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Miriam W. Stedman to R. E. Aldrich, 23 December 1872

Miriam W. Stedman

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Recommended Citation

Stedman, Miriam W., "Miriam W. Stedman to R. E. Aldrich, 23 December 1872" (1872). *Personal and Business Correspondence, 1871-1880 (Series 1.5)*. 38.

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Grand Haven

Mrs + Mrs Aldrich

Dec 26th 1872

Dear Friends

'Tis the day after
Christmas, but all cannot be merry -
The papers come to us bringing news
of sadness from a desolate home far
away - I would that I could lighten
the sorrows of that home among strangers
but I can only be with you in thought.

It seems but a little while since
you were both young and came to the
"Old Station" to begin "Life's journey", near
and dear neighbors to my Mother, "And
the years go by" and as they pass she
visits more + more oft. My night dreams
Always pleasant, Always quiet -

The days will be long to you
for a while but your dreams will be
pleasant - Lizzie is near and Marrie with

you - Kind thoughts and wishes
are hovering around you from friends
far away -

John Apton visited us
in July and we also expected Richard
but we heard by Carrie Landon that
when at Detroit his health only permitted
necessary traveling -

5 We have not heard
directly from the South since we saw
Apton - Josie and I keep well we
have had sleighing since the 14th of
November, the snow is now about one
foot and a half in the woods and drifted
badly on the openings -

Josie has gone
for a few days to visit Carrie Landon
in Detroit, and our remaining friends
in Pasma - In Masias' old home, she
will only find Old age and insanity - a
sad pair - The grand old man has little
to lighten his steps that will soon be
umbered -

There are some very dark

places in this life and get there
are many bright ones. May your
evening Rainbow be beautiful, and
remember that while life lasts, there
are some who will never forget
you and will think of "Dags Larysne"
with pleasure -

Yours
Jand Lidley