

# Canadian Women's Archives

CANADIAN WOMEN'S ARCHIVES is a regular feature of *Atlantis* and is designed to give a voice to Canadian women who, in the past, have had something to say about the role and condition of women. Diaries, letters, oral history and government documents are just a few of the sources that might usefully be tapped to enhance our understanding of women's history. The Editors of *Atlantis* urge readers to search attics, archives and ash cans for such material and submit it for publication.



# Margaret Marshall Saunders

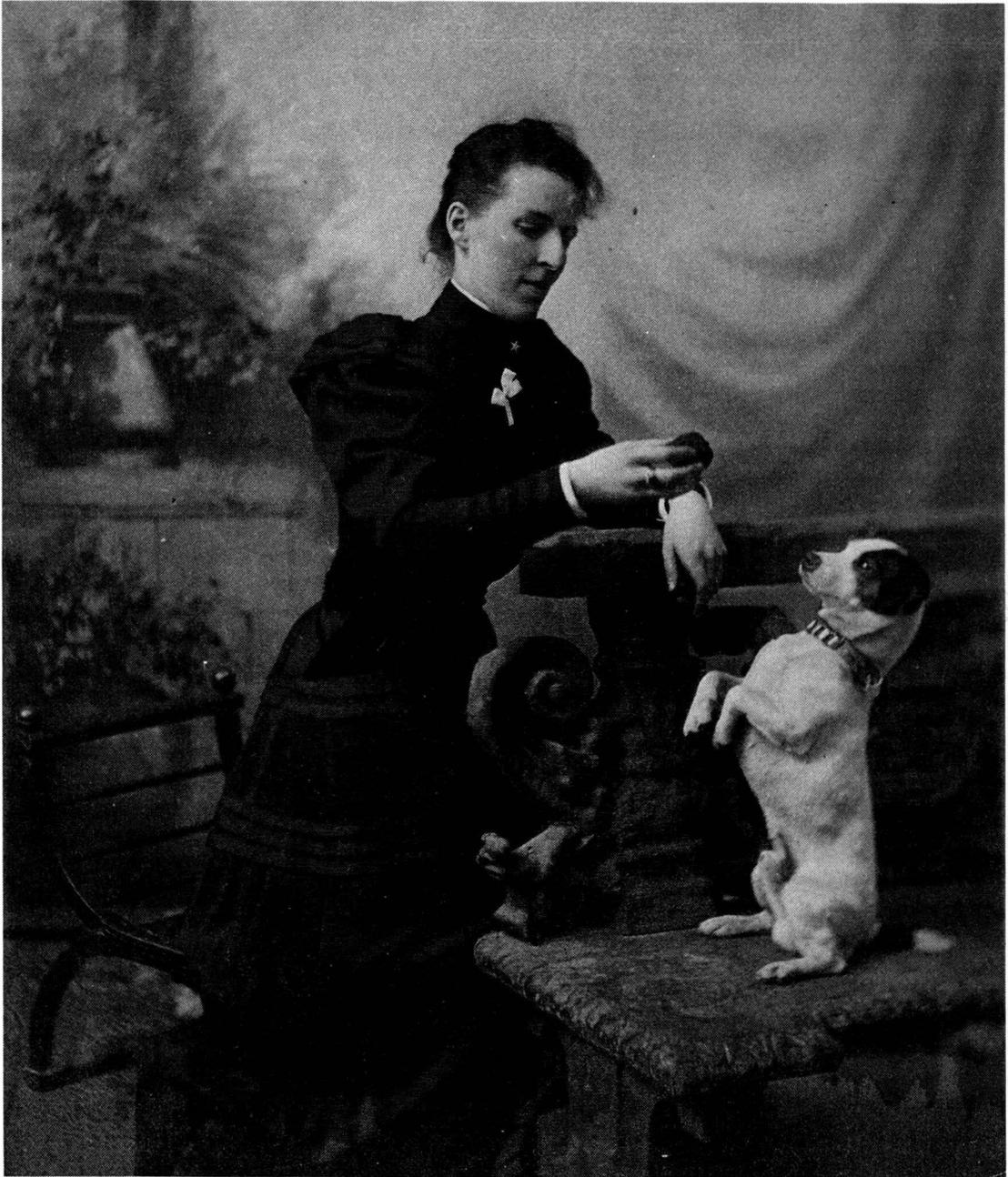
## Edinburgh Diary, 1876

*Margaret Marshall Saunders (1861-1947) was the first Canadian author to sell over one million copies of a single book. Beautiful Joe, a children's story about a faithful dog, won first prize from the American Humane Society in 1893 and was published the following year by the American Baptist Publishing Society. Beautiful Joe won the hearts of people all over the world and launched Saunders into a highly productive career as a writer. By 1927 she had published 26 novels, most directed toward a juvenile audience and embodying her social reform concerns, which she also pursued as an active member of the Humane Society, the National Council of Women, the WCTU, and the Baptist Church.*

*Born in Milton, Nova Scotia, Margaret Marshall Saunders was the daughter of Edward Manning Saunders, Baptist minister, historian, social activist and early advocate of female education. Reverend Saunders practiced what he preached on the question of education for women, sending his 15-year-old daughter to finishing school in Scotland and France, a rare experience for a*

*Nova Scotian girl in the 1870s. At her father's request "Maggie" kept a diary during her two-year absence from home. The following diary entries of her first months spent in Scotland provide valuable glimpses into the education of a Victorian "lady." Margaret Marshall Saunders' concern for academic achievement, her desire to be accommodating and her close attention to political events attest to her desire to please her less-than-wealthy parents who had sacrificed much to indulge their educational goals for their precocious daughter. The diary also documents her lingering homesickness which was inevitable given the closeness of the Saunders family circle; her eye for detail which was manifested in her published fiction; and her fondness for animals which later in life became an all-consuming passion and the focus for many of her stories.<sup>1</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> For an analysis of Margaret Marshall Saunders' career see Karen E. Sanders, "Margaret Marshall Saunders: Children's Literature as an Expression of Early Twentieth Century Social Reform." Unpublished M.A. Thesis: Dalhousie University, 1978.



MARGARET MARSHALL SAUNDERS, 1894.

