

MARY ELIZABETH BECKER

Her autograph book from 1880-1891.



At the time she was living in this home in New Scotland, Albany County with her Aunt Almira Jones, wife of John Long.

Yours
To Libby

To little Book go far and near.
To all of Libbie friends so Dear.
And beg them to write a page.
That she may read in her old age.

From your cousin
B. Adriance.

Guilderland
May 4
1886

To Libbie,
"Go little Book go far and near.
To all of Libbie friends so Dear.
And beg them to write a page.
That she may read in her old age."

From your cousin

B. Adriance
Guilderland May 4, 1886

Dear Libbie

May peace and happiness
Ever be your lot
As through the world you
Trot = Trot = Trot
Ever your cousin
Harry Adriance

Guilderland
June 20
1886

Dear Libbie
"May peace and happiness
Ever be your lot
As through the world you
Trot = Trot = Trot
Ever your cousin
Harry Adriance

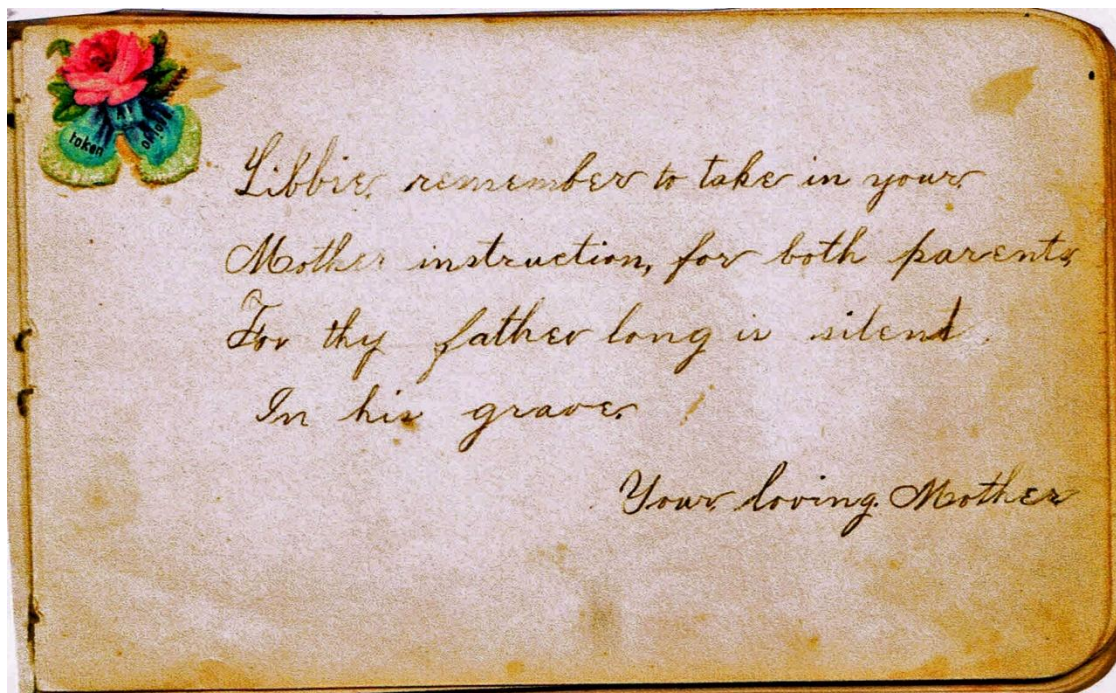
Guilderland June 20, 1886

May gods blessings follow
you through this life
And everlasting Joy in to come
Is the earnest wish
Of your Aunt Julia
Guilderland June 29 1886

Dear Libbie
May gods blessings follow
You through this life
And everlasting Joy in life to come
Is the earnest wish
Of your Aunt Julia

Guilderland June 20, 1880

(Julia Jones Adriance wife of
Elwin Adriance and sister of Emily
Jones Becker (Libbie's mother)



" Libbie remember to take in your
Mother's instruction, for both parents.
For thy father long is silent in his grave.
Your loving mother."

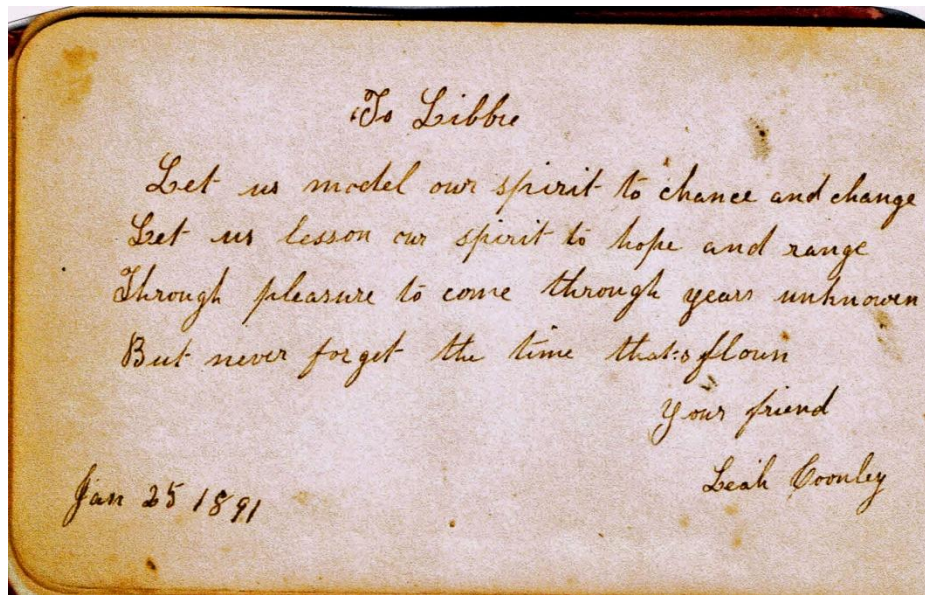
(Emily Jones Becker b. Nov 24, 1839 Berne , d. Nov 23, 1912, Schenectady)



"Dear Sister
Some will wish you
pleasure,
And some will wish
you mirth,
But I will wish you
happiness,
A home beyond the
earth.

