



THE BEECH CAMP

Ella Baker Pinney

circa 1900

There was a woman and man we will call C.
Who invited to go camping Miss Welltra P.
She to be generous invited Mrs. B
And before they were through there was quite a company

There was Ernest, Addie, Cornelia and Frank.
To support such a number needs quite a bank.
Now where the money came from, I never can tell,
But this much I know we lived mighty well.

Would you believe it? we had nice frosted cake,
For Cornelia would go to Etta's and bake,
And plenty of bread both white and brown,
Brought quite fresh by some one from town.

One day we invited company their dinner to eat,
We had everything good both sour and sweet



And of fried chicken, we had only four,
Do you think we could have wished anything more?

Among the company there were some of fame
Dr. and Mrs. Charles J by name.
And Mrs. C as you all well know,
Other mediums beside her have very poor show.

The Etta who gave us use of our camp,
And horse and carriage to save us a tramp,
When we wished to go to the city or village,
Frank's, Welltra's, or Mrs. C's house to pillage.

And Susie came to and though dark of skin,
Was a soul to save from that "Mortgage Sin."
And there is another I have not mentioned yet,
Little Lois who is dear to one you may bet.

We gave Dr. Charles some work to do,
Carving our initials on the beech tree in view.
Of all other people both great and small,
Who may chance on the old camp-ground to call.