- Sept. 21st Left Halifax, the first night very rough, after that had beautiful weather all the way across. Rev. Mr. Campbell and Mr. Barrows had prayer-meeting every night, was obliged to play the tunes on the piano for them.
- Sept. 31st Arrived at Liverpool. Mr. H. Barss and Mr. F. Scharman was (sic) waiting for me and took me right to Mrs. Vaughan.
- Oct. 1st Went to hear H. Stowell Brown preach, liked him very much.
- Oct. 2nd Left Liverpool for Edinburgh, had a very pleasant drive, arrived here about six, found Miss Fraser waiting for me.
- Oct. 7th Visited Holyrood Palace. Saw all the portraits of the Kings of Scotland. Some of them were very good. Thought Queen Mary's apartments (sic) rather small and shabby for a Queen. The tapestry hanging on the walls was worked very beautifully. Saw the place where Darnley was blown up, the College stands on the site now.
- Oct. 8th Heard Dr. Blaikie [MMS's guardian] preach in the morning. Had Bible-Class in the evening.
- Oct. 9th Called on Mrs. Blaikie with my letter of introduction, was quite charmed with her.
- Oct. 11th Had a nice long walk, saw Craigmillar Castle in the distance and went through the Grange Cemetery, a most beautiful place.
- Oct. 14th Went to the Museum, saw a very great many interesting things. Saw the model of a gate of a Buddhist Temple, a very pretty basket of flowers made entirely of shells. Saw also a very great many interesting animals, bisons from N. America, camelopards, elephants, the skeleton of a whale, some mummies and some beautiful silver filigree work. There was the most beautiful lace there that I ever saw.
- Oct. 15th Sunday. Heard Dr. Beith preach in the morning from Rom. 7th Chap. and 8th verse. Mr. Mitchele, Mr. Wilson's assistant, preached in the afternoon from John 7th Chap. and 11th verse. Liked them both very much, took notes of both sermons, a thing I never did before. Miss. Deuchar said they were done very well. Had Bible class in the evening, subject, "The Creator."
- Oct. 16th Monday. Went for a walk this morning, walked with Maggie Sproat and talked German nearly all the time. Got to the head of the German class, intend to keep there if I can. Was 13 from the head in English Literature, am 4th head now. Am getting to like Miss. Deuchar more and more every day.
- Oct. 17th Tuesday. Has been a rainy day, could not go for a walk. Knew all my lessons but dictation so got down 9. Felt very much ashamed of myself, spelt "address" wrong. Found out that Jessie Nimmo is a Baptist, was so delighted to hear it. Had a music lesson from Dr. Richter, like him very much, he is a German but has been in England for twenty years.
- Oct. 18th Wednesday. Miss Deuchar was not well this morning, and did not make her appearance at the breakfast table. Went for a walk at ten and did not have Bible-Class. Miss Deuchar went to prayer-meeting tonight—wanted to go so much, but had too many lessons. Dreamed last night that I was home again, awoke this morning bitterly disappointed. Jessie Nimmo had a letter from home today saying that she had a new brother, she is very pleased about it. Have dreamed of my dear ones at home every night since I came here.
- Oct. 19th Thursday. Another dull foggy day. Walked with Reta Sutherland today, talked German all the way. Got to the head of the French Class, would like to stay there so much. Miss McLellan, the sister of the Baptist minister, called on me today, she seemed to be a very lady-like person. Mr. Brown said that we had each to write an essay; for mine I am going to write

about Halifax. I could not learn my lessons very well tonight—it seems a pity that I can not learn more easily when I am so passionately fond of study. I think I shall get more accustomed to the lessons after a little while. Saw J.N. looking in her book in the English class while we were saying our lesson, it has greatly lowered her in my estimation.

Oct. 20th Friday. Young Mrs. Blaikie came here this morning to see if Reta Sutherland and I would dine with them tomorrow night, of course we were delighted. Knew my lessons pretty well today, has been dull and rainy and we did not go for a walk. Tonight at worship we read the 10th Chap. of Matt. When we came to the 67th verse my feelings nearly overcame me, for I remembered that a long while before I left home on coming from Sabbath School one Sunday, I went into Papa's study and he explained the last verses of that chapter to me, it is a very great cross for me to be away from home, oh! how my heart aches when I think that I shall not see my dear ones at home for two long, long, years. It seems to me that I cannot stay away from home for so long a time, if I get home again I think I shall stay there.

Oct. 21st Friday. Got up early and practised for half an hour before breakfast. Wrote a letter to Mama this morning, just before I finished Mr. Richardson, Mrs. Campbell's brother-in-law called on me and gave me a parcel from my dear Mother; it contained a letter, three cakes, some newspapers, a little bit of licorice, a card-case for me and a pretty little card from Miss. Campbell. Mr. Richardson gave me his address and said I must come and see them some time. Miss. Deuchar says they are very nice people. I went with Reta Sutherland to dine at Mrs. Blaikie's tonight, I had the honor of being escorted to the dinner-table by Dr. Blaikie. There were three gentlemen there to dinner, I only heard the name of one Mr. Stouton, I believe his father wrote a History of England. I thought the eldest Miss Blaikie very beautiful, I have heard that she is to be married soon. Mr. Bertie Blaikie walked home with us, he gave Reta a cric-crac

and she insists upon snapping it at the most unreasonable times.

Oct. 22nd Sunday. Went to church this morning, heard Mr. Wilson preach from Matt. 20 Chap. and 32 verse. Mr. Cunningham preached in the afternoon from Judges 2 Chap. and 1.2.3.4 and 5 verses. Had Bible Class this evening as usual. I have felt very homesick today. Can it be possible that the broad Atlantic is rolling between me and my darlings at home? I think I saw a Mr. Pauline in the street yesterday from Halifax, but I am not sure.

Oct. 23rd Monday. Has been rather cold and disagreeable today, walked with Maggie Sproat. She is really a very nice girl. Have finished writing my essay, it is the first I have ever done. So of course it is not very nice. I knew my lessons very well today, misunderstood a question and got down one.

Oct. 24th Tuesday. Has been another dull, foggy day, had a walk for half an hour. Was fourth in the English Class and got down eleven in dictation, was so ashamed of myself that I did not know what to do. Mr. Brown said "Why Miss Saunders how did you happen to have so many mistakes, and when Miss. Fraser was marking down our places she said, "That is too low for you Maggie." So that consoled me a little.

