, dark trees, were amused at the many couples who looked for private places. Sister Lydia is greeted repeatedly by gentlemen on the street. Yes, the Sister's bonnet! One can become attached to Sister Lydia. She is so dear and loving. Today she and I were at the Kapelle (chapel) with Heinrich. Lisele was also along. Up there on the summit it is very lovely. The peacefulness, the view of the town and surroundings, the ^{majestic} Planer trees, and the stone figures, depicting the way of suffering (stages to the cross) of our Saviour.

May 27, 1906 = Sunday. Heinrich and Sister Lydia were in the worship services and brought the news that the (Mrs) Schlüpferleinsmühler with their visitors are coming to see us. That made a large group together; the van der Smissen girls and Oscar Fellmann also came. In the evening Sister Lydia and I again took a walk to the Palace garden wall to hear the from a long time ago famous nightingale sing, about which Walter from the Vogelweide already sang, but we didn't hear anything. But a heavy, continuing rain surprised us on the way home, so that, in spite of the umbrella we got home dripping wet.

May 28, 1906 - This morning I was standing at the window with Lisele when I saw a town porter coming, who brought a suitcase and letter from M. Horsch, who with their son, Gottfried were here at the doctors because of an operation. They said they were coming for noon. Lisele was very happy when they later came. In the afternoon Marie, Frieda, and I took a walk with the children to the park. In the evening when we were sitting at supper, the door bell rang, I had gone into the kitchen to get somethings and as I walked along the hall, Lina opened the door and a young woman came in. It was Marie from L., Frieda's dearest friend. The joy was great. She came from the wedding of her brother.

May 29, 1906 - Horsch and I slept at the van der SmisSENS since there was no place for us any more at Heinrich and Friedas. In the morning Gottfried was operated on his throat. Everything went well. The little patient slept for hours, after they came to our place and put him to bed after the fear he had experienced. In the afternoon I visited Heges with Lisele. In the evening I sat in the parlor and read interesting accounts about the city parks, described exactly as I had personally observed them here.

May 30, 1906 - Mrs. Claassen came today. Mrs. M. will travel home this evening with Gottfried and Mrs. Claassen; I also want to go home. I stayed here after all. Before the woman left, Sister Lydia was told that she should go as soon as possible to a deathly sick patient in N. (Neustadt?) I made farewell visits with Sister Lydia in the evening to the relatives and acquaintances.

June 1, 1906 - Yesterday Sister Lydia left; now it is so empty here at our place. In the evening there was a severe thunder storm. We all sat in the living room until the danger was past. Today we have rainy weather; it makes me feel completely melancholy.

June 2, 1906 - Today things happened nicely. First Mr. M. Horsch came and said that he would take me home. Then I got ready to "vamoose". Heinrich protested against it, saying I should stay over Pentecost. But I wanted to go home and so at a designated time set out with Lisa who carried my baggage on the way to the electric train. As we neared this, Heinrich came the same way with a carriage from the train station, where he had been with Michael Horsch. He sprang out of the wagon and was very angry that I wanted to leave anyway, took the baggage from Lisa and set it so hard onto the ground that the dirt sprayed high. So we laughingly took up our things again and went back to R. Street, arriving there I sat down beside Frieda on the sofa and told her what had happened. Then little Elisabeth came and laid her head on my lap as if to say that it was right that I stayed.

June 3, 1906 - Pentecost. I am alone with the two children. Frieda went to the worship services for the first time today. It is lovely Pentecost weather. Today we had several guests for the noon meal; they are young women and men who attend instruction from out of town. Marie H., who is one of them, is staying here now in order to help Frieda, since she has to be very careful. So I can go home tomorrow. At 6 someone will get the young people of Uncles so there will be suitable opportunity for me to go along.

June 4, 1906 - Pentecost Sunday, Gelchsheim. This afternoon we left Würzburg. As I took leave in the R. Street, they had company: Aunt M. van der SmisSEN and "our Babette". Lisele got to go with Heinrich and me to the train station; if the fast train had not been late, I would have gotten there too late. Big Ernst was looking around anxiously for us; the cousins and girls were all already standing on the train platform, also full of fear that I would get there too late. Lisele was then so absorbed in the fast approaching fast train that she did not even notice my departure. In the train the fellowship was very jolly, and in no

June 4, 1906, continued

and in no time we were in O (Ochsenfurt?) where another group waited for ours. Cousin Peter, who was the driver, Alfred, who spent his Pentecost vacation in G (Gelchsheim?) Kathrine S, the faithful maid in the castle, and Heinrich Hodel, not to be forgotten, with his bicycle. That was then a trip! gay and jolly. The new horses raced so that we, because of the draft which was caused by the fast speed swept through the wagon so strong that we were almost swept into the air. Alfred and cousin Jakob got me a bouquet of dog-roses along the way. They are the first roses this year. At home there was a happy welcome from all sides. In the evening we went into the little woods. The cousins had already been waiting for us longingly and had been looking for us. Alfred entertained us grandly and his speeches caused constant peals of laughter. I found a card from Mrs. Osterritter. She indicated the words from I Thessalonians 1: 10.