Ever your sister Ida L
Becker Apr. the 23
1886 "

(Ida b. Nov. 28, 1866, d Mar. 26, 1927 Married A. Lincoln Frederick, brother of Jacob Henry Frederick)



To Libbie

Let us model our spirit to chance and change
 Let us lesson our spirit to hope and range
 Through pleasure to come through years unknown
 But never forget the time that's flown.

Your friend

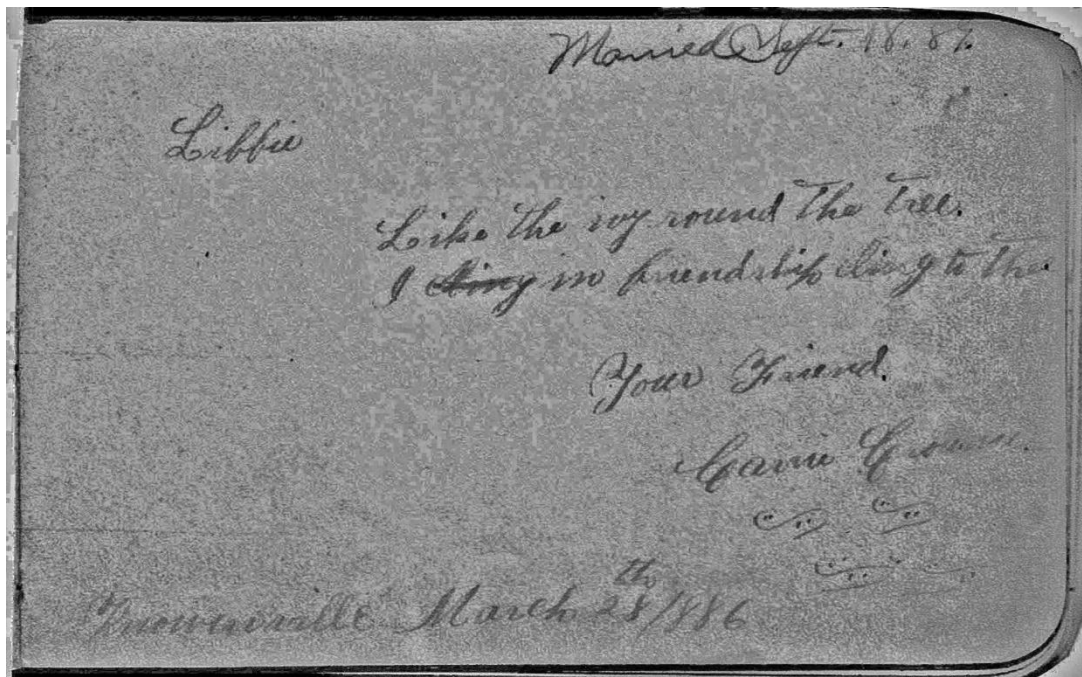
Leah Coonley Jan 25 1891



To Libbie

Don't but Smile and be cherry
 Perhaps there be sunshine tomorrow.

From your friend Martha Coonley

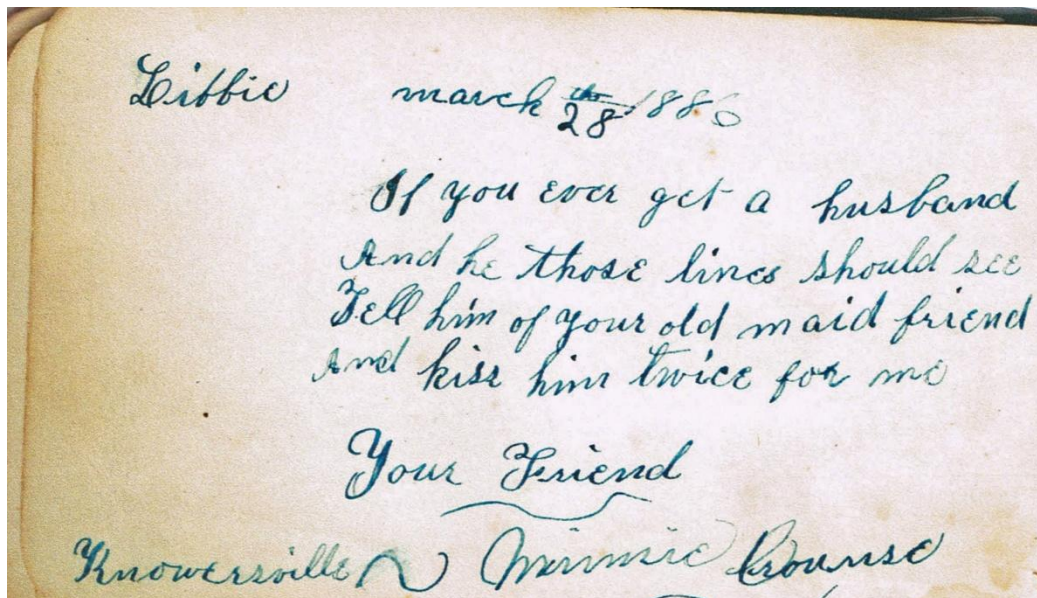


"Libbie
Like the joy around the tree,
I in friendship cling to thee.

