

15 rue Guinegard

Dear Cousin Lucy and Cousin Pierre;—

We send you
the Christmas wishes, very hearty
hoping ones, — today — It is usual
to write so you receive them on
the day, but this time we
have had to be a little original,
for a concours of two weeks
only ended Friday night, and
you know they have something
the effect on our real competitions
have. I have found too, that

the time which used to be goes into
housekeeping - buying, cooking etc -
so that while no tricker, there is less
letter writing.

It has been an ideal Christmas
as to weather, bright and clear, with
all the fountains hung with icicles,
roofs and sidewalks, the quai's
down to the water's edge white with
hoar frost. You would think
we had had a snow storm. We
drove over by the Champs Elysees
this morning to see a friend from
home, - you were saw so many
poodles of all descriptions, or so
many automobiles, - equally varied as
to character. It all seemed so
bright and beautiful. It woke
us out of our dullness - we had
not felt like celebrating before, ^{but} - decided

we had been mean about it, so Arvey
went off and hunted up several of
the students - we surmised would be
pretty lonely while I got up an
American lunch. The company
were requested to bring their own
utensils - i.e. eating implements, our
stock being limited, and you would
have been surprised to see how
pretty a table the big dressing
boards made with the green and
white covers and the holly berries,
and miscellaneous collection of
dishes - The roof of the "Hotel des
Mormons" opposite was exactly like
a snow background - for the
windows are big and we have
no curtains because working ^{in the room} there
all day, we like every bit of light.

This evening we have made a
few short calls on some children
and a little ~~old~~ ^{old} Converse, a grand
little Italian - French woman whom
we are really fond of, and been
to church too.

Arny is more content, though
still home sick & in afraid, though
we neither of us say anything of
it. This French is progressing
very well - enough to grasp "L'ami"
at the "Alma Converse". The new
house is very gay and cheerful,
making a little "blending together"
the acquaintances fine - We enjoyed the
evening very much indeed.

Commi Lucy's letter gave us much
pleasure and we thank her very
much for it, and for both your
kind wishes, with wishes for the
Happiest, Gladdest of our years, to you both,

Dec 25th
1894.

John & Mary



Mrs Pierre L. Le Brun
111 Jerusalem Street
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Etats Unis