

Westley M. Stover,

AMERICAN MISSION,

CARE OF CASA HOLLANDEZA,

BENGUELLA, AFRICA.

Via Lisbon.

Bairlander Station.

Dec. 8th 1898.

Dear Mrs. Allen-

I am writing a letter to Mrs. Woodside and so will put in a note for you - as the space is not all filled - There is one little matter which I mentioned to you and Mrs. Bullen - and which I wish to speak of again - as it is rather a gruesome subject I did not wish Helen to know of it -

You will remember that at the time of Frank Lee's death - and the working up of the missionary lot - said if H - should be taken away - I would rather have her rest there than to be carried to Wheaton. As her relatives might think otherwise - I have talked with Mr. Stover about it and he seems to prefer the other - ie if there is space

in the family but that she should be
taken there - Quite this only that you
may not try to insist on any wish
being carried out - should such an occasion
arise. This matter ^{you} will refer to Mrs. Belden
but to no one else - please - We know of the
step which Helen took during vacation.
She wrote to us of her desire to do so. but
did not wait for our reply - we advised
her to wait till she was a little older
and more settled in her mind - and
while we would rather she should
have remained where she was - I am
not much surprised - The relatives on
both sides of the family (those who are
any thing - or most of them) are baptists.
And I was the first to step out of
that denomination - and I did it
with out the consent of my parents -
But, I have never had reason to re-
gret the step - I can not chide her
for doing the same thing - I was less
than two years older in years and not
nearly so mature in thought -

My greatest anxiety is that she shall
know God and be a real Christian -
No matter what denominational name
she goes by - this, as I have said, we
would much prefer to have her with
us - But, such things occur in ^{many}
families. We can not ^{but} feel great anx-
iety for her for these few years to
come - She has changed so completely
since she was a child - It seems to
me that my heart is in an attitude of
prayer for her continually -

Not do I forget to ask for a blessing
on you and your household - I wonder
how large your family is this year
and if it is any more congenial
than it was! Mrs. Woodville wrote me
that you were having a sick spell -
Is Arthur S. still there? and how
do you succeed with help in the kitchen?

I wish I could see Mr. Allen coming
in with his morning paper - that we
get the gifted news in the "Independent"
and Thura - we would not have time

to read a daily - Indeed - It is only
because we feel that we must do
so, do we give any time to such
reading - And now that we have a
fortnightly mail - we keep quite in
touch with the outside world -

Please remember me to those
of your household whom I know -
Also to Mr. Allen -

With much love believe
my sincerely yours -
Bertha Storer -