Oct. 25th Wednesday. Another dull day, had a short walk, am improving in my German. I posted my letter for Mr. Crui[c]kshank today. Miss. Deuchar and Miss. Muirhead went to prayer-meeting tonight, Miss. Fraser told us a story during work hour.

Oct. 26th Thursday. Fast-Day. Went to church this morning, heard Mr. Stuart of Kelso preach from 2 Cor, 12th Chap. 7 Verse. A gentleman, whose name I did not know, preached this afternoon. Tonight Mr. Wilson gave the right hand of fellowship to fifteen communicants, he did it just as Papa does. It was a most interesting meeting.

Oct. 27th Friday. We have been able to see a little blue sky today, the first we have seen for a long time. We received our essay, from Mr. Brown today, mine was among the best. Miss Fraser told me the other day, that she had remarked my readiness to oblige she said it must be a trait of my character. I read a part of "Alfred Hagart's household," tonight to the young ladies while they were at their work. Miss Deuchar has a little Scotch terrier called Mince, some of the young ladies do not like him, but I think he is a dear little fellow, he reminds me of Gip, she has also a large dog called Nelson. Tonight little Sadie Jobson was sitting opposite me preparing to learn her lessons, at least she took up a book with a most heart rending sigh, and said "Dear me, this is a weary world." The old fish-wives that we see going about the streets, crying "Caller herrin' " amuse me very much, they wear very short dark blue dresses and a mantle to match. Their large baskets are fastened on their backs, with a strap going around their heads.

Oct. 28th Saturday. It has been a most beautiful day. I got up early and practised for half an hour before breakfast. Wrote a letter to Mamma this morning. We went in town, this afternoon, and made a few purchases, several of the girls bought apples and pears and of course the paper burst in church and the apples and pears dropped out. We went to church at four. When we were going, as Miss Dunn was crossing the street, she fell head first before a waggonette. We had a little prayer-meeting last night, in our bedroom. Miss. Muirhead has one every Saturday night.

Oct. 29th Sunday. This has been Communion Sunday, we sat in the second gallery just behind the Merkeston Castle boys, I did not see any among them that I knew. Miss. Muirhead sat in the gallery with us and Miss. Fraser, Miss Deuchar and Miss. Snowdon sat in their seat down below. There was communion in the afternoon too, as there were so many communicants that they could not all be seated at once. The elders (there are about 37) all went into the vestry; when they came out each one had a goblet of wine or a napkin

with bread in it, they put them down on a table covered with white cloth that stood in front of the pulpit. After Mr. Wilson had prayed they passed the bread and wine to the people. The bookboards in each pew were covered with white cloth. Mr. Watson preached in the afternoon. We went to church again in the evening, Mr. Watson preached again.

Oct. 30th Monday. Has been a clear cold day. Mr. Reed of Slamannan preached in the Barclay Church this morning and as Miss. Deuchar went to hear him we had no Bible-Class, and had a walk for an hour and a half instead. Miss. Fraser took us to Arthur's Seat; as soon as we got inside the stone wall which surrounds it she told us we might run about as much as we liked, we all separated and ran about laughing and shouting to hear the echoes. We went to the other side of the "Lion" and saw a beautiful little loch, and the Village of Duddingston, the country about there is very beautiful. I saw the houses of the two Mr. Nelson's; they have been built recently and are very fine buildings. When I came from our walk, I found a letter waiting for me from Mamma, I was so very glad to get it, but I was obliged to wait until the German class was over before I could read it.

Oct. 31st Tuesday. Another clear and cold day. We went down to the Grange Road towards the "pretty house" for our walk, when we reached the lane leading to it we all separated and ran races to the bottom of the hill. Just before starting for home we were getting in our places at the top of the lane just behind the wall that belongs to the boy's school at Craig Mount. We could hear the boys shouting and running about playing football, presently the ball came bounding over the wall and struck Miss Carmichael on the side, she screamed and jumped aside, soon we saw several heads looking over the wall adorned with bright cricket caps, and one of the boys scrambled down and kicked the ball over the wall again. When I came back I found two newspapers waiting for me, and this afternoon I received another; I do not know

when I shall get time to read them for I am so busy with my lessons just now.

Nov. 1st Wednesday. It has not been as cold as yesterday but the weather still continues quite severe. We had a walk for half an hour, passed Merkeston Castle, it is a most beautiful place. We saw some beautiful roses in the gardens, the ivy that grows everywhere here is very lovely too. We had two new scholars yesterday, Louisa and Bessie Duff, Bessie is only nine and will not come in our classes, Louisa is eight years older than her sister but as she has not been at school for two years she is not very far on in her studies. I saw by a Halifax daily that Papa sent me, that Mr. R. Hart has been elected for Alderman in our ward, I think he will make a very good one. Mrs. and Miss. Cruickshank called on me today, they invited me to take dinner with them on Saturday, I think I shall like them both very much. I made a mistake in dictation today, put a "p" in worship instead of an "h," although I was fourth from the head I had to go nearly to the foot of the class, Mr. Brown and all the young ladies wished me to keep my place but I said no for it was very careless of me to make the mistake, and if I went down it would teach me not to do so again. I received a note from Miss. McLellan today asking me to take tea with her on Saturday night, I suppose I can go to her from the Cruickshanks.

Nov. 3rd I received a note from Miss. Cruickshank saying that they would call for me at twelve tomorrow and take me for a walk. Afterwards would get dinner at her house, and as Miss. McLellan had invited her to take tea with her, we could both go there in the evening. Dr. Miller, who lives next (to) Miss. Deuchar, had his house broken into and robbed during the past week; while he and his family were in Peebles at their country house, the thieves got in by the attic windows and destroyed a great deal that they could not carry away. Nearly every house in this neighbourhood has been visited by thieves during the past summer and autumn. They went to one house while

the family were away with a cab and brought away a great many things.

