

7-07-02

Sunday at 10:05 am
Cool, Overcast.

Dear Rebekah,

The French have a useful phrase to refer to an account ~~that~~ in which the writer gives the details of what is going on ~~just~~ right around him (or her). It is a slice of life, une tranche de vie. Here we are:

Papa went to work this Sunday morning before 7 am. He is "On Service" for two weeks, taking care of patients in the hospital. Mamma went to work at about 8³⁰ am. Leah, Benjamin and Nathaniel accepted our invitation to breakfast at 174 School Street. [Originally, I had hoped to cook and entertain guests in the new basement kitchen, but it will be a week or two until that room will be ready.] Jochen and Benjamin have gone out to Concord in search of the spirit of the Minutemen, I guess. Nathaniel has been sitting in the rocking chair reading, and Leah has been making pictures: see the enclosures.

Yesterday L, N and B went with Uncle D and Charlie and Sarah and Jared to a baseball game. Although the Red Sox were, I don't get ^(I even heard the word, boring) a much of a picture or feeling for what went on. Perhaps the games in which the boys themselves play have more real meaning to them.

At 11:30 Benjamin and Jochen have not yet returned. They must be getting hungry! Nathaniel has joined Leah at the drawing game. You may get the delicate pastel drawing of the vase with flowers and leaves that sits under the lamp on the dining room table. No, it stays with me. Too far! Now, lunch, including salad to take the edge-off hunger.

20-FO-5

When Jochen and Benjamin finally returned, I had the salad ready so I was able to have both Benjamin and Nathaniel as well as Leah have salad as their first course. That is the way to get this important nutritional element taken care of. Where had they been Jochen & Benj? They had rented a Kayak and spent over an hour on the rivers: The Assabet, Sudbury and Concord rivers between the Old North Bridge and the South Bridge.

This afternoon, the boys spent some time watching baseball on the TV at HUG and about as much time playing tennis (at Nathaniel's urging) on the Grove St courts. Leah spent a peaceful afternoon playing ^{interesting} tunes on a battery of water ~~glasses~~ glasses and wooden blocks and building an elaborate structure, long and low, out of the old wooden blocks. She ~~told~~ ^{told} a story about a monad in the forest which was illustrated by the tunes that she rapped out. I also read to her a little.

At this time next week, you will be at home.

I suspect that you will have many things to do, but that planning your time wisely will be somewhat difficult. There will be patients here ^{next week} Monday and Tuesday, perhaps Wednesday, but I hope to see a little of you and to hear more about your experiences, your plans for the rest of the summer.

Monday 7/8/02

Dear Rebekah,

Just a short note to add to this series of notes. Then I'll walk down to Garden St to mail it off, putting on a little extra postage just to be sure. I've been putting a few houseplants out for summer vacation. All my garden work is very slow but I'm doing more than I thought that I could. Your nice note of Thursday/Emily's mailing just arrived. Being out on a lake at sunset is wonderful. Love Caroline to you

After returning from swimming yesterday, you refer to that Benj is a very good swimmer