

of course the other 3 had to
left alone while we went to the
hospital. papa went back to the
and in again after tea but she
was to be taken back then as I waited with
her to be handy (for we could only walk) and papa came
back from his bed (and now trace the lord
she is recovering. I remain your affectionate daughter Clara West

Green Joint
Pambula
Jan 9th 1906

My Dear Mother

Sisters & Brothers,

I have some news for
you now which was near
being of a funeral. On Sunday
morning about 12 o'clock Hilda
was bitten by a black snake
on her heel. The children were
all going with their papa to
gather cherries to eat, when she
stepped on the snake's nest and
on a young one, the mother of it
then rushed and bit her. Papa
was just beside her and snatched
her in his arms and ran a few
yds away and placing her on the ground
sucked the poison out. Her screams
were terrible and caused me to run.

for a good while. I expect. Chicago always ~~was~~ ~~was~~
send her word. Gladida will be a bit lame & weak
saw Makala. I don't know her address, please
others are well. I got your letter. Glad you
see the cause, Then I rushed in and

got a knife and ran down to where
they were and papa held her down
whilst I cut the part right out.

Poor child her cries were terrible
and the part bled violently until
the doctor came and stoped it
I tied 2 bandages 1 round her ankle
and 1 below the knee, as firmly as
I could and stoped the circulation

Ivy & Edna then ran to Longhurst's
and he galloped for the Doctor and both
got here in less than an hour after.

The poor children had to rush through
a thunder shower which came just
as they started. We had great difficulty
in keeping her awake, and the cold
perspiration came all over her face
and her skin went leaden and waxy
several times she was nearly gone
but we roused her with brandy &
Gladida got home a few days.

great pain in my hand & arm ever since. All the
for one kicked about a good lot; and I have had
the knife and I got some of the poison into it I think
I had to slash a bit out of my thumb while I was
ammonia which we happened to have
a little left since my illness.

The poor child lost more than
a quart of blood and my clothes
were saturated with it to my
skin; for I carried her up and
down the verandah and had to
shake her to keep her awake,
then came the cramp and drew
her leg double and pain all went
under her knee and she screamed
when moved so we kept her awake
with salts and roused her until
after 6 o'clock when the dr said
it would be safe to let her sleep
for an hour then wake her and
give brandy + water to keep her
heart from failing as that was the
chief thing to fear then. We took
her to the hospital about 3 in the afternoon
to be handy in case of collapse

and as there were no others in
the people of the town were all excited
it and we were stopped a good many times before
we could get away. Dr says his father saved her
life. That he feels very much ever since.

she got plenty of attention, and
people came in and out all the
time until church time. Miss King
was there all night, bringing
her every hour for her medicine or
a teaspoonful of brandy, she knew no
but seemed only half to notice, and
the first real notice she took was
about half past 3 in the early morning
when she made some commonplace remark
about some thing she could see and spoke
in her natural lively tone. I forgot to
say she ricked about 20 times and
could not take anything but drinks
of water and a sip of milk. Papa came
for us at about 11 o'clock, ^{next morning} as the Dr said
the critical time would be over by morning.
The dear child prayed several times for
Jesus to take her to heaven if she died and to
forgive and wash her in his precious blood. But
he has been pleased to spare her and we are
thankful