Nov. 4th Saturday. I got up early this morning and practised and wrote a letter to Mama. At twelve Mr. and Miss Cruickshank called for me, we first went to Greyfriars Churchyard, it is very old, there is a long lane at one end, into which the Covenanters were driven by their enemies, and kept there without shelter from the storms and rain, and if they stirred hand or foot they were immediately shot. We saw the monument put up to the memory of these poor people. We next went through the Grassmarket, where all the executions formerly took place, and up the hill to the Castle. The view from the top of the rock on which the Castle is built is most delightful; one can see all the New Town, the Pentland and Braid Hills in the distance, Princes Gardens just below the Castle and The Firth of Forth. Afterwards we went to the Parliament Houses and saw the hall where the lawyers walk, this hall is paved with wood, and in it were pictures and busts of celebrated Scottish lawyers. We went into one room where a little court was sitting, and watched their proceedings for a little while, the most of them had wigs on, and they looked very ridiculous. Mr. Cruickshank shewed me the room in which he saw Sir Walter Scott. There is a monument of Charles the II in Parliament Square. From there we went into St. Giles Church, where Janet Geddes threw a stool at the head of the Dean who was preaching. This church looks very ancient. On our way down the Canongate I saw the house in which Allan Ramsay, the Scotch poet, was born. We went to see John Knox's house, the woman who shewed us through it said it was 400 years old, and was originally built for an Earl and was the grandest house in Edinburgh, the rooms seemed very small and the ceilings very low. I sat in the identical chair that Knox used in his study. There was a thumbscrew in the sitting room that had been used, and an iron band to put on the head of scolding women, with a bit of iron to go in the mouth to prevent them from speaking. We then took an om-

nibus and reached the Cruickshank's house at four just in time for dinner. The Kennedy's, the singers who visited Halifax last Winter, live in Mollends Terrace, in a very neat little cottage. After dinner we had some very nice apples, and Mrs. Cruickshank invited me to spend half of my Christmas Holidays with them, and to take dinner with them Saturday after next. At half past five Minna and I went to Miss McLellan's and had tea. Miss McLellan's sister was there and two other ladies. Mr. McLellan walked home with me. I spent a most enjoyable evening. Miss Deuchar has given me permission to go to Baptist Chapel tomorrow.

Nov. 5th Sunday. Miss McLellan called for me this morning and I went with her to the Baptist Church, it rained until noon, but after that it was quite fair. I was late for dinner, for Duncan Street is a long way from here, but Miss Deuchar did not mind at all. This afternoon I went to the Barclay Church with Miss Deuchar. Mr. Fraser preached.

Nov. 6th Monday. It has been a very beautiful day, we had a walk for half an hour, I walked with Miss. Duff. I rose early and wrote some more of my letter to Mama, but was unable to finish it until tonight. Mr. Brown told us today that we must have some more essays ready for him in two weeks, he wishes us to describe some favourite walk of ours, I do not think I shall do a very nice one for I can not describe minutely.

Nov. 7th Tuesday. As it was quite fine today we had a walk for half an hour, but now it is raining heavily, I received a letter from dear Mama and Papa this morning, I almost devoured their contents. Papa's letter was so interesting that I gave it to Miss Deuchar. I knew my lessons pretty well, but as I received Mama's letter I read that instead of learning my dictation and in consequence got down nine, I was so very sorry, Maggie Sproat got down also but she managed to get up five. We met Mr. Wilson and his wife today while

we were out for our walk. She does not look quite as old as he does. It is very cold (for Edinburgh) today, Miss Duff said that she noticed a thin sheet of ice on the loch when they were driving in to school this morning. Before leaving home I got a bottle of Mrs. Ainsley's liniment, I am so glad I brought it for Sadie Jobson had toothache for several nights and nothing would cure it but my liniment, Bella Liddell used some of it the other day for she had a tooth that was troubling her and it was cured immediately, and I really do not know what Miss. Muirhead would do without it, for she puts it on her lame foot every night and she uses it for her neuralgia (sic).

Nov. 8th Wednesday. We have really had a little snow today; everyone is complaining of the cold although it is not half as cold as we often have it at home at this time. I am second head in a class of seventeen in English Literature. Miss Deuchar took me with her to prayer-meeting tonight; a Mr. Chamberlain from Brazil addressed the meeting and gave a most interesting account of the missions there. I shewed that part of Mama's letter to Miss. Fraser in which she says, that "I must try and help my teachers in their arduous duties, and must remember that they have their own peculiar trials," Miss. Fraser told me that she thought my teachers would not have any arduous duties in connection with me.

Nov. 9th Thursday. The snow continued to fall during last night and we had a great deal of thunder and lightening. As it was so snowy this morning Miss Deuchar said that we need not go for our walk and might have an hour of recreation instead. I studied my lessons during the hour, and in consequence got up 2nd head, in Lord's Modern Europe. I feel very homesick tonight, the time seems to be passing very slowly. The snow today has looked very pretty; every tree and bust has been laden with it, but I fear we shall have rain and then the beautiful snow will disappear. It seems like dear Nova Scotia to see the snow.

Nov. 10th Friday. It has been a fine, cold, day, every

one had been complaining of the cold but it is not nearly as cold as we sometimes have it in Nova Scotia at this time. We went for a nice long walk today, the Lion looked very pretty with his beautiful mantle of white snow. Maggie Sproat and I commenced laughing in the Roman History Class and we really could not keep ourselves from laughing all the time, if it had been Miss. D. I think Mr. Brown would have sent her out of the class, but as we are generally such good girls, he took no notice of our merriment. Violet Cole had her little dog Pylodet in the class and she was doing her best to make every one laugh. Cecilia Galloway in comparing good, said good, gooder, goodest and that sent us into fits of laughter not excepting Mr. Brown.

Nov. 11th Saturday. The snow has not gone off of the ground yet and it makes the walking very muddy. We went to Charlotte Square today to see the Albert Memorial, I was a little disappointed in it for I thought it would be a much grander affair as it cost £16,000. We saw George IV's and Pitt's monuments but they are not very much. Reta Sutherland went to her Aunt Fanny's to tea tonight, and she told her that I was one of the good ones of the school. I wrote a letter to May Dunn, I also wrote one to Mama, but I shall not send it until next Saturday as it is so short.

Nov. 12th Sunday. This has been the coldest day we have had yet, it has also been very muddy, I walked with Maggie Sproat both morning and afternoon. Miss Deuchar did not go to church this afternoon; she gave me her key and I put away the books after church. Miss Deuchar went out to see her aunt tonight so Miss Fraser heard our verses and Catechism.

