

Scranton Penna.

April 7th 1879.

My dear sweet Mother, -

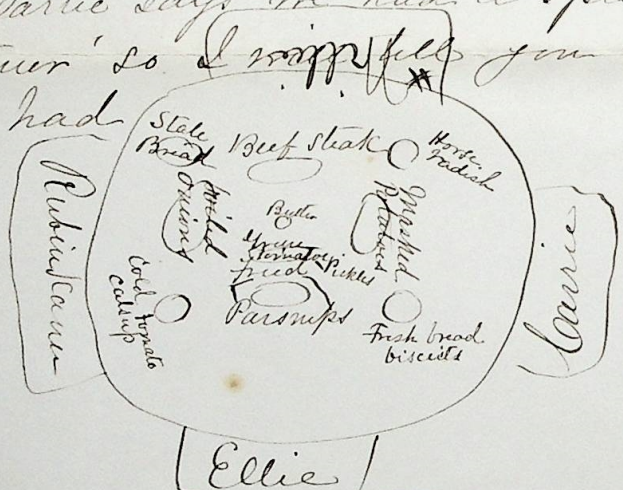
I meant to have sent you a letter this morning with Carrie's, -

Carrie says she told you she had been asking me all week to write to you, that sounds pretty hard on me, doesn't it? - That I need to be reminded to write to my dear little mother, -

William came from Pittston in the morning train, - & Mr. Rubinstauk will remain with us until evening. - The two ministers are in the study now, so I take this opportunity to begin a letter, - You know Monday is Willie's Sunday, - & we celebrate it as our "high day & holiday" by having a better dinner than usual, We intend beside, to have reading

around by William, while I sew, or employ myself in some such way. - We have not accomplished much reading yet, for when we do begin, we find so many things to talk about, that our time is gone before we know it. -

Carrie says we had a "splendid dinner" so I scribbled you what we had.



* Millie somewhat crowded, you see. *



Millie crowded again. -

Carrie says I shall tell you that that we didn't change tables, which you might suppose from my different sized drawings, & suppose that we were using the heirloom for one course.

I am having a rather severe experience with our new girl, who is willing & anxious to do right, but is very stupid & dreadfully forgetful, & very far from neat. It takes a great deal of my time to teach her, & she is so forgetful & slow that I am almost afraid she will never learn. This is a sample.

On Thursday she washed. - She came on Tuesday & I had showed her how to make the kitchen fire etc. but when I went down in the morning to get breakfast, expecting to find a good fire, I found a meagre little attempt at a fire, built on top of a bed of ashes. Mary was down in the basement

washing in cold water, + just going
to put her clothes on to boil on the
laundry stove, where the fire was
made the same way. In or
three fable sticks were trying to catch
some black coal, + not a ray of
light to be seen thro' the ashes
below. - So I had a good time
cleaning out the two stoves, + instruct-
ing her. - I said - "Mary, you can't
expect to have hot water for wash-
ing when there is no fire in the
range." - She said surprised, (as
she always is,) - "Why, Mrs. Pelden
does that help?" - It struck me
as very funny. - I suppose she
thot' hot water came from a
reservoir in town, all heated.

She does the queerest things I ever
heard of, + I have to laugh pretty
often -

9.15 P.M. - I had just written so
much, when the door bell rung, +
Mag Cummins + Emma Dail came
in. They stayed a good while, + in



The mean time Mr. R. left. -
 Cousin Ellen Brickenstein soon
 called, after her early supper.
 We had our supper, & were
 just planning to go out & make
 our party call at Will Walker's
 & at Mrs. Blair's. - when Mr. Oakford
 called, & not long after his depart-
 ure Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Hand, who
 have now just gone.

We are almost in despair about
 making calls. -

Carrie is a great help &
 comfort to me, & William & I
 both enjoy having her here. & we
 want her to stay a good while, if
 you can spare her.

William sends his love.
 But I am getting sleepy, so I

will close, + count my silver
to take up stairs, which I have
to keep an eye on, to prevent
Mary from using for culinary
purposes, -

William went with Mr. R.
to the depot, + brought back Sister
Mary's letter from the P.O. for
which please thank her. Tell
Jennie I haven't received her
last weekly letter. Please remem-
ber me to all enquiring friends.
I hear Mrs. Jay is here, but have
not seen her. Give our love to
Mr. Mrs. Cline + Jamie, + to
all the relatives. - Good night
dear Mother. A great deal of love
to you + to our dear father.

Ever your affectionate
daughter Ellie
and son Willie.

Am

4-7-1879

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