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Gorham Maine.

February 12th 1899.

My dear Mamma:-

It is snowing hard and the girls have just come from meeting. Eunice and I were so tired that we both stayed at home. Grace went to Portland last night so we are alone.

I have just changed my dress and am all ready for dinner but there is a half hour before dinner time as I will write a letter.

Last night Eunice^{and} had a real house cleaning. We swept our floor and washed it. We have changed the things all around and you would never know it was the same room. We like it much better than we did before. It looks more like a sitting room and we have more room.

We worked until supper time and then we had not got done so we finished about seven o'clock.

After that we went into one of the girls and stayed until about half past eight. They had some peanuts and marshmallows so we traded marshmallows and talked all the evening. Then we went into our room and were going to bed but decided would wash out our swim suits so we did. We went to bed as soon as we had finished and we were very tired. ~~the~~ We have changed our beds so that mine is on one side of the room and Eunice's on the other. Before they were side by side so it seemed funny to be talking across the room to each other.

They have had a terrible run again heating this building. This last week has been so cold and those days when the wind blew so the rooms on the back side of the house were just like refrigerators. Our room was awful hot because they had to keep so much steam in and we had to have our window open most every evening to keep comfortable.

It has been cold over to the school house too the girls had to keep their jackets on. One morning the temperature was

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not up to sixty in the main room.

I think you must have had quite a bad storm, as we did here.

Mr. Cuthell has been home all the week I don't know how sick he is but I heard last night that he was better.

One of the teachers has a bad cold and can hardly speak out loud.

Miss Halliday had to leave yesterday noon on account of the sickness of her sister in Auburn. Mr. Russell has a bad cold too. so you see the teachers are having a hard time of it.

Last Monday we went on a sleigh ride. The stable keeper said he would take us if we would get up a crowd of at least fourteen and not more than twenty four.

There were twenty eight of us, ^{plus} went in two teams one had twenty in it and the other eight. We went down to Westbrook and back by another road. We were gone

from two o'clock until half past four.
We had a lovely time and the sleighing was
very good.

I heard yesterday that Mr. & Mrs. Davis came
near coming over last Monday. I wish they
would come over some time.

Christy and Katherine are coming over
and stay a few days a week from next Saturday.

I suppose the school at the Institute closes
this week. I would like to be there at the
Exhibition. Is Ernest dreading it?

The last two weeks have gone quick and it
is only five weeks from next Friday that we
have our vacation. Five weeks from next
Friday sound better than six weeks from last
Friday.

If they don't have dinner pretty soon I shall
starve because I did not eat much breakfast.
I think we are going to have oyster stew.
We did have oyster stew for dinner and it
was good.

I have brought up some magazines and am
going to read a little this afternoon after I
write a letter to Polly so I will leave the letter
now until evening.

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It is eight o'clock. Rhoda and Marian, two girls that are left that we know, have been in here since supper and have just gone. We have been reading a story and have enjoyed the evening. It would be awful lonesome if it was not for those two girls. We four sit all alone at one end of our table at meals now.

This afternoon Eunice and I tested your currant jelly and we finished the tumbler. It has stopped snowing and I hope it may be pleasant to-morrow.

We took a flash light of our room the other night before we changed it around and it looks so pretty this way that we want another taken.

I sent my plates down to the photographer last night and if the pictures are good may send some to you. We took one of Grace and Charles' room. They were both going to be in the picture but Charles had never had a flash light taken and when

The powder must off she jumped and knocked over some cups and saucers on the table. Grace said she jumped so so I am afraid the picture of them some will not be so good.

If Grace should go home next Saturday night I shall send my red skirt by her and you can send it back by Christy the next week. I do much think Grace may go next Saturday but she may.

Today I have been mending my red waist with my green skirt. They go together very well.

For the last two or three days the work has seemed a little easier but still we find enough to keep us busy most of the time. When is it time to start our chrysanthemum growing? We want to start ours as soon as it is time.

I have not thrown my lily away yet because it is still green but it is breaking down now so I shall not be able to keep it much longer. I hope I shall hear more from you next week than I did last. I must close now
With love to all Harriet.