June 6, 1906 - Today Elise Hodel's parents are celebrating their silver wedding. Last night we got some greenery for a wreath, which we girls are going to give as a present. We went through the meadow, Babettchen, Elise and I, then Elise went further to the big pine hedge, while Babettchen and I stood watch at the edge of the woods to see whether we might discover one of the cousins because we wanted to discuss with them about our singing for the Silver Wedding. It didn't take long before Cousin Peter and Heinrich Hodel came striding over the yard. The former discovered us immediately, and with long strides he was with us almost immediately. I had barely said, "Elise is already hunting branches at the hedge" before he was gone after saying a few words to us. Heinrich came slowly, his hands in his back pockets. He doesn't let his easygoing disposition be disturbed. As we others approached the hedge, the mischievous call sounded through the gap, "Be on your way, we don't need you." Heinrich and I leisurely walked around the hedge, but the curious Babettchen slipped through the gap. After the basket we had taken along was filled with greenery, we went home, accompanied by the cousins.

June 1, 1906 - Yesterday evening we all came secretly into Hodel's house, stood behind the house door and began to sing our song for the celebration. The silver couple were very happy about our attention, and we all had to go into the room and taste the torte which the oldest daughter had sent.

June 14, 1906 - A holiday in the village. We held our mission work hour in the yard on the bench; with this nice weather it is nicer to work there. In between we went into a storage room in the yard in order to watch from the window the procession of the village congregation. Since I am home again from Würzburg I have found something that brings me much joy. (Or, which I enjoy very much.) In the neighboring house there is a child who is consumptive, who has to be alone for hours since its family members all have to work in the field. I have been visiting the child every day and entertaining it by telling it stories. I enjoy doing this so much because I would sovery much like to do something for the love and honor of the Saviour. Otherwise I am of so little use because of my weak nerves.

June 21, 1906 - Today towards evening I went to the castle; Christine met me and told me that a distinguished guest had come: Oskar Fellmann from Würzburg. I went up the stairs to Mariele. Cousin J. discovered me and wouldn't be satisfied until he had brought me into the living room to entertain the guest. Lisette came and joined Jakob in his insistance. Nobody else had time for the guest, she had to get wine from the cellar, Aunt and Babette were churning butter, and Peter had to deal with a Jew in the yard, and Jakob had to clean the guest's bicycle. So I went. Christian was also in the room and did more than I for the entertainment. Later the cousins and also Babettchen H. came into the room; Peter, the incorrigible rascal, pestered me with his teasing, and I saw to my annoyance how

June 21, 1906 - continued

Oskar Fellmann watched us two with his impish eyes. I believe he thinks what some others think; but that doesn't bother me. I then got ready to leave and the whole company followed my example. We got to the door, then there was a continuation, since we had to wait until the stormy rain let up. Oskar Fellmann left with Babette and me. The village people were astonished as we walked through the streets with such a dapper escort between us.

June 24, 1906, Sunday

I was at the worship service today. It was a nice trip in the breezy carriage in the lovely weather. The sermon text was 1 John 4: 7-21. Uncle talked about the love of God and the love of one's fellowman. In each person we are to recognize a soul that was dearly bought by Jesus' blood. In the afternoon we went walking, also to a Bible study in the Evangelical neighboring village on 1 Peter 1: 24, 25, about the transiency of everything earthly and the brevity of our life time.

June 25, 1906

Today is my birthday. I am already a year older again, and I am still at the same point and at a standstill; it dare not continue. Not only do I need to clean up trash and dirt, that is acknowledge my sins and put them away, but a solid foundation must be laid; Christ is the only firm foundation. The wall has to be built up, that is, one must strive upwards with Christ, climbing higher and higher day after day. This has to happen according to the T square and plumb line. Our plumb line is the Word of God. I received many good wishes cards for my birthday. Elisabeth again set up a lovely birthday table. In honor of my birthday Peter constructed a comfortable bench in the Erlam woods in our favorite spot by the brook. The little woods with the bench has the pompous name of "landesruhe"! It is lovely out there, and Peter looks every evening to see whether one of the cousins is sitting there. There have already been merry times in Landesruhe because the bench was finished two weeks ago, and has already been busily visited. It is quite hidden from the outside world. I wrote a letter to Anna at R. (Reichenberg?) sitting on the bench.

