
Letter: Two pages, both sides

Paper: Lined paper. One sheet 9-1/2" wide by 8" high, another 5" wide by 7-5/8" high

Envelope: 5-3/8" wide by 3" high, stamped with a 2-cent stamp

The envelope is addressed to Mrs. William Fitzpatrick, Dennison, Mich., (Ottawa Co)

The front is postmarked Grand Rapid, Mich., Dec 9, 1897, 12 X.M.

The back is postmarked Dennison, Mich., Dec 9 1897

Grand Rapids, Dec 8 – 97

Dear Sister & Brother,

Well Lizzie as I am not working today and nobody around to bother me only callers and as I can't think of anything but my old home, I will try and pass it off by writing you a few lines. Don't know as they will be very exceptable if you don't feel any better natured toward me than you did the day I left there. But that is a thing of the past.

How is my little Darling Irene? Or do you ever see her? I suppose you are settled down in married life. Don't you wish you were single again (I bet you do) in your mind. Well such is life but think of me away up here where I can't see one I know from six in the morn till six at night and then I am happy while **Frank** is around. Everything goes then.

You can look out of the window and see that home that I am so anxiously waiting to see. I think the time will never come for me to go.

Lizzie, I have some very nice yeast. I wish you had some of it. It is very simple. Anybody could use it. I set it in the morning and I had my bread baked by 3 o'clock in the evening. But I think it would be better set over night. But on account of cold weather I set it in the morning. I think Ma would like it. How does she get along?

I am watching the mail box. **Sadie** promised to write. I suppose you done lots of cooking and baking and sweeping up chamber by this time. Or did you get settled yet? You will be settled by spring all right. I was quite surprised today to meet Johnnie at the door. Jule was up but she did not come to see me. I don't care he was trying to sell his pork & turkeys.

Well, **Will** how do you stand it? Does everything go all right? Does she make you fly around? Suppose she thinks she is in school but she will soon come to her senses.

Jessie Toogood called on me yesterday. He is looking for work up here. **Aunt Sarah** was among the callers today. She could tell me all about the times in Dennison. Anything I wanted to know.

I went to 5:30 o'clock Mass this morning and the day seems like a year. I imagine I see Pa & Ma tending to my little Irene. How I wish I was there for a few minutes.

Well you will think paper scarce up here but not so. I only hate to go down to the store as I don't feel like going out alone.

Well I guess I will try and finish this letter. Just had another caller. **Maggie Hughes, Russell & Ethel**. This makes the 5th today so far and as it is nearly five o'clock I will have to begin to think about my supper but before I stop I will tell you that everybody is stuck on our house. It begins to seem like home but not like the Dennison house.

I heard today that Irene was sick. If so write me at once and I will go down but I hope it is nothing serious. I know Ma will know better what to do for her than I would.

Frank started to work in the Gass house Tuesday morn. He likes it better than outside. Guess he will have to work Christmas. Not sure yet. Will know soon.

When will you and Will come up to see us? I hope soon. I would like to have you very much or somebody from home. I will write home tomorrow if I don't hear. Will close with love.

Mary and Frank
Write soon

“Frank”: Frank Culligan was married to Mary Golden

“Sadie”: Sadie Golden is Lizzie's sister

“Will”: William Fitzpatrick was married to Lizzie

“Aunt Sarah”: Sarah Josephine Healy was married to Dennis Golden. Dennis was Patrick Golden's brother. Patrick was the father of Lizzie Golden and Mary Golden. Sarah and Dennis Golden lived in Dennison.

“Maggie Hughes, Russell & Ethel”: Maggie Malone was married to Michael Hughes (Maggie Hughes). Maggie was the daughter of Catherine Golden. Catherine was a sister to Patrick Golden. Patrick was Lizzie's father. Russell Hughes and Ethel Hughes were the children of Maggie Hughes.

“Mary and Frank”: Frank Culligan was married to Mary Golden