Your friend Carrie Crouse

Knowersville March 28th 1886"

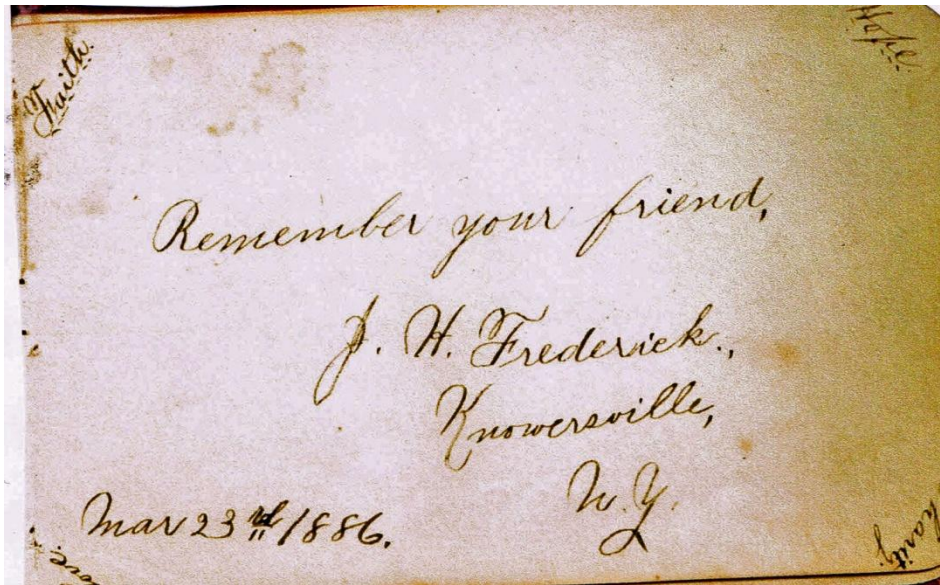
Note: married Sept 1887



"Libbie
If you get a husband
And he those lines should see
Tell him of your old maid friend
And kiss him twice for me.

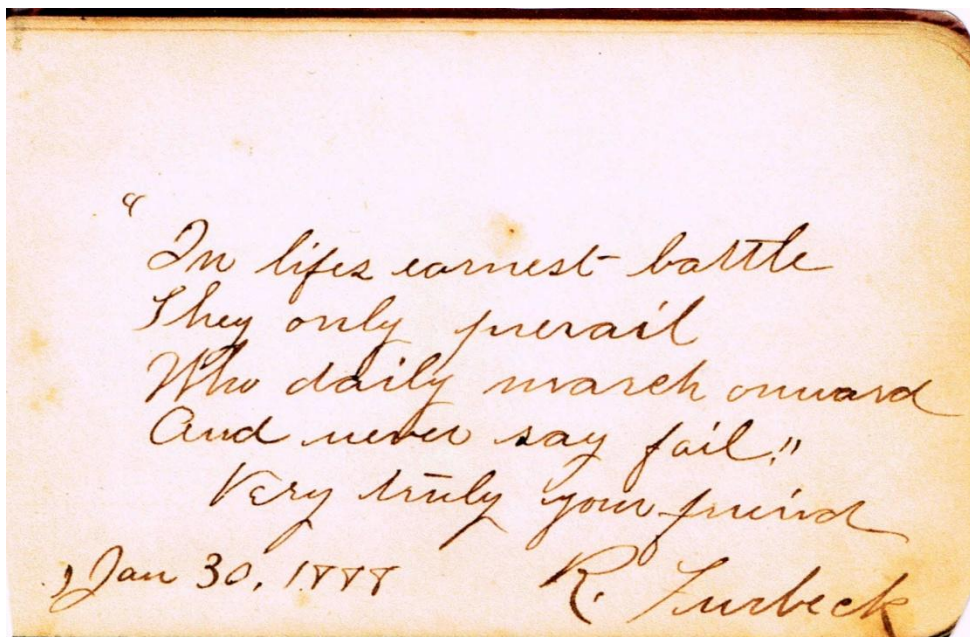
Your friend
Minnie Crouse

Knowersville March 28 1886

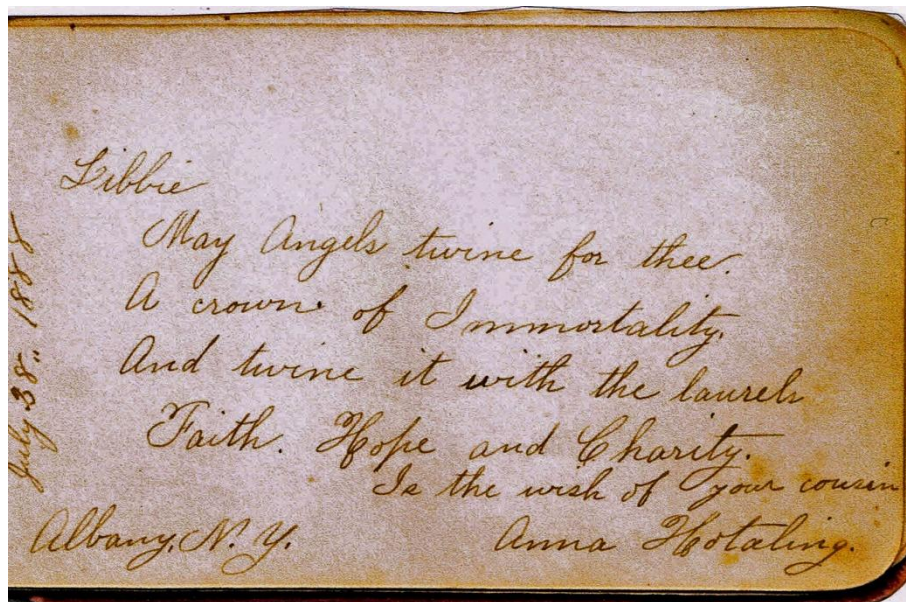


Remember your friend,
 J. H. Frederick
 Knowersville, N. Y. March 23rd 1886
 Love Faith Hope Charity (in corners) (Libbie and J.H. were married 4 years later.)

