



Tiffany Wilson, 5th Grade, Whitefield, ME

December 25, 1850

Dear Journal,

Today I went to the Longfellow House. The ice was very slippery at the brick sidewalk. When I knocked at the door, Anne opened it. I walked into the entertaining room. There are a lot of statues and pictures in this room. The room was decorated with leaves and poison berries. Zilpah was there. She was sitting down. Alexander and Young Hen were playing cards.

I walked into the hallway and put my calling card on the table. I went upstairs and saw that they had already filled their stockings with a very special treat. It was an orange! It came all the way from Cuba. There was a beautiful wood and leather rocking horse in Young Hen's room.

Then I went back downstairs and went into the kitchen. Ann was doing some cooking. She was making turkey for the Christmas dinner. She had also made mashed potatoes, pie, and gravy. Ann invited me to stay for dinner.

We all went into the dining room and had Christmas dinner. It was delicious. I ate a lot of food.

After I ate dinner, we played cards and dominoes. I played with Anne. Anne won, but it was a lot of fun.

When I was leaving, I saw two fire buckets hanging in the hallway. They were brown and made of leather. They had sand in them, and if you didn't take them to a fire, you would get a fine.

I put on my coat, said goodbye to everyone and went outside. It was kind of chilly outside because I was wearing one of my puffy dresses. I went home quickly. I didn't have far to go because I live next door.



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*Responding to Longfellow* is a partnership of the Maine Historical Society; Maine's Poet Laureate; and the Stonecoast MFA Program at the University of Southern Maine. For more information, please visit [www.hwlongfellow.org](http://www.hwlongfellow.org)

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