

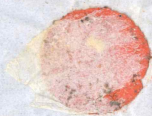
With a Band Box

Miss Mary G. Parrott
Gloucester.

Mass

For Mrs. Hunt.

11 #



salt & pepper & then covered with sweet oil & sprigs of parsley -
I put away ready to be boiled, the next day - the next dish was a
fresh meat tongue boiled & landed with little strips of fat & pork & then
browned & stewed, & eaten with a french sauce made of carrots & onions
and nobody knows what else - then a pair of ducks - one roasted &
the other fricapeed with olives & another french sauce - then a pair
of chickens cut up & frenchified, then a very fine leg of mutton
roasted - anchovy salad - lettuce & celery - very fine indeed -
then a plum pudding of my make which was much liked
and a great novelty - Mr Lillieau, / Tommy's man / said it was a
"Cabinet pudding" it was never eaten except by ambassadors
to foreign powers - we had for dessert two beautiful cakes
one ornamented with white frosting, a sponge cake, & the
other made of a rich paste at the bottom, then a sort of almond
cream, then a jelly, & a froth of white of egg - the top of it
beautifully crowned with little almonds split in two stuck
over the top - I wish I could send you one, it was the most
delicious thing I ever tasted - Mr Dibaubourne sent me one like
it the other day, for a present - Our bakers made the "gondoles"
as they call them - then we had apples, nuts & raisins, -
preserved strawberries & some of your plums - Coffee - but then
Madame Hughes begged to be excused & withdrew quietly
to the other parlor - There were earnest inquiries made for
Tommy - but I had ^{managed} so well, she kept asleep all the evening
at 1/2 past four I gave her a bowl of bread & milk & put her
to bed, she was not undressed - I did not wake up till past
11 then I heard her & brought her into the room, she looked
sweetly, I was quite admired - Mr Lillieau brought her
"his fairblese", which was an immense stick of French candy
done up in foil & wrapper round with a filagree paper with
a picture on it - they cost about two francs apiece -
Mr Dibaubourne has given them to Tommy very often & she
was very much pleased - Mr Lillieau told her to wait
till the first of January & he should then give her another
"fairblese" which he had sent for - Mr Hughes was entirely
satisfied with his party - every thing went off well & all the
gentlemen seemed gratified - He felt bound to invite them before
their return to France, as he was under obligations, for past attentions

St Pierre, Nov 5th 1850,

My dear Mary,

The packet arrived about an hour since, I brought
me two letters from you - the one of 26th being too late for the previous
mail had been detained - I was much surprised to learn of Aunt
Parrot's death, & sincerely sympathize with her afflicted family -
They should feel nothing but gratitude that she lived to bless them
so long, her memory must be to them as that of a saint -
of angelic love & purity - This same mail of 4 day brings me
letters from Henry of a painful character - The woman, his
leashed France & found Thomas, she is pursuing him like
a blood-hound, she has been to the house where Thomas & Henry
were, and seen I - he told her he would have nothing to do
with her, & she said he was not in his right mind - She has
brought "The Mail" with the account of the abduction, & my
body seems to think she is an injured woman - She has been
to the authorities and declared that Henry is keeping him
against his will - Mr Thomazeau, the Consul, an American,
and a friend of Mr Thomazeau who has assisted Henry ~~we~~ have
all been called upon to answer & say what they know about it -
Henry says in his letter they were to appear the next day, so that
we shall not learn the result till the next packet - Henry thought
she could do nothing, as Thomas will say he is under no restraint -
and that he came away from home of his own accord -
Mr Thomazeau has been very kind, & they are now at his country house
and going to remain till after the examination - The woman says
if she can only get Henry into prison, she will have Thomas -
Henry says he has been with Thomas every moment since he took him
out of the Hospital if he was obliged to take him out, or the woman
would have done it, as his wife / he has slept with him every night,
but is as much care as a baby - sometimes he seems pretty bright & at other
times stupid - She went straight to Rotterdam as soon as she took that letter

from the Boston P. O. - from there she came direct to St. M. also -
when she landed there, she walked direct to Mr. Thomas's Office
lady & servant with her. - If Henry gets through this he can
not leave Thomas - in any case he will be obliged to remain with
him through the winter. He says he has been obliged to pay
a great deal of money in dodging this woman from place to place
which is just so much the worse for Mr. H., as they cannot get a
Cent from Mr. Schier, & it all has to be advanced by him -
- I am sincerely sorry for Henry that he has been obliged to pass through
such an unpleasant business in a foreign land - and of such a
mortifying nature too - and pray he may be successfully coming
through with it - The bond of brotherhood - has severely taxed the
intest & friendship of all in this case - I trust it is not
in vain that the Command of the Saviour has been obeyed to forgive
even seventy times seven - For those who think Mr. Hughes is
Henry have been guided by motives of interest in this matter -
it is only because they know nothing about it - they have
nothing to lose or gain by it - for all that Thomas is entitled
to, will probably be not enough to support him, if he can
never earn a cent himself; & it has to cost in proportion to this
last year - Henry says that T's general health is better than George's
or his & he will eat all that is set before him - Mr. Hughes feels a
good deal worried - he thinks she will send home some plea mother
by which the case will be put off - & she will undoubtedly for myself
I see no end to it - Thomas says he will do right & Henry thinks
he will but I am afraid it will be a long business before this
is finished - I thank you most sincerely, my dear sister, for all your
kindness and trouble in sending to me, I know of nothing now, that
is necessary for comfort, in case that we do not have around us
- We have the best of pickles at the store, so that you must not
forget yours could not reach me, also Ketchup, pepper sauce, Capers
- Cologne Water, in fact an assorted stock of every thing we are used to

