

GENMS10\_Sweetser\_02211899tr

Transcribed by Jenna Aldrich, 3/14/17

Gorham Maine  
Feb. 21st 1899.

My dear Mamma:-

Tomorrow will be  
Washington's birthday but we have a school  
just the same. Mr. Corthell ~~would~~ keeps a school  
every day that he possibly can. He  
would never give us a holiday if he  
had his way about it.

Grace came last night and brought all  
the writing you sent. Those things you sent  
me to eat I thank you very much for the  
chocolates are the best I ever ate. Heave(sic)  
not tried the cake yet but know that it  
is good. I finished my skirt tonight  
after school. Was very glad you sent it  
back but I think you must have had  
to hurry awfully to get it ready to send.  
Sunday the walking was very bad +  
I did not go to meeting. after dinner  
Rhonda + Marian came in and we read

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storys nearly all the afternoon.  
One of the other girls came in after  
supper and stayed until nearly nine.  
Monday morning we studied most of the  
time. Marian Higgins had a friend  
come to see her and we were with  
them part of the afternoon. Got your  
letter also one from Polly + one from  
Mildred Hamilton.  
Miss Frickett, (the best teacher in the lot)  
invited us down to her room in the  
afternoon Eunice Rhoda + I went. She  
read astronomy to us it was very  
interesting and we had a very nice time.

Last evening the fire department was called out and we had an awful time none of the girls knew what to do as they are new ones who have never been on the companies before as least most of them were.

Every girl on my company was new at the buisness and I couldn't get anything through their heads. They just stood still and stared at me.

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We got our hose tangeled [sic] up with on of the others. I got a hose wound around my feet + another around my neck.

One girl got one around her and it pulled her down stairs and around a corner so quick that she did not know where she was. Things were in a hubbub for a while. I went up over and down over twelve flights of stairs in less than fifteen minutes. I then had to put up my hose alone all the rest of the company run off and left me. I don't fancy that kind of business and i was rather tired when I got back to my room. Folding a hundred feet of hose onto a rack and running up and down stairs that way is hard work.

Today has been a lovely day. The walking is very bad here and so I don't go out any only to school.

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We plan to have a spread tomorrow night after school if nothing happens. Katherine and Christine are coming over next Saturday night to stay [illegible] Sunday. Won't we have some fun? We have planned a good time for

Saturday night and I guess we  
can find enough else to do the  
rest of the time they are here.  
The small pox seem to be spreading  
doesn't it? I wouldn't be very much  
supprised [sic] if they had scholars  
here all vaccinated as they are doing  
it in the other schools.  
Why don't Ernest + Herman write?  
Neither of them are going to school and  
I should think they might find time  
to write once in a while.  
It is getting late and I am rather  
tired so must close and go to bed  
With love to all  
Harriet  
Had to cut this paper to get it into  
the envelope.  
It is a cloudy morning it looks as

[Top of first page]

though it was  
going to rain  
it did not  
freeze any  
last night.  
I am glad  
the days are  
growing longer  
ut I am  
afraid I  
shall not  
see the  
morning  
star very  
often for  
when I  
get up  
I have to  
hurry to  
get in  
breakfast

[top of third page]

so don't  
have any  
time to  
look for  
stars.

Yesterday  
morning  
we ate  
breakfast  
without  
a light  
it seemed  
good

They will  
have to have  
lights this  
morning  
it is so  
dark. The  
bell is  
rung so  
must stop  
Harriet.