FURBECK



"In lifes earnest battle
 They only prevail
 Who daily march onward
 And never say fail"
 Very truly your friend
 R. Furbeck Jan 30. 1888

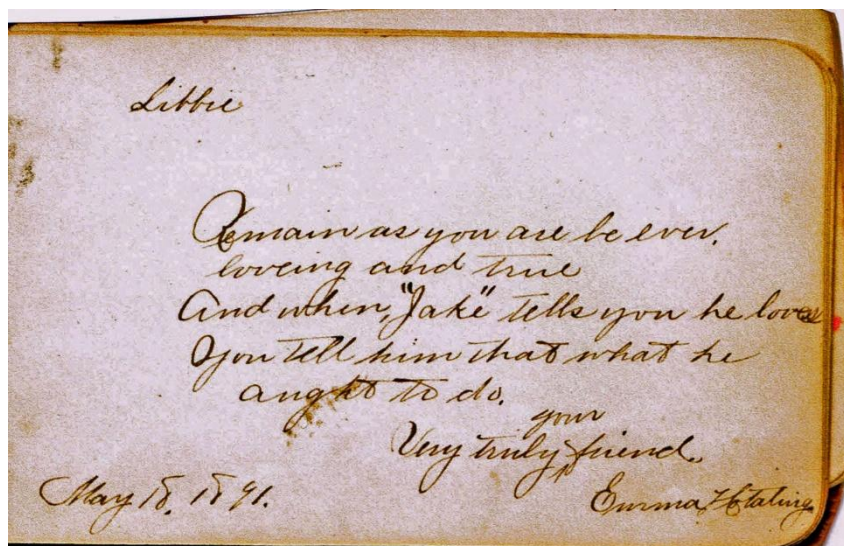


Libbie

May angels twine for thee
 A crown of Immortality
 And twine it with the laurels

Faith, Hope and Charity.
 Is the wish of your cousin
 Anna Hotaling
 Albany, N.Y.
 July 28, 1888

Cousins by marriage. Elwin
 Adriance's sister Louise married into
 the Hotaling (Houghtaling) family

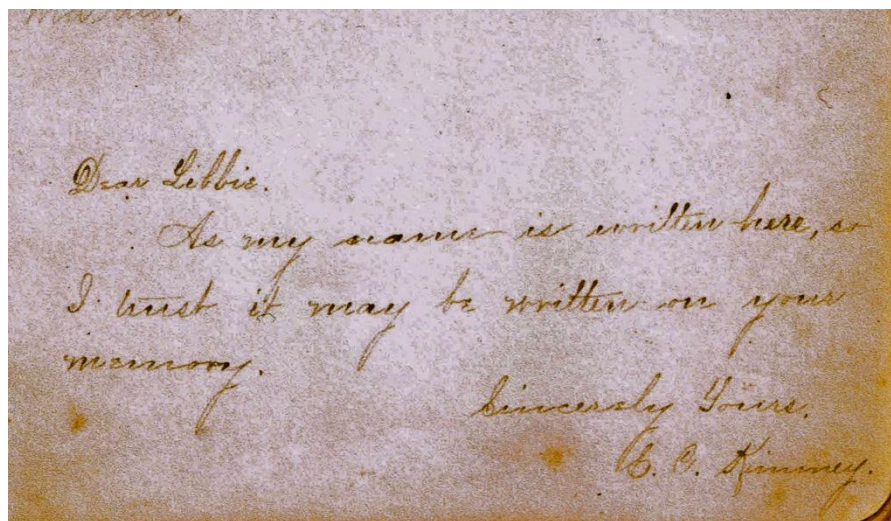


Libbie

Remain as you are be ever
 loving and true
 And when "Jake" tell you he loves
 You tell him what what he
 ought to do.

Very truly your friend
 Emma Hotaling
 May 18, 1891

KINNEY

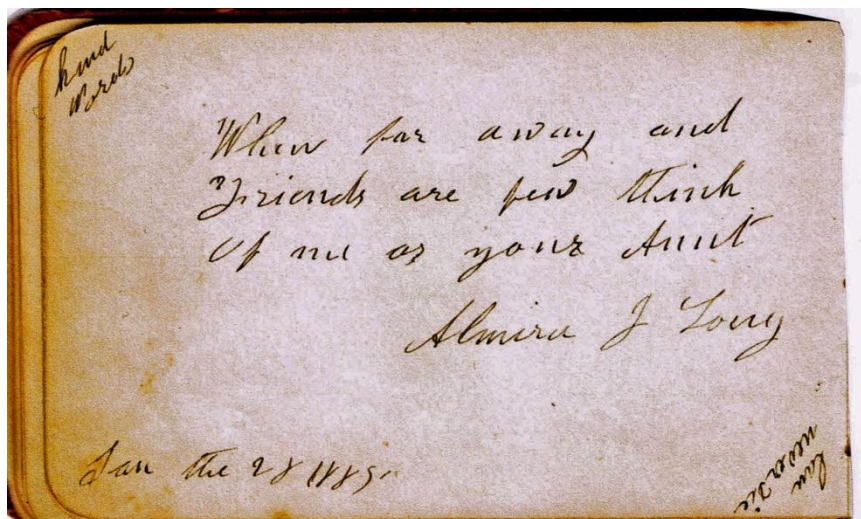


Dear Libbie

As my name is written here, so
 I trust it may be written in your
 memory.