July 8, 1906

Today in Giebelstadt there was a special celebration, the baptism of the children who had taken instructions; There were 12 of them, cousin Jakob and the big Ernst also among them. One can not really call them children any more. It was a serious, lovely celebration. One of the baptismal candidates was absent because of sickness. It was very hard for the girl to stay away, and she will be baptized during the next few days on her bed.

July 17, 1906

A number of things have happened since I haven't written in this diary. On Sunday, July 15, was the funeral of the girl who was missing at the baptismal service eight days ago. The young men who had been with her in the catechism class helped carry her to her grave, and the others who were baptized were all there, too. A day before her death, at her wish, she was baptized by pastor van der Smissen. A carriage full of people from here were at this funeral, also Claassens, who then also did some visiting afterwards. They were, however, unpleasantly interrupted on the trip, in that they got the news that Horsch in Louisgarde is deathly sick. He has been unwell for some time. There has been a lot of driving back and forth to Louisgarde and tomorrow the Würzburger and sister-in-law want to go, too. The Landewrest is visited often and much. There was even a farewell celebrated there. Tinele H (Christine Hodel?) went away to Baden and this event was celebrated there. It was a merry group, the cousins and 7 young ladies. Cousin Peter was in N. and sent the company of cousins cards. Yesterday evening late I accompanied Elise and her sister Marie, who will go to Elsass as help for the Housewife in the castle. Marie wanted to get information from cousin Peter about her long trip. Peter has a large time-table. I didn't go into the house with the girls, but waited in the meadow beside the bridge for them to

July 17, 1906 - continued

come back. This quietness was wonderfully nice for me, only the rustling of the night wind in the many trees around the castle, then the lights of the glowworms, which appeared and then disappeared again. Several bats played above and everything would have been so very nice if I had not become alarmed about two figures who appeared in the meadow. For this reason I was glad when the girls came over the bridge. Cousin Jakob is in Würzburg. He lives at F (Fellmanns?) has, at the express wish of both parties a room together with big Ernst, his best friend. Cousin Peter is going to Metz as a soldier, then it will seem empty in the Landesruhe.

July 25, 1906

The past Thursday the Würzburgers came with their children. What happiness that was! Little Gerhard is big and strong for his 3 months and Lisele overjoyed; she found a lot of old acquaintances and the boys from the house were all very friendly to her. On Monday they left again to go to B (Bockschaft?). Mrs. Michael Horsch and Frieda were also in the Landesruhe, they liked it very much. Cousin Jakob sent us lady cousins cards and we also sent him one with the signature Selma's Co., that's what Anna in R. called the group of young ladies. On Sunday there was a mission worship service in G (Giebelstadt?). Claassen very interestingly told about his work in Java. The text of the sermon was: "The love of Christ constrains us" and "I loved you again and again". Only he who has let the Lord love him can do something for Him out of love. On the way home in the carriage I got to sit by Frieda. She told me among other things that S. had passed his examinations brilliantly and that he is getting along better. God be praised! Alfred is here during vacation. Read these words: "Let truth have its way. Have nothing against anyone, kill selfish ambition; love every person, and if you are not able to do this, pray for this heavenly attitude."

August 26, 1906

Haven't written in this for a long time. On August 3 a granary (shed)? in the village burned. It was a big fright, but the fire was soon put out and great loss averted. On Aug. 5, a large group, including me, made an excursion to the castle ruins Reichelsburg. On August 6 I was at the doctor in Aub with Elise H. (Hodel?) He told me that I am anemic, the other thing is not important. On August 7 the message came from Louisgarden that Horsch died. Elisabeth was at the funeral. She told me that it was heartbreaking how the children stood at their father's casked, he lay there peacefully. Much company was here; Mrs. Van der Smissen and her 5 sons and others. Elise went to R. with the boys to the grandparents. Today M & M Horsch (Michael and Martha) also went there to get their boys.

August 31, 1906

Lovely weather has been reigning for several days. I am outdoors a lot with the sick neighbor girl, also often at a sick seamstress' home, since Babette H., who had looked after them, is on a trip. Elise is here again now. She related a lot about B (Bockschaft?). O.F. Oscar Fellmann?) is, of course, also there again. The couple often retired to the arbour and Lisele sometimes, when someone was looking for her Aunt Elisabeth, called, "She is with Oskar in the Gardenhouse."

