

Pittsfield Mass  
Young Ladies  
Institute  
Saturday  
afternoon  
Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> 1854

Miss Mary Duncan  
Care of P. H. Agnew D. D.  
Pittsfield  
Massachusetts







would love to see you so  
much at Christmas, if  
Brother comes to see you, give him  
a kiss & my love, for me, how  
we will miss you both! so much!  
There was quite a moving time  
last week, Betsy went into the  
cottage, John & Mary into their  
house, & Ann into their old  
one they all look so nice &  
comfortable, aunt Betsy says  
she would rather have you here  
Christmas than a \$100 - <sup>the servants</sup> all deserve  
their respectful & kindest regards  
to you, Queen looks fat & well  
some one stole one of her puppies  
& the <sup>other</sup> was drowned in the hole  
in the cellar, Ellen had it buried  
with all of our pets, at the Lower  
retreat, Mary says how dry you are &  
wish you a merry Christmas & happy new year  
Good <sup>bye</sup> dear Sis May your affe sister  
sily

Dec 19<sup>th</sup> 1854

My dear Sister Mary  
I have wanted  
to write to you for a long time but  
Mother has been so busy she could  
not spare time to write for me,  
I wish I could write myself & I would  
very often, so I think now, we have had  
so many roses in the green house I  
wish you had some of them, the largest  
& most beautiful buds of the Luxembourg  
splendid! beautiful! & delicate, I  
wish you could inhale its balmy sweet  
ness, now that stern gloomy winter has  
resumed her reign over flower & tree, birds, & bee.  
I must thank you, for your letter I  
received it last Friday 15<sup>th</sup>, it pleased  
me so much, to hear from you, that you  
were well, save a cold in your  
head, which I hope you will soon



be rid of, put something over  
your head when you leave the  
room, you get so warm & then  
go out into the cold without shawl  
or bonnet, which you must avoid.  
We all spent last Monday week  
with Mrs Gratz, we had a very  
pleasant day, although the ground  
was covered with snow, we  
amused ourselves in the house,  
Miriam took us to see the pretty  
white rabbits, out in the garden,  
Mr Gratz had not returned from  
Philadelphia, but was expected in  
a few days, with Mr & Mrs Mac-  
alister, & Mrs George Brand, they  
all reached home safe & well  
last Thursday afternoon, Father  
dined with Mrs Macalister yesterday  
(Monday) he says Lily Brand is  
almost as tall as her Aunt,  
she is growing very fast.

Father goes to Lex every Monday  
& Tuesday he goes to Bedford &  
returns on Friday or Saturday, he  
has just started on the car, for  
Bourbon, Dr Penkins comes out  
in the evening to guard us at night  
I must tell you about the nice letter  
dear Brother Henry wrote to me, it  
was printed with his pen, so nice  
that I could read every word of it  
I was so glad to get a letter from  
my dear Brother. & then be able to  
read it, was a double pleasure  
I have not written to him since  
but must do so soon & wish him  
"a merry Christmas & a Happy New  
Year". & now wish you the same  
as I will not write to you again  
this year, give my love to Clara  
Agnew, I would like to send her a  
Christmas gift, she sent me a nice  
book by Father, dear sis May I





Mr. Carl Gibson  
880 Grand Avenue  
St. Paul  
Minnesota



SAINT PAUL MINN  
FEB  
24  
2PM  
1891  
REC'D



simple reason, that ~~things~~  
have nearly run out, and  
pocket-book entirely empty.

I am looking for a small  
money order from Bud, if he  
can collect from Horace  
what his wife Annie  
promised to lend me.

I am also trying to induce  
Ellen's washwoman to  
purchase some of my  
old rags.

Charles Winston has a son

568 W. William  
Decatur Feb 22-1899

All of you at 880 are in  
my debt; but as we would  
like to hear from you, and  
know what you are doing,

I will write any way &  
perhaps someone will reply.  
Are you being treated by  
Dr. Wheaton? If so let us  
know how you are getting on.

I have not sent Maggie  
the paper lately, for the



Henry Skillman number three.  
With the exception of cold all are getting  
along pretty well. I have not felt well  
for several weeks, think it is staying  
in the house so close, it is kept so warm  
and being accustomed to so much exercise  
at home, the indoor life does not suit me.  
Mama and Mr Burr are coming down

to Lady's lecture Tuesday night, they  
invited me to go with them.  
We intended going to Thornton last  
week to spend a few days, but did not.  
now I don't know when we will go.  
Tell Maria I did not forget her for her  
birth-day, expected to have a coral-  
cover ready to send her, but did not get it done,  
it will arrive some day - I feel real



*[The left page of the notebook is almost entirely obscured by dense, overlapping scribbles and crossed-out handwriting in dark ink. Some faint words like "asked" and "energy" are visible through the tangle.]*

badly about having  
nothing to send (Ridie  
on his twenty-first-birth-day  
I wanted to give him  
something real nice, but  
it is impossible -  
I see by the paper that  
the McHenry Orchard  
is undergoing great  
improvements. I am  
glad some one is drawing  
attention to our side of  
town - it will help us too.



