

Transcribed by Stacy Calderwood, 1/13/21

Tokyo

Dec. 26, 1906

Dear Mrs. Tibbetts

Your package was received several days ago. That is such a lovely gift! All those [stitches] taken for me! Everyone has admired it very much. Its so pretty & dainty! Those are always characteristics of things you make. I really don't know how to thank you. I just wish I could hug you. I think I could express my appreciation that way better than any other. Elsie's gift is very dear too. It is very kind of her to remember me when I know she has so many relatives & girl friends to think of at Christmas.

Yesterday was a very pleasant day for me. Perhaps you think "Why shouldn't it be?" Do you know I had rather a dread of the day. You know – yes. I think you can understand exactly how I do feel thinking of all the others of the family as going home.

Mrs. [Hamblen] had rather a unique table decoration. It was a little Xmas tree about 3 feet high in the center of the table. It was prettily decorated & loaded with little gifts. The children (Louisa [*illegible*]) hung their stockings [the] night before so there were no very large packages.

While we were at dinner Mr. & Mrs. Yangi (of the Japanese hotel where George has boarded) called. Mrs. [Hamblen] invited them to eat desert with us. They accepted. I think it was a novel experience to them. They were very much interested in the tree. Probably it was the first time they ever ate at a foreign table.

George & I are both having a two weeks vacation. This p.m. we start off for a little trip of four or five days. We are going to the island of Oshima. There is a volcano there which we intend to climb.

I suppose Abbie is in Cal. by this time. I haven't had a letter from her for some time. I'm glad she is going. I don't think the [table] work will be as wearing as school. It's a good way to see Cal. any way. It does seem a long ways to go alone but probably she will make friends there. All the good people aren't in N. England.

It has been a little colder for the last week. Below 32° one or two mornings but in the middle of the day about [*illegible*] 5°.

Some one wrote me that Mrs. Blair had been sick. Is she all right now? How is your father, Mrs. Tibbetts? Does he still keep his green house? He was so generous with his flowers.

Thank you for my beautiful present. I have on the little apron you gave me two years ago.

With much love,
Cora [Riles] Haley