

November 30th, 1905 (or 1903) letter from Mary Coalson (I think) to their "girls":

No the 30

Deare girls

We recived yures and Vines letter Tuesday and we was certenly glad to heare from you all. This leaves all well at present hopen you all the same. Well girls to day is Mother birth day and thanksgiving to. She is ninety 3 years olde to day . That is gitting to be prettie olde. I cooked her a birth day dinner but I couldent enjoy eating it like I did last yeare because thay was two many vacant chairs. I couldent keepe the tears back to save my life when thought bout us all beeing so far apart but I am thankfull that we are all aliving and no further part than what we are.

Of course you all was rememberd just the same if you all wasent heare and I know you all rememberd yure deare olde parrents . I know we havent got a childe that ever would for git us ore fore sake us thank the lorde. What a comfort it is to parrents that can say that bout their children. Well thay wasent any buddey et dinner withe us to day but Babey Louis. Of course he is little and all of that but he is a sweet child and a smart one to if I do say it my self. He comes to see me ever day if it aint to cold and I can pass off the long drery hours heep better when he is heare than I can when he aint.

Well I you all did hav a good time and injoyed yure selfs and I know you all had a good dinner.

Mattie and Lem was going to take dinner with us to day but Lem had to go to the coal mines and thay didnt git to come so Mattie and babeys come up to knight and stayed while Mattie said thay come up to heare Hattie play the oragon. I told her I guess she did.

Well we hav had concitirble change in the weather. We had big frost last knight and plenty of ice this morning. A good time to kill hogs but we wasent readey to kill so we will wait till the next cold spell.

Well girls you wanted me and yure Pa to come Xmas. The chance looks slim to me bout coming. Yure uncle Bryant told yure granny to come down and stay a while when she got able. She told him she was able to go most any time but she didnt want to go.

The other day when we went to the wells we started bee fore sun up and I knew she wouldent go to Lem that erley so we told John to stay around the house and take care of her till we got back and said he would and after we left she went to Lem. So that eave John went to worke. Thought she would stay all day and she came home in spite of Mattie.