If there has been any report - in the paper  
of Ingraham's & Lyell's lecture on Shakespeare  
please send me one -

The stores are all opening Spring goods  
and look so pretty, that I would like  
to see the St Paul stores, it will be a  
long, long time before I am there again.  
While I think of it, in writing to Annie  
about a small purchase for Ellen, I forget  
whether I said one or two of those leafed  
brushes - it was one she wanted, but I  
have a faint recollection of writing two -  
and if so, there were not stamps enough -  
tell her to let me know how much  
the brushes cost - I don't remember  
how many stamps I put in the letter -

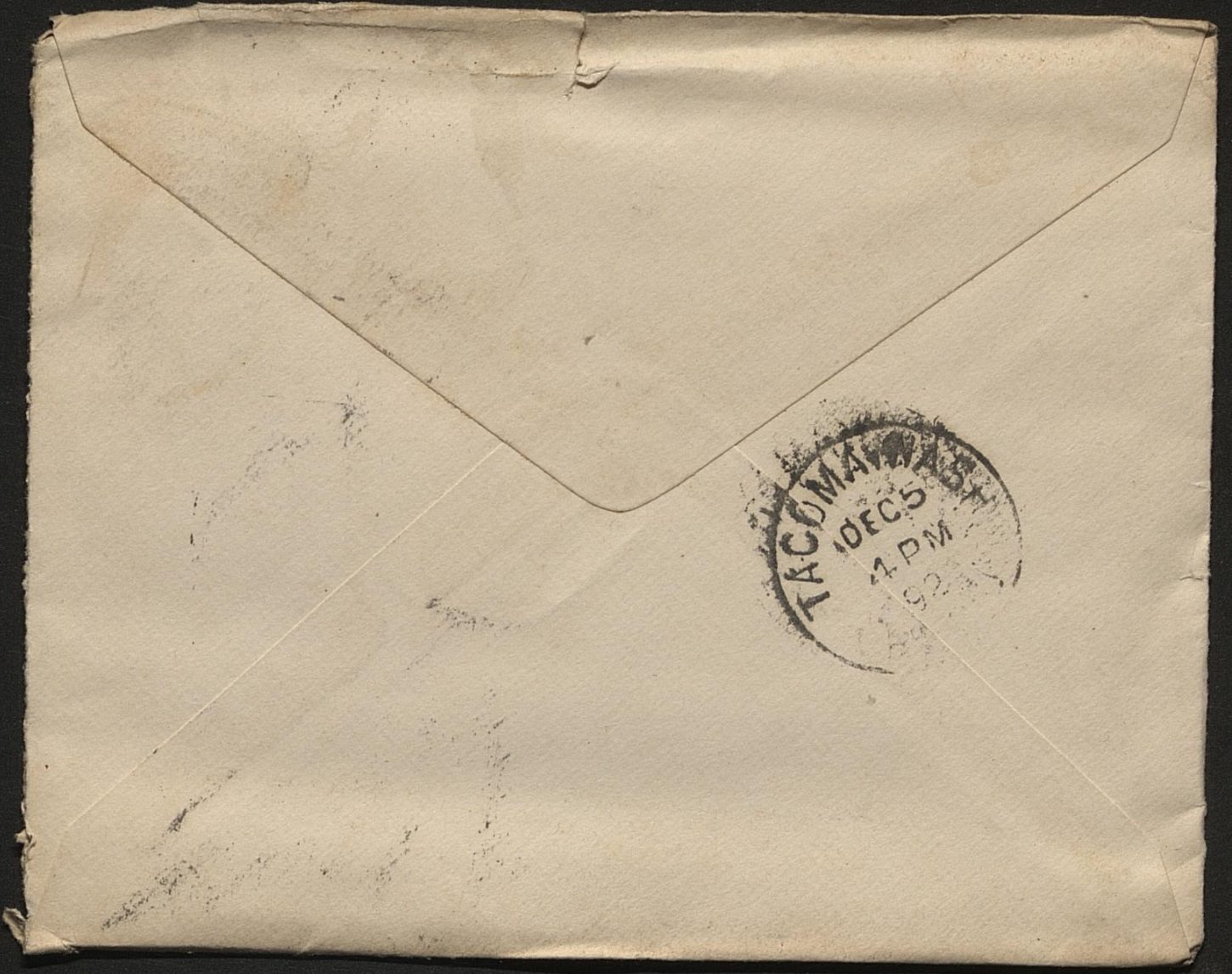


LEXINGTON  
NOV 30  
10 PM  
92



Mrs. Carl Gibson  
c/o Mr. Harrison G. Foster  
410 North L Street  
Tacoma  
Washington