September 2, 1906

Yesterday we made our long promised visit to the H.Hof (Heugel Hof?) Cousin P (Peter?) drove his carriage to W (Würzburg?) for repairs and we took advantage of the opportunity. Lisette H., the niece and granddaughter of the H.Hof, Sister Christine and I. We left in the morning by starlight. In the morning we stopped for a long time to observe how soldiers maneuvered on one field. Ernstle and Richard F. (Fellmann?) were also with us and they, as well as Peter, were delighted with the soldiers; they were as restless on the seat of the carriage as the horses

September 2, 1906, continued

in front of the carriage, which didn't want to stand still. We were let off on the country road at the woods with the order to be there again at five o'clock so that Peter could load us up at that time in his carriage which he was getting in Würzburg. It was a lovely walk through the woods, at the last through a stubble field to the nicely situated Hof (farm). We got there at nine o'clock, were received lovingly by the daughter of the house. After we had enjoyed some apple-cake and wine, we went into the large garden, where the mother of the house entertained us in the cozy garden house until dinner time. Then the daughter could be with us again. It was interesting. Photographs - albums were looked through, cards were written, we looked through the house, and so the hours flew by. Coffee was drunk in the arbour. I noticed how often the ladies mentioned Oskar Fellmann in the conversation. They also showed us, half laughing, half angrily, the grave of the Palace dog. This dog was shot by Oskar Fellmann, since it was no longer fit to live, and they told how O.F. covered the grave with stones and stinging nettles, praising himself, saying, "I also decorated it." The father of the house was not at home, he was in Würzburg, and was being met at the train station. We then made the suggestion that we make use of the vehicle going to meet him, then we wouldn't have to walk. We could wait for Peter at H. So we got ready, the carriage was already standing in front of the door as our "Cavalier" with his black horses and elegantly bolstered carriage proudly drove through the gate (Peter). Actually, cousin Jakob was driving, Ernst F. (Fellmann?) beside him and Peter sat comfortably with Mili on the cushions in the back. The three Würzburgers had persuaded Peter to change his plans. There was a big hullabaloo and Peter, who had wanted to leave right away, had, for good or evil, to leisurely wait until evening. We all then went into the garden under the nut trees, where a long bench with a table stood. The daughters of the house were cleaning beans, the others helped with that. I sat next to big Ernst and we conversed together in an undertone. Little Ernst was somewhat bored so he entertained himself picking up plums for himself. We two, absorbed in our conversation did not notice that anyone was observing us until the big Ernst became aware of it and said, "They are laughing at us." They denied it, but soon we noticed it again, and Ernst and Jakob left because of it. They did not appear again until we drove out of the yard, then they were standing under the garden gate, unobserved from the house where the daughters stood at a window and waved to us. We saw the two friends for a long time standing on a rise and looking after us. We were very well satisfied with our excursion (or outing), only I was upset about something. Elise admitted to me that the ladies said that Ernst and I are good friends, they also teased me about it, but I decided why should that bother me, and the trip became more and more interesting so that I forgot my anger. The H. Hüfer (Heuchelhüfer?) wished us a moonlit night and that wish was fulfilled. The trip was wonderfully nice. Ernstle was allowed to be the driver under Peter's supervision. Lisette H. then displaced Ernstle, she had a chance to take Peter's place and be the driver. She was very excited. Peter stood on the step so as to be able to take over the reins in case of an emergency, because Lisette drove into a field twice, to the consternation of Ernstle and ours. Peter had all sorts of funny ideas, even serious Sister Christiane had to laugh. At the last Elise also took the driver's seat. She drove better; was also praised by Peter. Finally this trip also came to an end, the two drivers on the coachman's box brought us right in front of the house. Peter, the rogue, wanted to make this trip, which is unique in our experience, completely wonderful to the end. For this reason he did not let us off in the village. I am getting along very well, God be praised. How very happy and thankful I have to be. Yesterday I could participate in the long trip, then sleep well, and this morning go to the worship services in Giebelstadt. Sermon text was: "Enter by the narrow path". When we have entered the narrow portal, we must earnestly strive to reach the goal, one has to put aside everything that would hinder us from going forward. Something spoiled my worship, I was so very sorry