Nov. 13th Monday. When the servant came to wake me this morning I could hardly believe it was morning for it was so dark, I could hardly see to dress myself properly. We often have the gas lighted at 3 p.m. I got to the head of the English Literature today; Maggie Sproat is next to me. I received a letter from dear

Mama today. I was very sorry to hear that she will only be able to write me once a fortnight after this.

Nov. 14th Tuesday. The weather has been very wet and rainy today, Mr. Richon said he would not send a dog out in the wet. I have to keep a constant watch on myself on account of C.G. She seems not to like me very much and takes me up at everything I say or do that she does not like.

Nov. 15th Wednesday. Today has been warm and mild, just like a day in Spring, we really enjoyed our walk. Tonight we all went to prayer-meeting. Mr. Wilson read some letters from Dr. John Smith, who is in Africa, they were very interesting. When we were coming home, some rude young men said as we passed them, "There goes Deuchar's flock of sheep."

Nov. 16th Thursday. We have had a thick, yellow, fog all day, which has prevented us from leaving the house. Miss. Deuchar came into the room today while we were saying our English lessons, and told us that she would give a prize to the one who would shew her the neatest notebook at the end of the year of the remarks that Mr. Brown makes while he is in the class, I have been doing it all along so it will be quite easy for me.

Nov. 17th Friday. We have had a warm mild day, it seems so strange to have a day like this in Winter. We have heard that the war between England and Turkey is now inevitable, the men are working day and night at Portsmouth forging cannon balls. Flora Cameron has an Uncle, a General in the army, she said today that he has been ordered to be ready to leave for Turkey at a moment's notice. They say that England will get the worst of it, for the odds are so great against her.

Nov. 18th Saturday. I went out with Miss. Fraser this morning to get my dress, I bought it, but will not be able to get it until Wednesday as there were so many

alterations to make. I wrote a part of my letter to Mama this morning and finished it tonight. This afternoon we went out to go to the Picture Gallery but found it shut up. We took a walk along Princes Street instead. We saw a Punch and Judy Show, we wanted to go and see it, but Miss. Fraser would not allow us to do so as there was such a crowd about it.

Nov. 19th Sunday. Mr. Wilson preached this morning, and Mr. Drummond this afternoon, both were very nice sermons, we had Bible-Class this evening.

Nov. 20th Monday. It has been quite a fine day for Edinburgh, we had a short walk for half an hour. Mr. Brown brought our essays back today, Maggie Sproat's and Louisa Duff's were the best, they got 17 for theirs, I only received 14 for mine.

Nov. 21st Tuesday. We had a nice walk, today for it has been quite fine. Flora Cameron invited Maggie and Mary Sproat and me to take tea with her next Saturday, but I suppose I shall not go as the Cruickshanks have invited me there for next Saturday.

Nov. 22nd Wednesday. We went to prayer-meeting tonight with Miss Deuchar as it did not rain, and had a very nice meeting. At German class Herr Meyerowicz promised to take us to see Fettes College Saturday after next.

Nov. 23rd It is colder today than it has been for some time. I got to the head of the class in History of Modern Europe this afternoon.

Nov. 24th Friday. I hope tomorrow will be as fine as today, for I am going to dine at the Cruickshanks. We had what is called a "toffy join" this evening. We each gave Miss Fraser, two-pence ha'penny and she sent out and bought some butter and sugar, and made us some very nice toffy. Miss. Deuchar said we might have a charade if we liked, but some of the girls did

not feel inclined to have one, so we all went into the dining room with our work as usual.

Nov. 25th Saturday. Miss. Cruickshank called for me this morning at twelve o'clock, and took me to Holyrood Palace, I was very glad to go, for although Miss. Fraser took us some weeks ago she hurried through it so quickly that we had not time to see it properly. We passed the Tolbooth, and Regent Murray's house which has an old balcony fronting the street. Miss. Cruickshank shewed me Leanie Dean's cottage, it looks quite modern. When we were half-way through Queen's Park it began to rain and as there were no cabstands near we were obliged to walk the rest of the way. There was no company to dinner at the Cruickshanks, but several people came to tea, the McLellans, Mrs. Gilmore, Miss. Morrison, and a Miss. and Master Hennessy, their parents are in India and they are at school in Edinburgh, the boy is at Craigmount, and his sister is at Miss. McLaren's boarding school. I spent a most pleasant evening, Mr. Cruickshank gave me some interesting accounts of Italy, for he has travelled there some years ago. I came home in the cab with the Hennessys.

Nov. 26th Sunday. When we went down to breakfast this morning, Miss. Deuchar called us all to look out of the window and see how beautifully the sun was gilding the houses and the tops of the trees, it was perfectly lovely for a little while, but the beautiful colour soon faded away. Mr. Drummond preached a most interesting sermon this morning, Mr. Wilson preached this afternoon. I tried to read the newspaper before Bible-Class that Papa sent me but was not able to accomplish it.

Nov. 27th Monday. I received a letter from Mama and Maria with one enclosed from Miss. Selden this morning, they have made me feel quite homesick. Miss Deuchar had a letter from Papa, she was quite pleased with it.

Nov. 28th Tuesday. It has been a cold day, so we went

for a walk to the "Pretty House." I took a music-lesson from Dr. Richter this evening and began a new piece called "The Minstrel Boy," it is very pretty.

Nov. 29th Wednesday. Miss. Fraser struck consternation into our hearts today by telling us that our examinations would begin next week, we were not expecting them so soon. Miss. Deuchar did not take us to meeting tonight as it was a meeting for mothers.

Nov. 30th Thursday. We have had a genuine Scotch fog today, with hard frost. We all tried to slide a little when we went out for our walk. I am still second head in Lord's Modern History.

Dec. 1st Friday. It has been dull and rainy today so we did not go out and Maggie Sproat and I studied our Modern History together. I am afraid I shall not get on very well with my examinations for I have not had time to study my lessons very thoroughly.

