

Monroe Washington
Oct 8, 1905.

Dear Mamma:-

I just received a letter from Ellen enclosing a long one from you, and a letter from Mary enclosing one from Eulina and a letter from Aunty. I have just answered Aunty's letter but I may send it to you to address as I can't make out her address very well. It doesn't look the same in her letter and Mary's. If I send the letter by you, you can read it if you wish.

I am very sorry you have had such a bad time about the rooms. Perhaps it is a providential sign that you should keep a room for yourself. I hope you are having a little Christtime now. Are you in a tight place for money? I think I could send you twenty-five dollars in a few days if you need it. I hardly know whether it would be best for me to turn my money into family

expenses or try to get a little ahead for ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{month} ~~month~~ ^{or maybe} ~~or maybe~~
for investment if I stay out here. Of course I
owe Mr. Cook \$12 and Mr. Whitney nearly \$50 and Pacy
\$30 and Ellen \$5 and you I don't know how
much. I believe it would be a greater incentive
to save my earnings if I had a bank account
that looked big. They have a reliable bank
in town. It might be handy for you to
know there was a reserve fund that you
could call on in an emergency. Our pay is
to the end of each month and is paid about
the tenth of the following month. Last month
september, I had a pretty big bill at the ~~the~~ ^{the day before}
and this month it will be bigger. Last month
my bill was \$8.00 besides board. I bought a pair
of logging shoes, an absolute necessity in
the continual wet. They cost \$4.75. A blanket
cost me \$1.75, a pair of overalls .95 and gloves
and several other sundries made up the other
\$.75. This month I have already bought
a rain hat \$.35 two pairs of gloves \$1.00 each
and a \$.25 box of paper, and a \$6.50 leather
corduroy coat. I was much disappointed.

in my coat on a heavy all-day rain yesterday
wet it through. I think perhaps it may
be all right after I give it a thorough
oiling with linseed or neatfoot's or linseed
and perhaps tallow it.

My payroll isn't as large as it should be this
month because as I found out after I had been
boarding with the Hillis for three weeks the
company docks ~~every~~ ^{one} \$.25 a day for not
boarding at the cook-house unless they have
families of their own. You can't even board
with your sister or daughter, if she is married.
Yesterday Harry Willet, the Hillis' cousin
I started boarding at the cook-house.
I don't but I like it about as well even
if it is so dirty. Breakfast at six sharp
is all that bothers me. The Hillis's live mostly
on fruit apple sauce jelly etc. and
You know that isn't just my line.
Fruit and fish (salmon, smelt, and
halibut) are about the only cheap

books here.

I wrote so much last week and so much to
Auntie that I am about out of material, altho
I'll think of a whole lot after my mail
is sealed. Tell Selden if he wants me
to write again giving him a map of the mill
and describing the saws etc and the diff^{erent}
kinds of wood turned over to write me.

Lots of love

Willie

W. H. Belden

~~Worcester Mass~~ P.S. I haven't received the
flute music you spoke of yet. I don't play
on my flute any because I am afraid of bothering
folks. I may build a shack for myself soon.
We will be all turned out of this house when
Mrs. Willis goes I think.