

From Guru Anna Sende

Eau Claire the 13th Dec. 1886

Dear unforgettable Mother,

Your most welcome letter we have actually received, which for us was a great joy. We see by your letter that you live as usual and the same we can say to the Lord's honor and praise.

As to news to report we have none, but we hope it will be newsworthy enough when you hear that we are in good health, for that is the most important thing we have here in this world.

Elling has now gone to the woods a week or two ago and now everyone has gone to the woods, and now it is just two weeks until Christmas. So now you are very busy in Norway, but here it is the same as always. Yes, it would have been fun if I could have made a Christmas visit to all of you, but it is too far between. It would be of no use to talk about such a thing, but you must come and bring along many friends. That would really be fun.

The menfolks are in the woods and we womenfolk are here sitting at home alone for that is the pattern every winter. We send you many greetings from my mother and likewise from my sister. My mother is still agile and active.\*

You must greet the folks at Moan and Anne Maritte. I should tell you that our son, Karl, was confirmed this fall and he is growing and will soon be as big a man as his Father.

We must now put away our pen and ink with the hope that we will receive some lines back as soon as possible. You are being sent good wishes from all of us, but lastly from me your daughter-in-law

Guruanna Sende

We are sending a magazine page showing some of our house plants so you can get to see some of what grows here.

We forgot to greet Oluf. We received a letter from him the same day as yours. They live as usual. We are also sending a portrait of Karl so you can see if you recognize him again. He was fifteen years the 5th of this month. I wish you all a happy Christmas and new year. Gustav has written the last lines so please greet Mikal from us when you meet him.

\* Guruanna's mother was seventy-three years old; had emigrated as a recent widow at sixty-seven with two of her daughters' families. Three sons had come earlier and settled in the Osseo area. The daughters had naturally gone there first - for how long we're not certain, but do know that they were here in Eau Claire by 1882.