at present apples in abundance, raisins, rice butter, potatoes, I thought
not plenty at St. Paul, we have a good supply of fine quality - I carry
them all up stairs & spread them on the garret floor - we have four
panels & I hope to save them - The weather here is unusually fine
and warm for the season - but I find enough to keep me all the
time busy - Mary Ann is washing to day in a wash tub, she is
not disposed to do so willingly - as when she goes to the brook on the
mountain, there are so many other girls there, they make a
jollification day of it - and I don't see her again from to morrow
the morning till five at night - the consequence is I have every
thing to do - and I could not have it - I have put a stop to it &
am determined to have washing done Yankee fashion - I was very
sorry to hear that Mother had been so unwell - I hope she is before
this time quite well again - Tommy thought it was her grandma
who was dead when we were talking about Aunt Parrott & she came
to me with a sorrowful face & said is my Aunt Mary dead too?
The other day she told me Fanny had been telling her a great fit
she said sometime or other that her father & mother & her sisters
& every body was going to die - she cried hard about it - but said
it is a fit - I know it is - Sometimes Tommy says where is my
grandma, & where is my grandpa, and where is my Aunt Mary,
and where is all the folks - She is a great favorite with the
gentlemen who come here - A day or two since Mr. Hughes had
a dinner party, there were seven gentlemen guests - we dined
at half past five - perhaps you would feel interested to know what
we had for dinner & who was Cook - Mr. Engineer's French Cook was
two days preparing & did every thing - he is a man of a thousand & I
had no more care of anything than yourself - In the first place we
had of course, Soup made with best mutton, most excellent, then mutton
cutlets - the mutton was cut from the end of the bone, to leave it hard
to take hold of, all the fat cut off, and all the superfluous bone, then the
meat was pounded out flat, the cutlets all placed on a dish, strewed with

If you could have seen our french cook at work you would
have gained some new wrinkles - I wished you could have
been here, & I wish father could have dined with us - You
would hardly have expected to find such a dinner table in this
wretched place - but people here who are any thing, are used to the
best society in France, & their manners & appearance would grace
any station in life - Little Mary has made acquaintance with a lady
who has an old piano, & she goes every day to practice - & has for a week
she says it made her feel bad to find how much she had forgotten, for which
she had to go back to the first lesson in her instruction book, she has got
five of the lessons back - but without a teacher I don't expect she
can get along - There is another of the fruits of her behaviour - my
being obliged to bring those children here, with no school & no
advantage, to lose a year's education - it is too bad, too bad -
Mary & Mary think they shall go into the Sisters of Charity's school
to read & write French, with a young English girl who is passing
the winter here, we think it will be pleasant for them & an ad-
vantage - They will never be present at the hours for Catholic
prayers & I don't see, as they will be likely to receive any im-
pressions we might wish to avoid - Tommy says tell my Aunt Mary
to write to S. P. P. - Tommy says she feels quite slighted that nobody
has written to her - As I have an opportunity to return you the
blue bonnet I think I will do so - I wish to send Mother
some little token of affection, but have nothing at the present
time, but a little box, which she can put in her bureau
drawer, & when she looks at it, it will remind her of me -
With a great deal of love from all the children - from all -
I must say good bye - May every blessing of health & prosperity
be yours & my dear parents, till we meet again - Your sister
Elizabeth -

I think I am beginning to forget how to spell
English, for I find I have to stop and think or
I spell a la Française -

I was quite surprised to hear of Miss Mason's engagement. I should think it would be an excellent match - but she must always be ready to help "darling find his boots" - I am really sorry Annette feels so badly about it, but she has had to learn rather late in the day, that men are all alike -

I am much pleased to hear that John is earning something in California - I have great hope that he may succeed there - if he can only once get a little ahead it will give him confidence in himself, and I am satisfied that is the first thing which is necessary - I hope you will give my love to him when you write, and tell him we all remember him, & often speak of him - Mr Hughes wishes you to make an account of whatever bills you have, and whatever you have paid for me, and let Mr Cummings know the amount, at the first of January, and he will send him word to send you the money, we have no money here but French -

It is no matter about the lamp glasses at present - some other time will do I am sorry George took so much trouble for nothing, but I did not know it would be so difficult to get them - Yesterday, the Governor's lady and her daughters called here, - Mademoiselle Clarice has offered to give Mary some lessons on the piano with her sisters, and she is going there this morning, - they are an extremely agreeable family, & I am in hopes to go often to see them this winter - I do not like to go out here much, nothing makes me so home sick - for it seems when I drop myself & make calls so lonely to have no one to go & see except strangers - Mr Hughes says you could send this winter by way of Halifax, but it would be troublesome & expensive, & take a long time to get here - The vessels come late this year, they have had large contracts for bricks, from the government - they are building a prison, & a gun d'armerie - The business this last few weeks has been excellent, they have sold every barrel of flour - I could dispose of much more if they only had it - Were it not for the anxiety regarding Thomas, & the trouble it is to provide for his great expenses, Mr Hughes would be quite happy - far more so, than he has been for years - I hope that may be settled however, & that we may be left to live in peace, while we remain at St Peter -