Sincerely yours,
 B.C. Kinney

(note in pencil - "married")



"When far away and
Friends are few think
Of me as your Aunt."

Almira J. Long

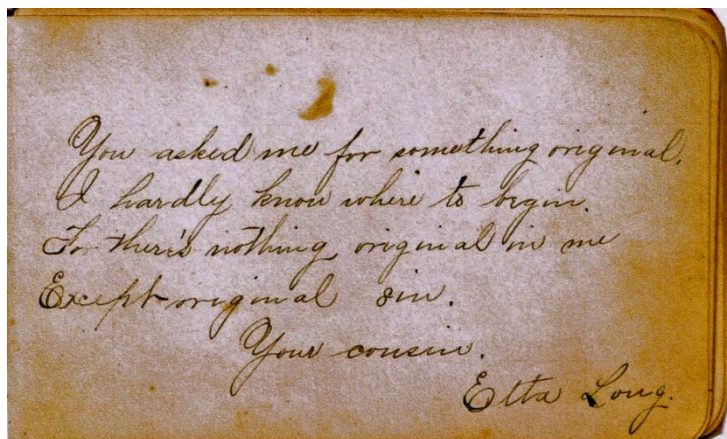
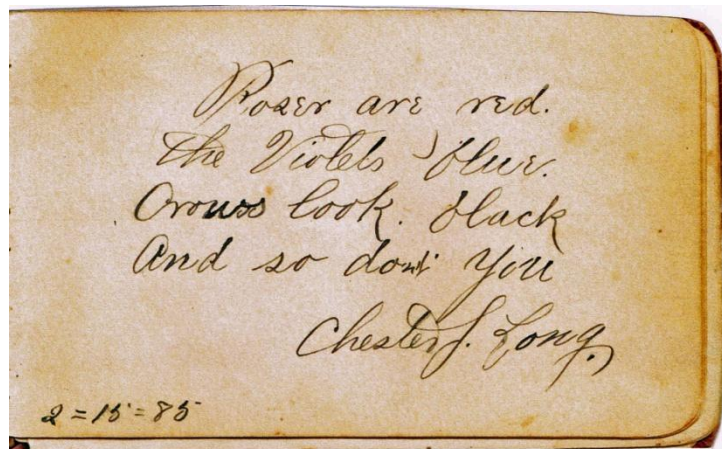
Jan the 28 1889

In corners "Kind words can never
die."

(Almira Jones Long, sister of Emily
Jones Becker)

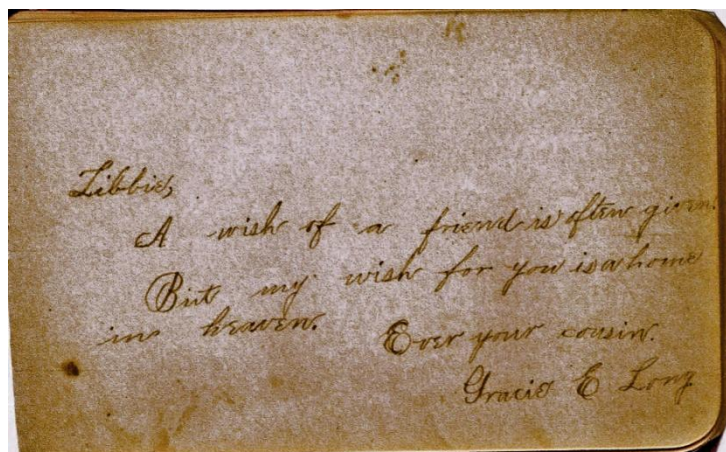
"Roses are red
The Violets blue
Crows look black
And so don't you
Chester J. Long

2 = 15 = 85



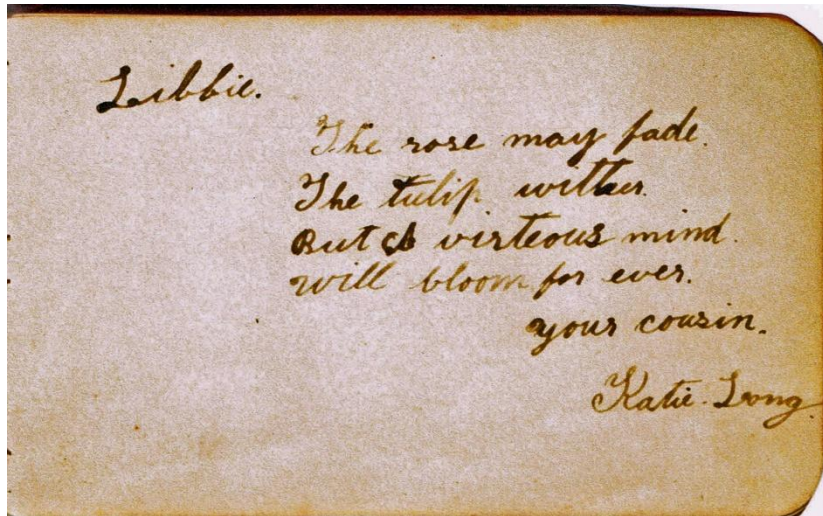
You asked me for something original,
I hardly know where to begin.
For there's nothing original in me
Except original sin.

