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Archives of American Art

Blanche Lazzell diary

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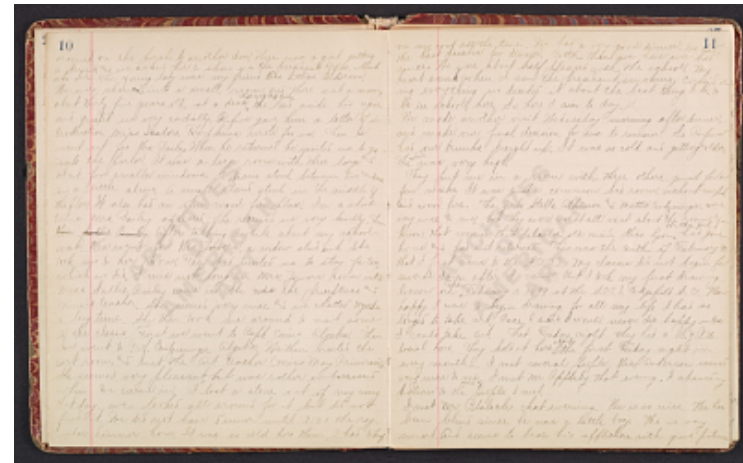
around on the porch to another door. There was a girl getting a drink and we asked her to show us the president's office which she did. The young lady was my friend Miss Lillian Andrews. We were shown into a small room and there sat a man, about thirty five years old, at a desk. ^[[This was Reg?]]. He laid aside his cigar and greeted us very cordially. Rufus gave him a letter of introduction Miss Isadore Tompkins wrote for us. Then he went out for Mrs. Bailey. When he returned he invited us to go into the parlor. It was a large room with three large and about five smaller windows. A piano stood between two windows in a little alcove. A small stand stood in the middle of the floor. It also had an open wood fire place. In a short time Mrs. Bailey appeared. She received us very kindly. Then ~~Miss Sallie Bailey~~ After talking a while about my school work she went for Mrs. Jowers, a widow student. She took me to her room. They had invited us to stay for tea, which we did. I was not long in Mrs. Jowers room until Miss Sallie Bailey came in. She is the preceptress and music teacher. She seemed very nice and we chatted together a long time. She then took me around to visit some of the classes. First we went to Capt. Cain's Algebra. Then we went to Prof. Entyminger Algebra. We then visited the art rooms and met the art teacher (Miss May Primrose). She seemed very pleasant, but was rather embarrassed when we came in. I lost a stone out of my ring that day. We looked all around for it but did not find it. We did not have dinner until 9:30 the regular dinner hour. It was so cold here then. I had today

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on my coat all the time. We had a very good dinner. We had the best peaches for dinner. Better than we have ever had since. We were about half pleased with the school. My heart sank when I saw the president smoking. Considering everything we decided it about the best thing to do, to be in school here. So here I am to day. We made another visit Wednesday ~~after~~ morning after dinner, and made our final decision for me to remain. So Rufus had our trunks brought up. It was so cold and getting colder. The ^~~the~~ wind ~~was~~ was very high. They put me in a room with three others just for a few weeks. It was just a common bedroom, without carpet and wood fire. The girls Stella Atkinson and Mattie Entyminger were very nice to me, but they were not at all neat about the room. You know that worried this future old maid. Miss Lyon, ^~~the~~ the other girl ~~had~~, had gone home and had not returned. This was the tenth of February 99 that I first came to the S.C.I.I. My classes did not begin for several days after I came. But I took my first drawing lesson on ^~~today~~ February 11, 1899 at the S.C.C.I. Edgefield S.C. How happy I was to begin drawing, for all my life I had so longed to take art. Once I said I would never die happy unless I could take art. That Friday night they had a B.Y.O.U. social here. They hold it here ^~~about~~ the first Friday night in every month. I met several people. Miss Anderson seemed very nice to me. I met Mr. Appleby that evening. I showed my pictures to ^~~some of~~ the people I met. I met Mr. Blalock that evening. He is so nice. He has been blind since he was a little boy. He is very smart. And seems to bear his affliction with great patience



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