

(1)

Father's mother was always grandmother to us. We never called her or referred to her in more endearing terms, probably because on the death of her husband she adopted <sup>a</sup> complete mourning habit, dressing always in ~~(long)~~ black ~~skirts~~ <sup>with</sup> and shirtwaists with long sleeves buttoned closely around her neck. A costume of such formality together with an inherent reserve inhibited demonstrations and expressions of spontaneous affection by her grandchildren. Father, however, always referred to her <sup>as</sup> affectionately and called her marmie.

Julia with two sister Adell and name were Grandmother ~~was born xxx Foster xxx of three~~ daughters of name Foster who with a brother ~~xxx~~ were ~~xxx~~ at name on Lake Michigan that became the metropolis in Port Dearborn, the trading post predecessor of Chicago. During the Indian wars the brother was killed in a massacre of settlers attempting to escape to the east and name Foster became the sole owner of the land they together had acquired. ~~Chicago~~ With the building of the railroads Chicago, from a small farming town, grew rapidly into a major transportation and shipping center for the whole Middle West. Not foreseeing the enormous appreciation ~~of the value of their shares in the value~~ <sup>in</sup> following the growth of Chicago of the her sister land they had inherited from their father Adell and / name, preferring more civilized society, sold their shares to Julia, returned to New England, Adell marrying a Bross and name an Adams and settled on Elm Hill Farm near Peterborough, New Hampshire.

one of three daughters Adell and \_\_\_\_\_ Grandmother's maiden name was Julia Foster ~~the daughter of~~ Foster, ~~who with his brother was~~ <sup>his</sup> a pioneer settler with a brother at Fort Dearborn on the southern tip of Lake Michigan. Because of its strategic location Fort Dearborn, established originally as a defensive outpost against Indian attack, ~~rapidly expanded to an important trading center and farming community, which grew to be the city of Chicago~~ grew rapidly following the submission of the Indians to become an important trading center and farming community <sup>remained</sup> the city of Chicago.

During the Indian wars \_\_\_\_\_ Foster's brother was killed in a massacre of settlers attempting to escape to the east and \_\_\_\_\_ Foster became the sole owner of the land <sup>they had</sup> together acquired. With the building of the railroads , Chicago, from a small farming town, developed into a major transportation and shipping center for the whole Middle West. Not foreseeing the enormous appreciation in value, following the growth of Chicago, of the land they inherited from their father Adell and her sister \_\_\_\_\_ , preferring more civilized society , sold their shares to Julia and returned to their ancestral New England, Adell marrying a Bross and \_\_\_\_\_ an Adams and settled on Elm Hill Farm near Peterboro, New Hampshire.

Julia married Morris Porter an Episcopal minister. ~~xxxxxxx~~  
~~axxxcongregationxxxxRacinexxxxWisconsinxxxxTherexherxxxxxxwerexherx~~,  
~~thexelderxxxx~~ They went to Europe on their honeymoon before settling in Racine, Wisconsin where he had a congregation. There in childhood, their two sons were born, Morris the elder, who died ~~xxxxxx~~ and James Foster my father. The father of the boys died of appendicitis when my father was five years old, and following this tragic event grandmother moved back to Chicago, where she had many friends, to devote herself to the upbringing of her son and to various charitable enterprises.

Moved by her religious beliefs to help alleviate the sufferings of others and to make her own sorrow more tolerable she established with the aid of ~~her~~ women friends a hospital for the children of the poor. At first a simple affair in a <sup>house</sup> where the sick would receive constant care, it soon <sup>was</sup> expanded with the financial and administrative assistance of <sup>reporting men</sup> ~~the~~ male members of the city to a professional institution ~~dedicated to the memory of~~ founded by Julia Foster Porter and dedicated to the memory of her oldest son as the Morris Memorial Childrens Hospital.



My father grew up in Chicago where with many friends he shared an interest in the sciences and the revolutionary new theories on biological succession and evolution. He went to Harvard where his principal studies were in Biology and graduated in 1896. Soon after graduation he married my mother Ruth Wadsworth Furness also a Chicagoan who had graduated from Bryn Mawr College in 1895. Mother was the daughter of William Eliot Furness, for whom I was named, and Lucy Wadsworth. ~~They~~ Motivated perhaps by a spirit of adventure they settled in Chicago after the Civil War in which my grandfather had served as a major in a colored regiment that never saw action. My mother has two older sisters and a younger brother. The oldest sister Grace died of tuberculosis in California; her brother Jim enlisted in the Spanish-American War and died of typhoid in Cuba. The other sister Margaret, Aunt Peggy, lived all her life in Chicago, was devoted to my mother and never married. She became a librarian at the <sup>Carrere</sup> ~~Querrha~~ Library.