Your cousin,
Etta Long



Libbie,
"A wish of a friend is often given
But my wish for you is a home in heaven.
Ever your cousin,
Gracie E. Long"

(Note: Libbie was very close to this cousin - 5 years
younger than she was. See pg. 11)

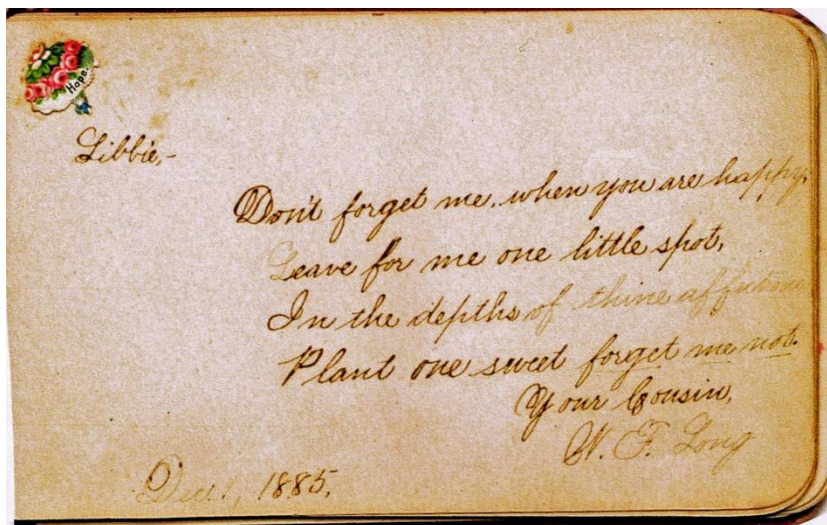


Libbie,

The rose may fade,
The tulip wither.
But a virtuous mind
will bloom forever."

Your cousin,

Katie Long



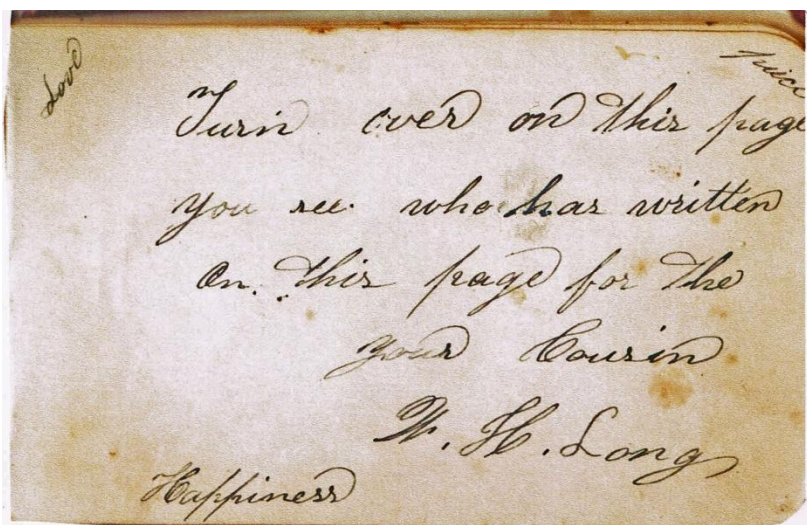
Libbie,

"Don't forget me, when you are happy,
Leave for me one little spot,
In the depths of thine affection
Plant one little forget me not.

Your Cousin,

W. F. Long (Wesley)

Dec 1, 1885



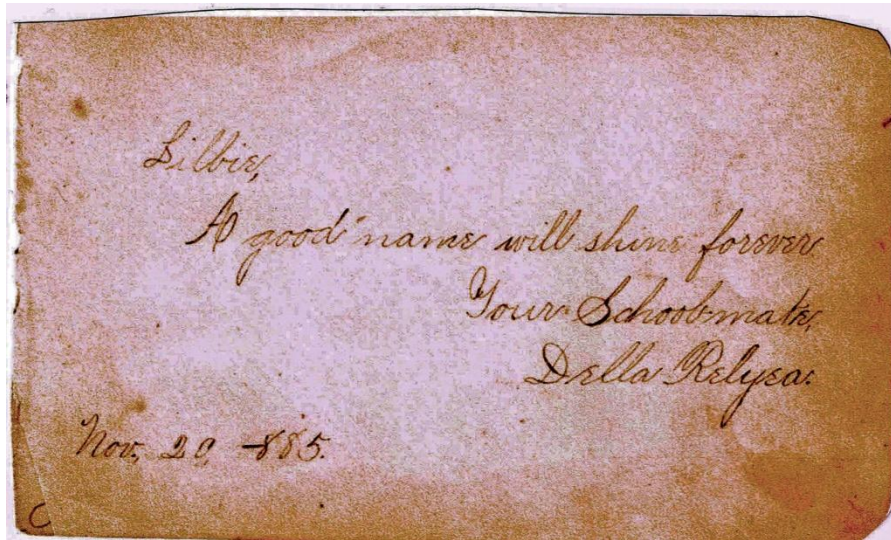
"Turn over on this page
you see who has written
on this page for thee"

Your Cousin

W. H. Long (William Harold)

Corners - Love, Peace, Happiness

(A newspaper clipping for the 1916 wedding of Grace E. Frederick and Charles Riggs (my parents) - lists William Harold Long and Mrs. Charles A. Long of Albany and Grace E. Long, of Genese as attendees.)



