

Oct. 1870

Thurs 21st Have had another beautiful day. Mr. Mass arranged a picnic at his country seat called West Lodge, and this morn at ten his Carriage was at the door to convey those who did not wish to go horseback. Capt. Johnson, Babcock, Davis & Smith, went in the carriage, and Capt. Snell, Stickney, Chapell on horseback. Capt. Along prepared to walk, two denkeys carried the provisions. They returned at 1/2 past five having enjoyed themselves finely. They returned loaded with flowers. I have been crocheting on a skirt for Mrs. Davis. Lucy Ross called tonight and gave me an invitation to pass the afternoon with her on Saturday.

Friday 21st The scenes past through since I last wrote in this book can never be forgotten. The carriage with those who went in it and Capt. Along returned at the time mentioned but those on horseback, went from West Lodge to Napoleon's Tomb, and from there started for home. Capt. Chapell in advance. He turned from the road into another, thinking I suppose, that it was the right road. The other Capt. spoke to some one that was passing and asked if he had not taken the wrong road, and what she answered that it was a wiser road and soon came into the one they were in. They then drove on to meet him and in about five minutes reached the place where they expected to meet him. They saw no horse and were about to pass on thinking he must have gone on when Capt. Snell happened to see a man going on the guard rails the road. They both dismounted and went to the man thinking it to be some one that was intoxicated. But what was their feelings when they found it to be Capt. Chapell. Thrown from his horse, a party of miners, happened along and asked the matter and helped Capt. Stickney and Snell to carry him to the nearest house, where every means

were tried to restore his senses but all proved of no avail and a boy was dispatched for a Physician. I heard of it as soon as the boy came but was some of the ladies thinking it might have a bad effect on Mrs. Davis in her present situation, and very anxious I waited for my husband to come in as he promised me he would as soon as Dr. Charles returned. Hoping to hear a favorable report. But it was not so to be. Capt. Chapell was dead. His death was broken when he fell and he must have died instantly. We were made to feel very badly. My beloved wanted to go on horseback with them but I persuaded him to go in the carriage. I had a presentiment of evil if he did not do so, but he not heeding my warning he would have been with them and he might have been killed and as I looked on him and thought of his narrow escape, a faintness stole over me. That I could not control I was then in Mrs. Davis room. The landlady had told her thinking it best to do so, as soon as I recovered sufficiently to walk George helped me to my room and I retired. Mrs. Cabell and Mrs. Davis went down with me and stayed in my room while Capt. D. & S. went out to gain further particulars. What a sad night. he was brought down to Scott's Hotel where he now lies. Oh it is dreadful to think of him as he left in the morning so lively and seeming so happy. To be brought back a corpse in a few short hours. When Capt. Smith returned he brought the following report that Capt. Chapell got a boy to get him for him to ride to me. It now stands in my room. But oh how sad I feel when I gaze on it. Capt. Chapell is to be buried tomorrow at half past ten with Masonic honors. in the Churchyard near the Governor's residence. Capt. Snell, Stickney, Davis, Babcock, Along, and the American Consul, are to bear the Pall. Capt. Smith and Triff with the Masonic procession.