TACOMA WA  
DEC 5  
4 PM  
92



Tuesday

I suppose there told you that "Pips" was  
ailing, poor little dog! He died last night - I  
did all that could be done to make him comfortable  
and this morning had him buried back of the  
ten-acre - Old first - I thought he had  
been kicked by the horse, but it was evidently  
a natural getting out, he became perfectly  
helpless and lost his voice, but very hearty  
to the last -  
A few days ago I got Calliform to give him  
was suffering so much, but when I approached  
him he looked up at me so appealingly  
I could not give it - decided to let him die  
a natural death, he had so much sense and  
showed so much "grit" - Old "Thep" will go  
before long, she is quite feeble -  
You must have been as glad to get Duncan  
postal as we were, who do you expect he  
is so unwilling to give her his address?

I am glad to hear that "Pips" is thinking of coming  
home to live, it is wonderful to be left by him for  
months was during the winter night, that I had known to see  
of us and all treated so far about -

Remember me to Miss Rose - much love to her  
Mary, Nat, and all of a fortnight

Yours  
A. Schuster

Winnick moved last night - very well, and  
found in pretty good health - and Gibson one  
I will give you some to please your summer



have wanted to do to him a line once or twice, but could not as your letters and things had all been returned. He will be wishing to learn that you are so far away, but he may not reach home some of these next year. He and Lizzy have just been out to tell the news to spend Thanksgiving at home. She looks well, Margaret said not come with them, but remained with Jane until she returns. She is enjoying society so much. Will not come home until after Christmas. She has gained twenty pounds and she says "Margaret was the prettiest girl at Springfield, at the Harvard whole foot ball games, their crowd were all caught for Gale and all wore the Gale color." Joe has come up on his way to St. Louis to see the Genl who is dangerously ill. There Mrs. Humphrey has been with him for a week, and Currier received a letter to-day from her, in which she fears the worst. She thinks he may last a week. I suppose Currier will go to Missouri with his uncle. He

That he said his father is much better that summer but not gone to him what that he is a creature for certain. His mother had said to him today of course you will go. We would not be able to go, and had not yet found out. He says he will spend next year at home. He says he will begin the letter when any other comes. They would love just going to town to spend some of the money. He says he will be at home for the week and will be out to St. Charles, but whenever it comes, they will be the best. And he had thought he says I would not go as long as a year long all summer in October, to wonder if I would not go. He says it is a long time for a long time, and Richard will not, but had some business at home, and his name. Perhaps a time in the fall of the next year, but we will bring us better next year around.



Miss. Mary. Duncan  
Care of C. D. Jacob.  
Cambridge  
Mass.





Duncan  
June 6

My dear sister

Father has just received a letter from you and he told Ellen that she must write immediately to you and send you what you wanted. he brought Ellen Matthews out to ~~stay~~ stay all night. ~~all~~ all the preachers have gone away. Mr. Stratton went this morning. McKennon went yesterday morning. Dr. Prime and his son went Thursday morning. Mr. McKennon is here when he ~~left~~ left us. I suppose you enjoyed yourself very much.



I will send you some  
flowers and end my  
short scribble it is  
very badly written. all  
send love to you and beothas  
your affectionate sister  
Lily Danson



Duncannon <sup>1837</sup>

My dear sister

I received your letter yesterday  
day, and what to my  
surprise within I found a little  
page which much pleased my  
taste and eyes they fit me  
beautifully just as if they had  
been made for me but you  
are very much mistaken  
in thinking that I had not  
any but I ~~was~~ you  
gave me better when all the  
rest I thank you dear sister  
very much for them I'll send  
you a sample of my winter  
dress. It is quite handsome since  
Father left no one but Mother  
sister Ellen and myself  
Mr. Rhode promised to come  
over but he did not we can  
not think what can be the  
matter as he has always been  
very good to come over heretofore



OHOHO! I am ~~so~~ ~~glad~~ glad  
that my dear dear brother  
will be here at home in six  
weeks more I only wish you  
could come with him then  
we should be doubly happy  
happy happy! O dear Mr Nick will  
soon be here with his budget on  
his back filled with love gifts for  
himself & family. another and sister  
Ellen since Loveston your  
brother also Miss Jacob. kiss  
our brother and tell him  
I am so glad he is coming home  
that I ~~do~~ ~~not~~ know what to  
do

give my  
love to Miss Jacob and give our  
best of love to her and a kiss

your affectionate sister Lily

The servants desire to be remem-  
bered to you and brother