Following a wedding trip to Europe father and mother took up residence in New York while he studied ~~xxxx~~ at the Columbia Architectural School. Architecture was a second major interest of my father's after biology which he gave up because he felt his eyesight was too poor for work with a microscope. To manage his mother's real estate interests my parents moved back to Chicago after the death of \_\_\_\_\_ father and immediately began to plan houses for himself and his mother in Lakeside, a northern suburb of Chicago on Lake Michigan. His house was brick, Greek revival with an <sup>entrance</sup> ~~ionian~~ portico and facade featuring Ionic columns and Doric columned porches <sup>on each side of the house that faced south</sup> ~~at both sides~~. Father was <sup>such an insistent</sup> ~~a~~ purest in his admiration of classical architecture that the Greek features he incorporated in the house were pure undistorted, mathematically precise copies of the originals on the





and Squirrel Nutkin, my favorite, and the frightening one about the rats that had captured Tom Kitten and were about to make ~~xxx~~ <sup>of him</sup> ~~xxx~~ a dumpling/when he was rescued by the Scotch terrior, John the Joiner. She also read the King Arthur stories, Stevenson's <sup>and</sup> Rewards and Faries, and Treasure Island/the travels of Mark Twain and many many others. She also read to father, and later during our summers in Maine mother would read to the whole family ~~in the~~ ~~evening~~ gathered ~~around the fire place~~ of an evening in the high ceilinged living room around the fire place were four foot logs burned.

<sup>vivid</sup> One of my first memories of these early years, was June 10, 1907, the day Fairfield was born, a snow storm during the night <sup>I was five years old, then,</sup> ~~seen the~~ covered everything <sup>(the green leaves)</sup> and all next morning from the nursery window) had ~~buried the green bushes under~~ <sup>soft</sup> a thick white blanket. <sup>Another</sup> ~~The other~~ event indelibly impresses on my memory was Halley's comet. in 1910.

In 1911 Father bought an ~~island~~ <sup>home</sup> ~~in Penobscot Bay~~ on the coast of Maine <sup>home</sup> as a summer ~~place~~ <sup>place</sup> for his family. He built <sup>The</sup> a large <sup>shingled</sup> ~~cottage~~ <sup>home he had built had separate</sup> with rooms for ~~for~~ all of us children and for guests as well. ~~xxx~~ <sup>in 1913</sup> We began <sup>to go there every summer</sup> ~~in 1913~~. ~~Before~~ <sup>before</sup> summers before Maine, if not spent at home in Lakeside, later renamed Hubbard Woods,

Our summers in Maine began in 1913 and have continued ~~with xxx~~ <sup>those few</sup> ~~few~~ to the present ~~day~~ <sup>go to</sup> time except for occasional years when we did not all ~~xxxxxxx~~ the Island but <sup>made trips</sup> ~~xxxxxxx~~ <sup>more made trips</sup> ~~west instead or to other parts of the world~~. My father was an enthusiastic camper and during his college years had twice ~~him~~ been camping with friends in the Canadian Rockies. With mother he visited <sup>Bellevue July 1905</sup> the Yellowstone National Park in September 1904, <sup>with 4</sup> and in 1906 with friends they camped in the Grand Canyon in February and in the Canadian Rockies <sup>with 9</sup> in August. His ~~xxxxxxx~~ <sup>mountain</sup> ~~geological~~ <sup>in</sup> fascination with geological ~~wonders~~ and dramatic scenery was apparently most satisfied by the Canadian Rocky ~~Mountains~~ <sup>Mountains</sup> for it was here that he returned most often. After a second

(6)

~~father mother~~ <sup>page 76</sup> trip to the Grand Canyon in March 1908, he and mother returned

with friends to the Canadian Rockies in the <sup>Aug.</sup> summer of that year.

Nineteen nine

1909 was a busy year. In March father and mother took me to Florida, <sup>in the misery of</sup> visiting

/ first to St. Augustine where in a power boat cruise <sup>under that had been</sup> I had my first and last

experience with sea sickness I lay down on a freshly painted

green bench, and <sup>then to</sup> ~~where~~ <sup>where</sup> by sad experience ~~where~~ on Long Key I learned about Portuguese men-o-war.

<sup>going further south</sup> and (from there we went to the Keys <sup>it was</sup> where on Long Key <sup>that</sup> I learned by

sad experience about Portuguese men'o war. That summer in June father

took the whole family - Fairfield was the youngest, John had not yet

been <sup>on a road</sup> born - to visit grandmother's sisters, our great aunts, in <sup>tr</sup> moustache, Peterboro, New Hampshire. While here father shaved off his ~~mustache~~

which he had worn since maturity, and when Edward came into father's and mother's room following this transformation, he asked mother anxiously,

"Who is that man"? Then in August father and mother <sup>came</sup> went again to the <sup>on a month long camping trip</sup> of their friends <sup>that</sup> Canadian Rockies/with a large party/father had organized. During the

<sup>Canadian Rockies Aug 1911</sup> last summer before we began going regularly to Maine in 1913, while the house on the island was under ~~xi~~ construction, father and mother took their three <sup>my</sup> eldest, Nancy, Edward and ~~xi~~, camping in Ypho Valley in the Canadian Rockies.