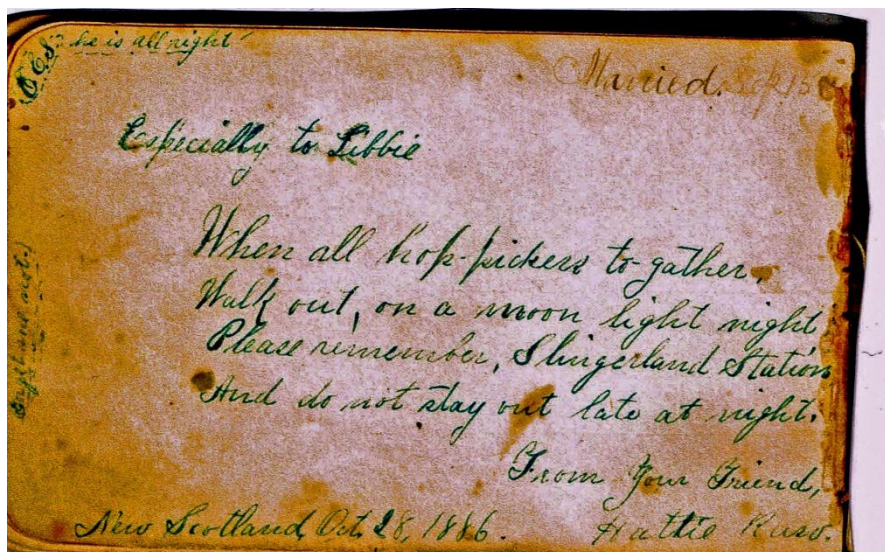
Libbie,

"A good name will shine forever".

Your Schoolmate
Della Relyea

Nov. 20 - 1885

RUSO (Russo)



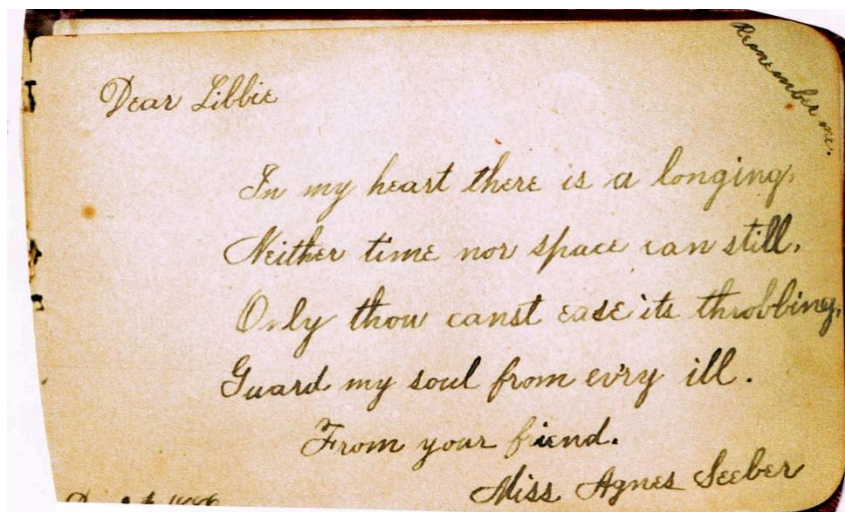
"Especially to Libbie
When all the hop pickers together
Walk out, on a moon light night.
Please remember, Slingerland Stations
And do not stay out late at night.

From your Friend
Hattie Russo
New Scotland Oct. 28, 1886

(In pencil Married)

Note: Grandma at one time picked
hops for a family.

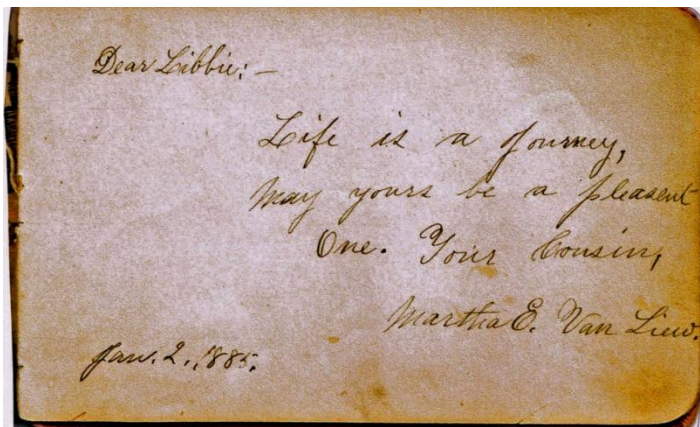
SEEBER



Dear Libbie

"In my heart there is a longing
Neither time nor space can still
Only thou canst ease its throbbing,
Guard my soul from every ill."

From your friend
Miss Anna Seiber
"Remember me" in corner (date missing)



Dear Libbie:

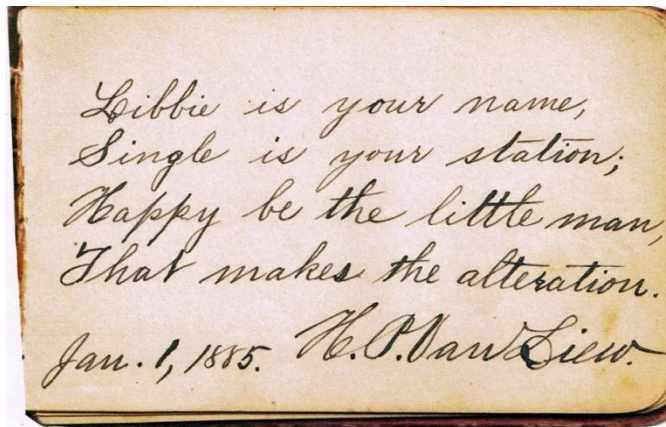
"Life is a journey,
May yours be a pleasant
One .

