



Elise Day, Grade 4/5, Whitefield, ME

December 24, 1850

Dear Journal,

Today I rode my horse and buggy to the Longfellow's house. The Longfellow servant opened the door and I gave her my calling card. I went in and for a long time Henry, Anne, Peleg, Alexander, Zilpah and I talked and talked. Henry showed me around the house. We went into the living room and Zilpah was drinking her tea and reading the newspaper. Then we went to the kitchen and Anne was cooking dinner. Next we went to the second floor. There we went to Young Hen's room. He was building a tower with blocks, then knocking it down with wooden tops. The last room we went to was Alexander's room. He was working on something I could not see.

The tour was over so we went back to the living room. We talked some more and I noticed some decorations for the holidays. Some decorations were pine cones, pine needles, wild berries and candles. Inside the house it was very warm because there were a lot of fireplaces, but outside it was freezing cold and snowing very badly. I was wearing a long blue dress with purple flowers and long sleeves. Anne was wearing a plain white dress and so was Zilpah. Alexander and Henry were wearing long black pants and white turtle-necked, long-sleeve shirts. Young Hen was wearing gray pants with a white shirt.

I was just about to leave so the Longfellows could have a Christmas Eve dinner, when Anne invited me to stay and eat. I said yes, so we all went into the dining room and on the table was a big turkey, oyster stew, and some fruit. After we had finished I said thank you to Anne because she had made the meal. Young Hen and I played dominoes while drinking some tea that Anne had made and Young Hen won the game. He is very good at dominoes! Then I said, "Thank you for letting me come over and have dinner with you." I got my jacket and stepped out into the freezing cold and rode my horse and buggy all the way home.



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