Sept. 2, 1906, continued

that in my thoughts I kept coming back to it, it came too unexpected for me. Before the services Veronica, the youngest daughter from the H. hof (Heuchelhof?) took me aside and whispered secretly to me that big Ernst sends greetings to me. I involuntarily had to laugh outloud, so that I was asked from those standing nearby the reason for my laughter. I then said; "It is a joke." Still Milli, who was also there, had to confirm what Veronica said. I then said to Milli, what silly things Veronica was doing, and Milli said it is a trick of Veronica's. It is best that I laugh about it, but it still is very annoying to me. If it would only not be the Heuchelhöfer who have gotten this absurd idea. Things seem to happen to me this was as far as young men are concerned. It makes one feel like running away. Apparently I am too innocent (guileless?). For a long time I have had a premonition that on this Sunday something special would happen for me, and now that premonition has been fulfilled. I was in the Landesruhe with the girls, went home then alone; Lisette H., who was also in the forest, caught up with me and related to me that yesterday in the Heugelhof Milli had told her a lot about her two older brothers. S. is now completely different. I also heard this on the way home yesterday from Peter, who had been Würzburg at the Fellmanns and there S. took him into his room and conversed with him a long time. Too much studying was the cause of S.'s condition. I was very happy when I heard this, and thought the prayers for S. had been answered. Lisette also confided to me that S. will be moving to Lautenbach, so Milli thought; I already thought three years ago at "our" wedding in Bockschaft where S. was Anna's wedding partner, about that, however thought at that time, like more people, that Oscar Fellmann would get Anna for himself. What I now heard from Lisette was not easy for me; I didn't know this myself until today hearing this. After a fierce battle, I poured out my trouble to Mother, but she also knew it; a mother is discerning. She comforted me, but I will still need time; it came so unexpected. Was this the reason I was not allowed to meet "him" in Würzburg as I had hoped to do at that time.

Sept. 20, 1906 - On September the dear brother and sister (Heinrich and Frieda) came from Bockschaft; Elise and I went with the children to meet the carriage; Lisele recognized me again at once. Old "Grollebas" (Aunt Grolle) also came along. Then Heinrich and Frieda went with M & M H (Michael Horsch and his wife Matha or Marie) to the Nürnberger Exhibit on September 8. At that time we girls with old Mrs. Groll had to look after the house and the children. The latter was not difficult for us, because the weather was wonderful, so we spent our time in the garden. Then we had two dependable children's maids in the form of cousin Jakob and big Ernst, who were visiting at the Castle and looked us up. Jakob told Elise and me that at that time big Ernst had been badly teased by the Heugelhöfer about me. Ernst expressed annoyance at the Heugelhöfer and I was completely shocked at such absurdity. Well, let it be. Getting angry doesn't help anything. Ernst is five years younger than I, such a relationship as the Heugelhöfer make it out to be is out of the question. We were in the Landesruhe a lot and in the castle. Since it was a holiday and the next day Sunday, we had time for that. On Sunday the cousins escorted us from the forest clear to the back door and there it was decided that since we girls had to wait until late in the night for the coming of the master and mistress from the Nürnberg exhibition, they would keep us company. They came happily, and it was a nice evening. First we had evening devotions, Peter took the place of the housemaster. Then the conversation was merry and joyful. I soon excused myself, in spite of the urging of the others to stay. Things were getting too lively for me. On the evening of September 10 two more guests arrived, Heinrich from Bockschaft with his future brother-in-law, Oskar Fellmann. When Elise told me about it, a happy fright came over me since I understood "S" had come along. Then my disappointment was great. Well, it is silly of me. He certainly wouldn't pay any attention to me.

September 20, 1906 (continued)

On Sept. 12 a big lottery was held of the things we had made for the Mission. Many people received something in the lottery, but Elisabeth and I got the first prize, a lovely sofa pillow. Peter got a bookmark, the prettiest among his various companions, which all of them had wanted. On the evening of the lottery day the van der Smissen daughters came with their Aunt Babette from G. (Giebelstadt?) so the house was full of guests. On September 14 all of the guests then departed. Our "people" were among them, for that reason I stood in front of the house when they were leaving. I held the little, chubby Gerhard until the grownups had seated themselves in the carriage. In spite of the fact that the house was now empty, I did not lack entertainment. There was the opportunity to do small services for the others; for example, for the dear old Mrs. Groll, who had stayed for some time to do some sewing, I wrote a birthday letter to her daughter Louise, since she cannot write. As I read it to her, tears came into her eyes. Mrs. Groll is very attached to her Louise; her other children are in America and this daughter is her only support. Last year at this time, Louise was here, at that time I developed a close friendship with her.

I read something that I want to write down. A Christian feels himself safe (or sheltered) in his Father's hands even in suffering after he has found forgiveness for his sins through Jesus' blood. Are you, too, resting thus in Jesus' arms? And do you want to make him happy through quiet patience and faithful obedience in your daily life? Then you will experience him from hour to hour as Helper and can through conduct and word, point those without hope to Him. Let God fill you with His love, then God can use you in His good time.