Dec. 2nd Saturday. It has rained steadily all day, and some of the young ladies who were invited out to tea could not go. The girls had a dance before tea, and after tea we had three very nice charades, the words were, Wedlock, Cheerful, and Intelligent. Reta Sutherland went to Mrs. Blaikie's to tea, she kindly brought us each an apple when she came home. Mrs. Blaikie has invited Reta and me to take dinner with them next Saturday evening.

Dec. 3rd Sunday. I have passed a most enjoyable day. Mr. Wilson preached a very nice sermon on the "Burnt Offering." Mr. Drummond preached a sermon to young men this afternoon from the text, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God," it was almost beyond description, even the girls who are not professors of religion were quite charmed with it, he is a most earnest preacher, and a great friend of Moody's I have heard. We have Bible-Class this evening and I read my notes on both sermons, Miss Deuchar said they were done very well.

Dec. 4th Monday. We did not go out today as it was rainy, but did some of our examinations instead. I got to the head of the class in English Literature. Reta received a letter from young Mrs. Blaikie today inviting her to spend half of her holidays at North Berwick, so now it is likely that I will be alone with Miss. Deuchar for one week.

Dec. 5th Tuesday. It has been quite mild today and has not rained any, I think we are having most extraordinary weather for this time of year, it is just such weather as we have in May at home. I got to the head of the French class today and am still second head in Modern History.

Dec. 6th Wednesday. Miss. Deuchar went to meeting tonight but did not take any of us with her as our examinations begin tomorrow. Maggie Sproat and I studied our History together and I think we both know it beautifully; we have thirty-six dates to remember in it.

Dec. 7th Thursday. Our examination in Modern History is over, I got rather confused with my questions, although they were quite easy. Maggie Sproat and I went over our Roman History tonight and I think that I shall do better with that.

Dec. 8th Friday. Our examinations are nearly over, and I feel quite relieved, for they have been a great worry to me. We had Roman History and arithmetic today, but I did not distinguish myself in either of them. I had a delightful walk today to the "Pretty House," but Miss. Fraser says she will not take us there again, for she thinks that we go to see the Craigmount boys. I received a newspaper from Papa today with an account of the tea-meeting that they have had in our new vestry. I saw by the paper that there had been a fire in Milton, and Mr. Wyman's store had been burnt. I was very sorry to hear of it for his loss will be some thousands of dollars.

Dec. 9th Saturday. We all went to the concert this af-

ternoon and enjoyed it very much. Hallé played beautifully on the piano, and Madame Nurade accompanied him on the violin. The pieces that they played were chiefly those of Mozart, Weber, Glück, and were all very pretty. We went to the Blaikie's to tea and as they had been invited to a Mrs. McPhee's to tea, we went there with them. Mr. McPhee is a member of Parliament, and they are very grand people. There were two Swedish ladies there and two of Dr. Bonar's children. Bertie Blaikie accompanied us to a car, and Reta and I walked home alone from the top of Chalmers Crescent. When we rang the bell we noticed something on the plate at the gate, and on looking at it we found that it was a large white placard with "Private Reformatory for incorrigible young ladies" printed on it in staring black letters, we told Miss. Deuchar of it and she sent a servant out to take it off, which she had some difficulty in doing.

Dec. 10th Sunday. Mr. Wilson preached a children's sermon this afternoon, and we enjoyed it very much. The Church was crowded, and there were benches all round the church.

Dec. 11th Monday. Miss Deuchar heard this morning of the sudden death of a great friend of hers, and it gave her a great shock. It was a Mrs. Dodshaw, she has left a son and daughter, they have no relations, and Miss. Deuchar feels so anxious about them, the daughter was here at school. I received a nice long letter from Mama this morning enclosing one from Papa and Cramp. Flora Cameron said goodbye to us all today, for she is going to London to spend her Christmas holidays with a Mr. Guido Bach, a descendant of the celebrated John Sebastian Bach. We went along Salisbury Place today when we went for our walk. Dr. Guthrie's house is at the extreme end of it, quite near it is the Quaker's house at which Mrs. Beecher Stowe stayed when she was in Edinburgh. Dr. Guthrie's house has extremely large bay windows on the ground floor.

Dec. 12th Tuesday. Mr. Brown brought back our

examination papers today, Flora Cameron's total was 229, mine was 172, Maggie Sproat's 216, Flora's papers were much better than any of the others. Mr. Wilson was here this morning and gave us a Bible-reading; he had four heads, Sin, Salvation, Sanctification and Service, but as he only had time to take up the first two of them; he said that he would come again another time and finish them. Mr. Wilson told Miss. Deuchar that he would send Mr. Drummond some time soon to have worship with us, Helen Aitken was delighted when she heard that for Mr. Drummond is a great friend of her brother's. As Miss. Deuchar was out this evening Miss. Fraser read "Good Wives" to us; it is a sequel to "Little Women," and a very interesting book.

Dec. 13th Wednesday. Five of us went to prayer-meeting tonight with Mrs. Deuchar, and Mr. Wilson gave us an interesting address on the 127th Psalm. Helen Aitken and I walked home with Miss Deuchar and she shewed Orion to us, with his belt of stars. While I was in my French class today Minna Cruickshank called to see when I would be able to go to them for my Christmas Holidays, I did not see her but Miss Deuchar said that I would be ready a week from Saturday. We had a very pleasant walk along the Grange Road today and Miss. Dunn shewed us the house in which her "old stick" lives.

Dec. 14th Thursday. Bella Liddell heard today of the death of a cousin of hers who has been living in their family for some time, he died very suddenly and poor Bella feels very badly for she had no idea that he was sick. Miss. Deuchar told us today that Mr. Richon and Herr Meyerowicz are coming next Thursday night to give us a reading in French and German. I knew my lessons very well today and am still second from the head in Lord's Modern.

Dec. 15th Friday. We had a delightful walk today all around the Meadows, and up the Grange Road, I began to do an antimacassar tonight; scarlet and white wool on black canvas, I do not care about that

kind of work, I had rather do two hundred lines of Virgil. Mr. Donnelly brought his measuring stick today and took our heights for this is his last in this year. I am five feet, one and a quarter, just the same height as Maggie Sproat.

Dec. 16th Saturday. I wrote letters to Mamma, Papa, and Cramp this morning, after dinner we all went to town and bought light gloves, ribbons, etc. etc. for Thursday evening.

