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& was gone an hour. The first pleasure trip I have taken this month. Father went over to J. C. Wests this evening and returned about 5 minutes after I got out of the cove. I got out at 8:50. P.M. (that is I out of the cove) good night [illegible]

Wednesday Feb 11th 1891

5:45 in cove (Monument Hall Route 1 trip

Father started to Hot Springs this morning at 7:00 o'clock. at 7:00 a.m J. M. Moore and I started for Monument Hall. When we got just this side of Devils Look out we found a ledge of Marble about 26 inches thick. On our way to Monument Hall we found several places that we threatened to explore on way back. We explored all the places except the last one but found nothing. When we got up to the middle of the longest stretch on the rope, I determined to explore that little hole, that I threatened to explore on the 25th day of January 1891, when Mat. Moore & Elmer was with me. I left J. M. Moore at the top of the crevice & started down it (the crevice). When I got about half way down I met with a bothersome obstacle in the shape of a rock. After hammering it, (the rock), out of the way I called for the rope, (because there was a hole below me that I could not see the bottom of,) and got it in about a minute. I was suprised to find that the rope would not reach within ten feet of the bottom of the hole, and that was the hardest climbing of the whole business (the bottom of the hole is about level with the bottom of the White Elephants). I found myself in a wonderful place & among the most beautiful scenery in the volcanic part of Wind Cave. From here I found the most dangerous climbing that I ever experienced. In the first place I got into the middle of, (as far as I could tell), a place that I could see neither bottom nor top. After I got out of that scrape I found a room, about the shape of Monument Hall and about twice as long. At the far end of this room I saw some beautiful bracket work that was crystalized. After I left this room about 400 feet behind I came suddenly & unexpectedly to a stop. On the way back I saw the main passage that I had missed but had not the time to explore it because I thought J. M. Moore