Your Cousin,
Martha E. Van Liew

Jan. 2, 1885

(b. 1856)

(Martha Ellen Long Van Liew)



"Libbie is your name,
Single is your station:
Happy be the little man,
That makes the alteration

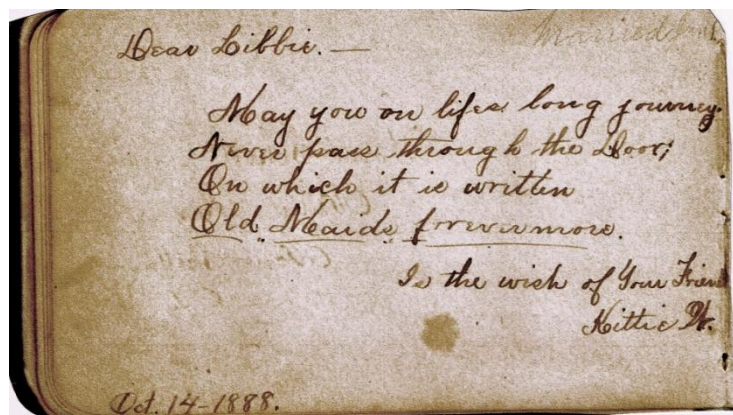
H.P, Van Liew

Jan. 1, 1885

(b. 1859 ---

(Henry Percival Van Liew - teacher, & wife lived next door to the Longs)

W _____



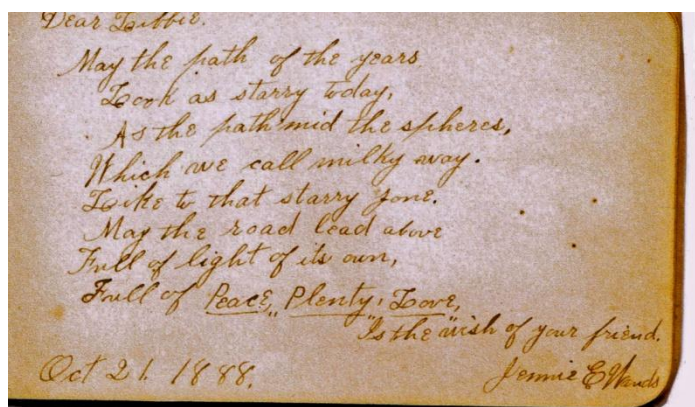
Dear Libbie,

"May you on lifes long journey
Never pass through the door,
On which it is written
Old Maids forevermore.

Is the wish of Your Friend
Kittie W

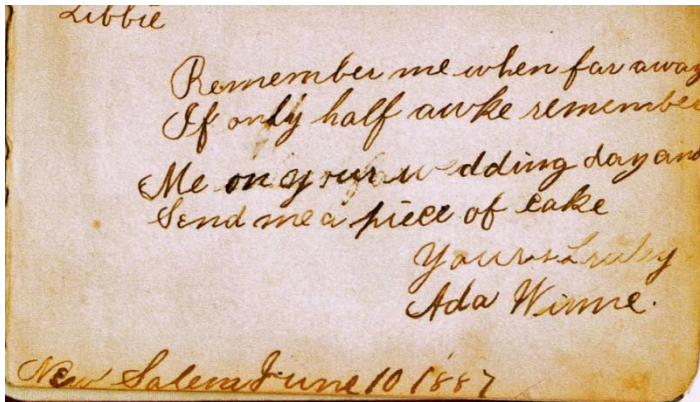
Oct. 14, 1888

WANDS FAMILY



"Dear Libbie ,
May the path of the years
Look as starry today
As the path mid the spheres,
Which we call milky way.
Like to that starry zone,
May the road lead above
Full of light of its own,
Full of Peace, Plenty, Love .

Is the wish of your friend
Jamie E. Wands. Oct. 21, 1888



Libbie

"Remember me when far
If only half awake remember me on your wedding and
Send me a piece of cake.

Yours truly

Ada Winne

New Salem June 10, 1887"

(John Long's mother was a Winnie - a connection ?)

Summary of signatures and some further information on the people who signed the autograph book .

LIBBIE'S AUTOGRAPH BOOK SIGNATURES

. Many of the names I heard in the years I grew up with Grandma between 1939 and 1944. Of course the Long family where she lived for several years.

Manchester Jones and Martha Stalker had 11 children. Chauncy, Lansing H., Almira, Lenza, Emily, Margaret, Allen V., Julia E., Hannah E., Harriet Cordelia (Delia), Adelia.

Emily Jones was the mother of Mary Elizabeth Becker (Libbie). When her husband, George C. Becker, died she was left with three small children – Grace Ida, John and Libbie. A short time later she married George Barber. He had children of his own and after their marriage he insisted that Emily's children be farmed out to friends and family to work for their room and board. I heard many heart breaking stories from my grandmother Libbie during those 5 years with her. (Marion also tells of one family in her story. See "Life of My Grandparents" Pt. 1 and "Marion and Frank Memoirs")

I am sorry that I do not have more information about her living with her aunts or others. I know some stories about how badly she was treated, but not the names of the families. (I hope at a later date to have the opportunity to at least write down the little that I know.)

The two confirmations which I have been able to find are : Betty Fink checked in the 1880 census and found that when Libbie was 9, she was living with Cordelia, her husband William Stoneburner and their three children. She also found the Long family living in New Scotland.

By the time she was in her early teens Libbie was living with the Long Family. John Long, son of John H. Long and Marritze Winne, and Libbie's Aunt Almira. Here she finally found happiness and acceptance. Most of the Long children signed the autograph book, undoubtedly because Libbie was living in their household when she obtained the book. She was especially fond of Grace Edna and although she was five years younger than Libbie, they remained close friends the rest of their lives. My mother Grace Edna Frederick was named after Grace Long. Libbie helped care for the younger children.

I am currently trying to research some of the connections between people above and find more of the families that Libbie and her siblings made their homes for years. Our local library has opened a special desk for genealogical work and a computer set to the library version of Ancestry.com