Dec. 17th Sunday. Although it rained heavily this morning we all went to church except Miss. Stewart and the younger ones. Mr. Wilson preached in the forenoon, and a Mrs. Boerresen gave us an account of the Santhal Mission in the afternoon, he is a German, and his mission is supported by voluntary contributions, he said that when he first went to India he was obliged to sleep outdoors one night, when he went to lie down several of the converted natives put themselves in a circle on the ground beside him, upon his asking them why they did such a strange thing they replied, "We do it so that if any wild beasts come, we shall be eaten first."

Dec. 18th Monday. Miss. Duff told us today that she will not be able to come on Thursday evening on account of Bessie, for her Papa does not wish Bessie to be out in the evening and she would be inconsolable if Louisa left her.

Dec. 19th Tuesday. We have been rehearsing "The Merchant of Venice," to say Thursday evening. I am Shylock, and they all say that I do my part very well. Miss. Deuchar told us a pun tonight; it was that a blind man told a gentleman that he had received his sight on drinking cup of tea; on being asked how it was, he said "I took my cup and saw sir (saucer)."

Dec. 20th Wednesday. It has been storming terribly all day and the wind has been blowing so violently that it has been quite impossible to keep an umbrella up. We rehearsed "The Merchant of Venice" again today and

will go over it again tomorrow afternoon, as Mr. Richon is not going to give us a French lesson. Louisa Duff told me such an amusing thing about little Bessie today. Bessie had been telling her brother Jimmy about Miss. Deuchar's dog Prince, and he was teasing her and saying that Miss. Deuchar thought too much of her dog, but Bessie gravely answered "Jimmy you know better, Miss. Deuchar does not think too much of Prince, Miss. Deuchar is a Christian."

Dec. 21st Thursday. Although it has stormed so violently all day the most of Miss. Deuchar's company came, there were three ladies and one gentleman beside the Masters. Jessie Nimmo and Maggie Sproat played two pieces, and when they finished we had our reading which was not very well done, for some of the young ladies got a little nervous. Mr. Richon gave us an account of his tour on the Continent last summer, afterward Herr Meyerowicz read three German poems, and sang several songs, he has a very fine voice, and sings remarkably well, then we had a song from a young doctor that was present, a friend of Snowie's, and after that supper. We all enjoyed ourselves very much, I wore my black and white delaine with light ribbons and white gloves. Miss. Brodie was present tonight and is going to stay all night with Miss Deuchar, Louisa Duff will stay also, she looked very pretty tonight for her pink and white dress was very becoming.

Dec. 22nd Friday. Every one of the girls but Reta have left for their holidays, The Sproats intended to go in the morning, but they lost their train, and were obliged to wait until the afternoon. Reta's brother came this morning to take her out for a walk and she kindly invited me to go with them. We had a nice long walk through Princes St. and St. Andrews Square. We nearly lost ourselves in coming home, for we got into a labyrinth of streets and were quite puzzled for a time to know how we should get out of them. The house seems so lonely without the girls and Reta and I hardly know what to do with ourselves. Reta will sleep with Miss. Fraser tonight and I with Miss. Muirhead.

Dec. 23rd Saturday. Minna Cruickshank called for me in a cab this morning at one o'clock and brought me here. I found Mrs. Cruickshank not looking very well, for she has been quite sick, and is not able to go downstairs yet. After dinner, I went with Minna to the Cripples Home to see the children, they all looked happy and contented and were all at work, one little boy about nine years old was making a pincushion, another little girl was reading her Bible, and the rest seemed to be doing some kind of wool work. As it was snowing when we came out, we did not go into town but came straight back. After it had finished snowing Minna and I went into the garden and picked some evergreens, with which we afterwards decorated the dining room. Mr. Cruickshank gave me a little book today called "The dying Priest." Mrs. C. says that I must spend all my holidays here, and the reason why she did not ask me to stay here for all of my holidays at first was because she thought perhaps some one else would invite me to spend the other half of my vacation with them. I am very glad that I am to stay here for they are all so kind.

Dec. 24th Sunday. Mr. Cruickshank, Minna and I went to Duncan St. Church this morning. Mr. McLellan delivered a very impressive sermon from Matt. 27.29. I went to Sabbath-School in the afternoon with Minna, it is a very small school and the children did not behave very well. There was one dear little girl there that sat in a class near me, and I could not look at her without the tears coming into my eyes, for she was so like dear little Grace [younger sister of MMS]. About tea-time one of Miss. Deuchar's servants came here to bring two letters that had arrived for me since I came here, one was from Laura Parker and contained two Xmas cards, one from herself and the other from Fanny, the other letter was from Mamma with twenty-four Christmas cards enclosed, and a short note from Papa to say that he has been quite ill and that Wallie, Eddie, and Maria have had very bad sore throats.

Dec. 25th Monday. This has not seemed a bit like

Christmas, for Minna and I went to a meeting in the Assembly Hall on the Mound, the Meeting was led by the Rev. Walter Smith, the Hall is a most pleasant place and is capable of containing two or three thousand people, Moody and Sankey held nearly all of their meetings in this Hall and since they left a prayer-meeting has been held there every day at twelve o'clock. After the meeting we went down to Princes St. to do some shopping, the streets were crowded with people going about, just as if it was an ordinary day. We went to Stevenson's for I wished to get some wool, and found the shop filled with people just as usual. Minna had brought some biscuits with her for we were not to dine until half past three on account of our going into town, so we went into a shop and got some milk and ate our biscuits. After dinner I commenced to write a letter to Mamma, and had time to write her a nice long one for we did not have tea until half past eight. Mr. and Mrs. Cruickshank gave me their photographs to send home, beside which I had two Christmas cards so that I was obliged to put double postage on my letter. Mrs. Cruickshank gave me a beautiful little book today of Moody's addresses to the young called "Wondrous Love," and Minna gave me a little hymn-book called "Times of Refreshing." In coming from town today we went around by Mayfield Terrace for I wished to see the house in which the Parkers lived, it is a very comfortable looking house with large bow windows on the first and second flats.

