

Winters - Yolo County
California -

Dear Linda: -

I & has never been as pretty
here before as on this trip - as I have never
been when the grass was green - Maude had
opened the house the day before I start and
I arrived - yet in that short time she had
cleaned it throughout - made the beds - etc.
The only help available are a young girl
and boy brought over from Woodland -
Maude did not have a very pleasant job
in her cleaning either - as woodpeckers had
got in by the chimneys - they could
not get out again and - poor things -
had had to starve to death inside -
leaving very dead bodies to be removed -
also ~~the~~ ~~father~~ ~~rice~~ had done what
they could - Will Corvill is also here -
also Mrs North - and Tuesday evening
a number are expected to stay over the
New Year - We had a drive this afternoon
along Putah Creek - The coloring is not as
fine as in the summer or fall - in
respect to the shadows and sky - I
came on condition that I study nearly
all the time - It is hard to do - both on
account of the tendency to wish to explore
the country or on account of the
piano going -

Your Christmas letter came right
on the day - When we left the book
you spoke of had not arrived but it

probably will while I am here - I hope you did go to Mrs Fearing's. Mrs Brown called Thursday - She seemed rather older than two years ago - but was very pleasant. She is lonely too -

Our Christmas was not extra lively. There were plenty of presents - and an extra good dinner - Poor Eibi was sick however - from helping at Mr Sherman's. He must have spent a large part of his earnings on his gifts - They were all rather elaborate - yet I think ~~that~~ that he got a certain enjoyment in buying them - I was sorry in one way that he presented me with a half a dozen luncheon crystal glasses with gilt rims - it was too much - but they are very pretty - Pa furnished the candle tips for Arthur Bayley's sticks - Ma gave a black petticoat with silk ruffle and hamp, worked by herself - Sam, white gloves; Aunt a fine book of "Master in Art" - Chip a book, mine and Capie, neckwear; Hart's Aunt a book. Elma, a book; Maude, an Indian basket, and Arthur a book - Between us Hart and I received seventeen books -

I will write you as soon as possible - but wish you a happy New Year - and luck where you wish it - with love -

Emma -

December 29, 1901 - (over)

Dear Neddy: -

The book you sent did arrive & was found on my return. I like its contents very much; - it is a pretty frame and an almost prettier card. Mamma showed me how you had sent her pin - she was very much pleased in it - I thank you for mine - All the pictures I have of you are too large for it - however - to my regret -

That & I came home Wednesday evening in time to get the remains of a fibre sock and tomato soup stuck - since then has been chiefly study of the hang over kind - My dear this Italian was over yesterday - after my having written these notes on account of gossipping at the address -

Pa mailed a book for me to you yesterday - for your birthday - Arthur gave me one like it for Christmas - but I know nothing of its merits - I wish you and very happy birthday - hope it will not be one of those enclosed - all-day days - With much love to you - In vella

Sunday - Jan. 5, 1902.
Emma