#### \*\*\*\*\*

There were three letters in one envelope. All three letters were from Cassie Griffin.

Envelope: there was no stamp nor postmark on the envelope. In the upper right hand corner of the envelope where the stamp is normally affixed, the following words were written "carpet rag street dutch xxxxx". The envelope was addressed to: Miss Lizzie A. Golden Dennison, Michigan Ottawa Co (Pat Golden) (Jr.) The envelope is 5-1/4" wide by 3" high,

The first letter is dated June 14, 1889 It was written on one sheet of paper 9-7/8" wide by 8" high. The paper is lined. There is writing on the front and back of the sheet.

The second letter is dated 1886 It is lined paper 5" wide by 8" high There is writing on the front and back of the sheet. In the letter Cassie says that it is the day before Thanksgiving That means that the letter was written on November 24, 1886

The third letter had no date It is lined paper 7-3/4" wide by 9-3/4" high There is writing on the front and back of the sheet.

## **First Letter**

C'ville June 14<sup>th</sup> "1889"

Miss Lizzie A. Golden Dennison, Michigan

Dear Lizzie:-

I Thought I would do as I agreed and write you a few lines.

I do not think I can come to Church Sunday for you know it is different at Uncle Edd's than it was at <u>Home</u>. But will try and come the next time.

I am now at Flora's and it is so warm that we can hardly write. You can bet I don't stay in much nights for it is so nice anyone can not.

Monday Eve, Flo and Warren were out on a "Prous" like you seldom are.

For instance the night I came from Grand Haven "or the eve of the show".

Oh! Flo and Warren are pretty thick now. She and May Hoble were a riding Horse Back last eve.

Do not tell her I told you this for she would <u>pound</u> the <u>packing</u> out of me.

I guess they were out Sunday "Eve" after "Church" on a stroll.

**Lester is still** at Reed's a working. I think he is in a click place. I should think you would come up and see that he got out of there for "Perhaps" he would mind you.

I was over at our house to-day and it seems awful funny not to have our folks there but the time will soon slip away when they will be back I hope. It seems awful funny to be at Uncle Edd's. But I like to stay there, for they do every thing possible to make it pleasant.

Well Lizzie as it is very near time for the <u>Mail</u> I will have to close Hoping to hear from you as soon as possible I Remain Ever your Friend.

#### Cassie Griffin

(P.,S) For Lord's sake tear this letter up and do not let any one see it. Tell all of the folks I send my best respects **especially Mary Ann**.

How is Mr. Bass singer.

Excuse Writing as I am in a Rush

(Hang out your shingle)

Xxxx D Pxxxate From Cassie

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<sup>&</sup>quot;Lester is still": Lister Mills was Lizzie's boyfriend "especially Mary Ann": Lizzie had a sister named Mary.

### **Second Letter**

Coopersville 86

Dear Friend Lizzie.

As I am in the store this evening I will write you a few lines. I have got a bad cold and the xxxxx as bad as ever. Kate is here to-night, and she and Jennie have got the Masquerade dance on the brain to-morrow night. They have been making dresses all day but when they didn't laugh and play. They are out on the door step with their beaux just now. Mr. Dorgan and Flora are here papa is telling his stories. Mrs. Cole has got a little baby girl as I suppose you know, and Mrs. Stors a little boy, Stella wanted a little girl but she said she would just as lives have it now though. Mrs Cole wanted a little girl they ought to exchange. Oh! my I have got so much to tell you I do believe I could not get it on all of the paper in the store. I would like to see you terrible well. I would like to know how your long teacher looks they say he is a green horn. O! Lizzie **to-morrow is Thanksgiving** and all of Grand pa's folks are going to aunt Sat's. I guess we will have turkey for dinner. Well Mr. Cole is sweeping and I will have to stop. **Kiss Nora and Sada** for me, and give my best respects to the girls at school.

Well good by, Your loving Cousin

> Cassie Griffin Clxxxx

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"to-morrow is Thanksgiving": Thanksgiving in 1886 was November 25<sup>th</sup>
"Kiss Nora and Sada": Nora and Sada were Lizzie's sisters.
"Your loving Cousin": Was Cassie Griffin a cousin to Lizzie?

# **Third Letter**

### Dear Lizzie

You can not imagine how disappointed I feel. I expected you a week ago in the evening and you did not come, and I expected you in the morning. I was down to the mail train to meet you but no Lizzie did I find and I surely expected you to night, But never mind we will have more fun next week. Bring along an old dress that you can run all over in and have fun. Lizzie how are you getting along with your lace. I have got mine all done and pretty near enough done of some wide kind for Pauts. Bring it along when you come. Bring D. Mrs. Letter to write to me this week some time. Dear me such writing I never seen in all my born days.

Lizzie if you do not come next Friday night and stay all the week until the next Sunday night or a Monday morning morning I shall be more disappointed than ever. Well Lizzie I can not write anymore for I don't believe you can read what I have written. So Good By. Your Cousin As Ever Cassie Griffin.

Only I am sick because you did not come. All are well. Make this week hurry up and pass. Come about the time school is out – Friday night