

Day before it was

1883

Acc. 1943

Dearest Mother,

It is quite

10 days since I have written  
to I fear that in the hurry I  
am now in you will not get a  
very satisfactory letter - your last  
reccived was from Maria the  
children were greatly delighted  
with their letters, Both your  
parcels have arrived - & all the New  
cards for the city will be posted  
today the others went - Saturday  
I have not opened the letter, but  
yet keeping for a N. was treat-  
ment you have sent me such  
quantities of beautiful & useful  
things, so much more welcome than  
the ordinary run of presents -  
My stockings are exactly right -  
& what I wear like - The children  
w<sup>o</sup> be better of caesars make it  
as good - they wear better at knees  
but of those I will return a  
complete description in the list -  
later the remnant I have only  
glanced at the pretty tints of  
colour delight me - I will give  
you a paint box as a present -  
his own is pretty well empty & can  
go to Edith, he has used it well,  
carefully - I deserve a reward in  
kind -

the brocade I think most  
beautiful buttons & lace charming  
matching, I have not tried it  
with the grey dress yet. I was  
surprised to find when I looked  
at it last month that it was  
almost as the present fashions  
full & puffed in back & plain  
with drapery in front. The  
back was rather out of use & did not  
meet upon me & - the lace fan-  
trays I admire & love the grey  
buttons, the trimming is very  
pretty & will come into immediate  
use as Clara's drawers are dis-  
solving apparently from her  
active little legs. The gloves  
are too large, not to complain, but  
in case you get more on the  
continent the 6 1/2 that was sent  
fit me perfectly, & seemed much  
better to me also. These last  
were 6 3/4. The brown lace piece  
for Florence is very pretty & will  
suit her charmingly. I don't know  
what it is in her little bag - that  
rattles - The handkerchiefs too  
are just what I want. you  
have loaded me with presents  
there were ~~about~~ half the dinner  
for wh. I was saving my for.  
time to pay - many many thanks  
for all & sundry. If you  
see a pretty foreign fan anywhere

I wd be glad of it - I have not  
one that I can carry, & often  
miss something to play with  
when I go out. At Mrs Gardner's  
I saw one of those ordinary  
Turkish coffee sets, with silver  
coffee pot & little cups & saucers  
like egg cups - set on stands -  
do look one best - for you may  
the looked so very pretty in  
a dressing room, & might be  
used for an occasional  
coffee partaking.

We are shivering desperately  
cold weather so below 0 yesterday  
& below the ten previous days  
also, I am so thankful that  
we decided not to go to H.C.'s -  
George is here, came last night  
Saturday night, W.V. - Alfred  
Hillie Baynes dropped in so  
we found a little company from  
tonight - the Penhallows  
are coming up - they are always  
ready to pay an evening visit -  
I asked them here tomorrow  
but found they had just - promised  
the Hunts?!?! - so we will only  
have Carpy & F.W. - Carpy's  
finger is well again, it did  
not prove as serious as at first  
it threatened.

Catherine Campbell has  
sent a majestic doll for Edith, the  
expense grieves me, for it is of people

went & dressed as a bride, no  
doubt it - will delight her soul  
& is very kind of Catherine, she  
always preferred Edith to the others  
Today the 3 chicks are going to  
Mrs Carstine's ~~carnival~~ Xmas tree  
they will appear as two little  
Aunt Eves, arrayed in her blue  
cashmere. I have at last got their  
little dresses made, & they look  
wonderfully pretty with pinnafan  
of that fine dark Voltaire also  
are inheritance from Eve.

The rashes you sent are very  
handsome & will suit - with  
most things white dresses & dark  
stockings will look lovely with  
them. I had a long letter from  
Ella Kemp who seems oppressed  
with the care of our baby, &  
thanks me for the tiles, I did  
not know that you had sent  
them, they were quite new to  
her -

I must close this hasty  
scrawl - with every very  
thanks & much love

Affectionately  
Aunt

This day last year  
you were just arriving at Halifax  
now in sunny Italy - I think as I live  
with regret of how long I was in bed -  
then - much love to Eve & babe -