

GENMS10_Sweetser_04091899tr

Transcribed by Catherine Glynn, 2/10/17

Frederick Robie Hall Gorham Me

April 9, 1899

My dear Mamma:-

We have just got in from a walk. It is blowing hard and so the mud is drying up in places. We saw a large flock of robins and blackbirds. I never knew you saw the two together before. The grass is quiet [*sic*] green in front of the school building. Charles stayed out this week. She says that when she goes back to Portland she is going to walk to Westbrook and there take the electric. Miss Lawrence, the negro girl in our class was on the train at the time of the accident and she was so frightened that she has been sick ever since and has left school. I suppose it was the same train that I came out on Tuesday night but I am not sure. Last evening we four played whist most

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of the evening.

One morning last night I thought I would print some pictures so I went to get my plates and I dropped the one of papa's store on the floor and smashed it all to pieces. You know when I was at home I said I had never broken a plate so you this is the first one.

The picture that I tried to take that

noon is awful you all wiggled and it is a queer looking sight. I have not tried to print any. I took two the other night after school some thing [sic] is the matter with them overexposed I believe. The one of the cow that I let the photographer fix Is all right [sic] but the other one has the House for a back ground [sic] and there is not enough difference between the color of that and the cow to make a good picture I did not think when I took it. I will send you all of the good ones it is not as good as it might be

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in color for I left it in the [illegible] solution to [sic] long. I have not had any time to do anything to the others but will if it is a pleasant day tomorrow. I [illegible] the pictures of the shop that I had so you see I have one good picture of it. If you will send me those proofs that I printed of [illegible], and of the sitting room I will [illegible] them. I have no more of that kind of paper.

I had to leave this letter here for Grace and Charles came in and we started a letter to Polly thanking her for a box of candy she sent us by one of the girls last week. The supper bell rang before we had finished it so we left that. We had some nice frosted cake hot rolls and appricots [sic] for supper

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I thought at first it was all a dream for they have keep us on corned beef and potatoes all the week. After supper they sang for a while and then we went to meeting.

I have not been out to an evening meeting
this year before while over here.

We are studying Mathematical Geography
now so get a little astronomy. After
meeting we stay out star gazing
for a while and then came in
and looked out of the window.

We found Jupiter, Mars, Sirius [*sic*], Orion,
The Lion, the Sickle Castor, Pollox, Alde baron [*sic*]
The Pleadeas [*sic*], Heyades [*sic*], Great Dipper
and a few others.

I never could make out Orion to see him
but I did tonight. I think it is fun
to look after the different constellations
We have a Planetsphere to find them
with. This is a chart or something of the
kind and we can by moving different
parts tell what stars can be seen

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any day at any time.

I don't know what Miss White would
have said if she had known we had
been out on the portico over the front
door stargazing.

She is getting awful strict. We always
have gone to the bath room [*sic*] to wash
so that we would not have to have water
in our room, and every night before
studyhours [*sic*] Grace & Charles Eunice & I
would go out and wash our face and hands
before we went to bed for we got our
hand all covered with ink and
lead pencil marks while we are studying.
but we [can't] do it any longer for she
has laid down a rule saying that no
one can wash in the bath rooms after
seven o'clock in the evening or before six

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o'clock in the morning.

If I come back to school her next
year I shall not board her unless
they change some of the rules they
are getting altogether to [*sic*] strict for me.
It is as bad as a prison.

This minister here, Mr. Reynolds is candidating
so you may have the chance to see
him perform. I wish you might hear
him once to see what you would say.
Well it is getting late and I am
tired so must go to bed.
Good night with love to all
Harriet