Dec. 26th Tuesday. I went to see Miss. Deuchar this morning, for I wished to get some money from her, Miss. Muirhead met me in the hall and wished me a Merry Christmas although it has passed. Miss. Deuchar was very glad to see me and gave me a pound note, she said that she was rather lonely for Miss. Fraser and Miss. Muirhead are out a great deal of the time. While I was there Mrs. Dr. Blaikie came in to invite me to spend a day with her for she thought that I was all alone at Miss. Deuchar's, she said that she wished that I might have spent my holidays with her, but as she is very busy just now looking for a house for

her son, who is coming to live in Edinburgh, it would have been impossible. After Mrs. Blaikie had gone Miss. Deuchar asked me to take Prince out for a walk; so I went a long way down the Grange Road with him, the poor little dog was very glad to get out for he misses his daily walk that he used to have before the girls went away. I just got back in time to dress for dinner. Mr. Herbert Cruickshank and the lady that keeps house for him, Miss. Stalker, came here to dinner. Mr. Cruickshank is going to be an Episcopal clergyman, he looks very delicate, and it is very likely that he has a tendency to consumption for his mother and father and one sister have died of it. Miss. Stalker is a motherly old lady and takes as much interest in Mr. Cruickshank as if he was her son. It is snowing heavily tonight and I am afraid that we shall not be able to go to the Picture Gallery tomorrow as we thought of doing.

Dec. 27th Wednesday. Minna and I went into town quite early as I had some shopping to do; after doing it we went to the Picture Gallery on the Mound. The paintings were all very fine especially those of Sir Noel Paton, "The Quarrel," and "The Reconciliation of Titania and Oberon," they were beautifully executed and every bird and insect in the world seemed to be in these pictures. Sir Noel Paton belongs to the Pre-Raphaelite School of Painters I think for every leaf and blade of grass in the picture was done so carefully. We saw one picture that Mr. Cruickshank put in the collection; it was "The dead Christ in the arms of the Father," it is copied from an original by Rubens, and is rather a painful picture to look at. Etty's pictures were very good especially "Judith and Holofernes," but the most beautiful one of all was a picture of Gainsborough's, "The Honourable Mrs. Graham," it is the picture of a young and beautiful woman, it occupies the place of honour at the end of the Gallery. Minna's favourite is one called "Leaving the Manse" and pictures a pastor and his family leaving their home long ago when the Covenanters were persecuted by their cruel enemies. There are several busts in the Picture Gallery, there is one of the

Queen which rather flatters her I think, we noticed a very strange looking one of the Empress Plotina, wife of Grajan. She is an ugly looking negro with thick curly black hair. I was interested in a bust of Lorenzo de Medici, for we have been reading about the Medici family in our European History.

Dec. 28th Thursday. We thought of going to the Calton Hill today but as the clouds looked as if it was going to rain, Minna said that she would do some collecting instead if I would go with her. This I consented to do and the first place that we went to was the house of a Mrs. Gillespie, an old woman who spoke such very broad Scotch that I could hardly understand her. In speaking of her minister she called him McLellan which I thought rather disrespectful. We next went to see a Mrs. Robertson whose husband has been knitting a pair of stockings for the Bulgarians. At the next house I saw a little child which I imagined looked so much like Grace that I could have kissed it dirty though it was. We went to see Minna's Aunt who lives in a cottage on the Grange Road, she scolded Minna for not taking care of herself and asked me if she ate any meat, for Minna dislikes meat so much. After dinner I wrote a letter to Maggie Sproat, and then helped Minna to make some cork frames. A Mrs. Aitken who lives next door called today, and Mrs. Cruickshank invited her to take tea here next Friday evening, Mrs. Aitken invited Minna and I (sic) to take tea with her tomorrow night for she said that she expected two missionaries to tea, one of whom was very interesting, and the other we suppose must be very uninteresting. Minna and I went to meeting with Mr. Cruickshank tonight and I heard Mr. McLellan lecture on a part of Bunyan's "Holy War." After meeting, Mrs. Gilmore invited us to take tea with her tomorrow night, but we were obliged to decline on account of Mrs. Aitken's invitation.

Dec. 29th Friday. This morning Minna and I decided to go to the Dean Cemetery for I was so anxious to see Johnston Parker's grave, and it was too foggy to go to the Calton Hill. We first took some cough medicine to

a poor man called Honey who is dying of consumption, he was formerly an actor, but since he became a Christian he has written a book addressed to actors which is doing a great deal of good. We took a car at the Grange Road and went to the West End of Princes Street. We got out of the car at St. John's Church and crossed the Dean Bridge over the Water of Leith, a small stream which is called a river although it scarcely deserves the name; Minna shewed me the house in which her cousin Herbert lives, and the direction in which some of her grand relations live. Standing on the Dean Bridge we could see St. Bernard's mineral well. We soon reached the Cemetery and I began to look about for Johnston Parker's grave, after some trouble we found it, his name is on Dr. Grainger Stewart's family tombstone, I picked some heather and a few leaves from the shrubs growing on his grave to send to Laura. Quite near his grave is that of Honoria, youngest daughter of Sir Henry Havelock. The handsomest monument in the Cemetery is one erected to the memory of James Buchanan, there was another very handsome one in the shape of an Egyptian pyramid. We could see Fettes College, or rather the ghost of it in the distance, for it was very foggy. Stewart's Hospital is quite near the Cemetery, it is very much like Heriot's Hospital and is

designed for the same purpose, the maintenance and education of boys. We came through Charlotte Square and saw about sixty private carriages waiting near Lord Reeves house for the funeral, he was one of the Scotch judges and died quite lately. From Charlotte Square we came into George Street, for Minna wanted to shew me the store which formerly belonged to her Papa, it is a substantial looking building in a very fashionable street. Mr. Cruickshank has nothing to do with the business now for he retired some time ago. Quite near the shop we met Minna's cousin Herbert. From George Street we crossed over into Princes Street, and up the North Bridge, on which we met Mr. Brown, our English master, I thought he looked as if he was missing us. It was three o'clock when we arrived here and as soon as we had finished dinner I went to see Miss. Deuchar to give her the boxes for gloves and handkerchiefs that I had bought for her, she was very much pleased with them. At seven o'clock Minna and I went in next door to Mrs. Aitken's, her two nieces and nephew and another young gentleman were there, we played Consequences and some other amusing games and spent a very pleasant evening. The missionaries were not there and we found out that they were a hoax, for they had never been to Africa at all.