

COPY

1138 West 29th Street,
Los Angeles, California

April 2n, 1920

Miss Elizabeth Storms,
Ames, Iowa

My dear Miss Storms:-

Your note asking me for a few words regarding the early days of the Home Economics Department brings to my mind the picture of the two small rooms first set aside for its use.

They were in the basement of the old "Main" next to the Dining Room. They were, I should judge about twelve by sixteen feet half way under ground, and lighted each by two small windows. In one of them we had cupboards and tables and utensils for mixing and baking and a very few very common dishes for serving. In the other a charter Oak wood stove, and, the pride of the Department, half a dozen or so of copper cooking utensils. Also a couple of wooden stationary tubs where laundry work was done.

Altogether, I should say, this equipment was what would be found in the ordinary comfortable home, for a family of six or eight.

I had, received, at that time no especial training for the work I had undertaken to do, aside from my years of housekeeping on the Campus, and indeed there were at that time no schools of Domestic Science where I could have received such training.

The idea, as a member of the Board expressed it, when asking me to undertake the work, was to teach the girls to cook and keep house!

No vision then of the wide scope of the modern profession of Home Economics came to the eyes of the pioneers in the Science.

There was very little method or formality in my manner of conducting those early classes. My lectures were intimate talks on the ways and means I had found useful in my own home.

I think I had about a dozen girls at first, the members of the class of '78 or was it '77? My memory is not as clear as it should be as to that.

One thing we did to make our work practical was to cook a dinner for a table of eight in the College Dining Room, three days in each week. We were given the same materials from the kitchen that were used for all the tables, but allowed to cook and serve them as we pleased, and I can assure you each table awaited its

turn for our dinner with eagerness.

The other things we cooked were sold to the students at cost, and sometimes we had orders from faculty ladies for cakes, pies and bread.

The following winter I went to New York where Miss Juliet Corson was conducting a series of Cooking Lessons, one of the first in the country, and later a course in London at the South Kensington Royal Cooking School resulting in a diploma or Certificate, helped to broaden my outlook and better prepare me for my work.

I can hardly realize, as I sit here in my quiet home, half way across the continent, and nearly half a century in years away from those busy and happy days, that from such small and simple beginnings has grown the great and varied Department in which you are now working.

I am proud of you and of the College and with all my heart I bid you God-speed in the future.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Mary B Welch

Mayfair Apartments -
No. 40 St. James Park -
Los Angeles. April 14th. 1915.

My dear Herman.

Your letter of April 9th
came to me yesterday and
I reply at once - I am glad
to know the Cemetery is to
be cared for - I will gladly
do all I can to help. Just
now I am short of funds.
We were in Germany when
the war broke out, and
had a very & passive time
getting home - I am also
repairing and partly re-
furnishing my house and

Am living in an apartment - Meek-
White. So I am short of funds at pres-
ent. I enclose check for \$15⁰⁰ and
will send the same amount in
July, Oct. and Jan. My income
comes quarterly, and that is the
best I can do at present.

I hope you are all
well and that the College is pros-
pering. - I shall be 74 years old
in July but the College memories are
as fresh - indeed the freshest of any
in my mind - Give much love
to your dear wife and to the
Stanton household - I wish you
had told me something of your
family - God Bless and Bless
You all -

Affly Love Old friend,
Mary B. Welch -

New Haven. May 28. 1854.

Tuesday Morning.

My dear Mrs. Stanton.

We are actually at home again - You have read my postal from the ship before this and know we are safely landed on this side the great sea once more. We found the full accounts of the East-Board Meeting from Mr. Clarkson and are deeply touched by the faithful devotion of our friends. It is too bad Prof. Pope is going away - He will search long before it can replace him. Mr. Clarkson gave us a vivid description of his talk with the Board and the reasons he gave them for his dissatisfaction and consequent resignation. And he wrote also most enthusiastically of the interview

of the Com^{tee} on Faculty with
dear Mr. Stanton, Miss Sinclair
and Mr. Caborn. Oh, my pre-
cious, true, devoted friends - God
kiss you all and I send
you freely. To come home to
you is worth more than
place, or money, or anything
else in this world. And what
do you think I have done
since my return. With my
heart all tender after reading
these letters, I sat at once down
and wrote Mrs. Perry an af-
fectionate letter, begging that
the old differences might forever
be buried out of our sight and
that when we came home we
might meet all our old friends
with the same affection that
had made all the years of our

College life and College work
except the last two so happy -
We are determined that Prof.
Knapp shall spoil no more
friendships for us. He never
was our friend and never can
be, but we cling to all the
rest with an affection whose
strength and earnestness we
were not aware of until the last
trials came. I do not know at
all how Mrs. Mossey will feel
about it: but I am the happier
for having done it: I hope you
and Prof. Stanton will think I
have done right: There have
been times this winter when I
have felt desolate and desert-
ed and it has seemed that
I could never return to the Gables
and be happy - That is all over.
Whether justice is done Mr. Wells
or not, our friends are left to

us and that is the soul of life
we shall live true, how I long
to see you dear - We rest our
fame love as on a rock and
we count on your welcome
as on the welcome of our very
own - And now when shall we
come home, before or after or
at the time of the Grand Meeting?
Mr. White thinks we had better,
if you all approve, reach home
little before the meeting and be
quietly settled there when the 17th
comes - or wait - perhaps until
it is over. Mr. Stanton and Mr.
Halket being all the ground we
know best. Unless we hear some-
thing from you soon to make it
seem not best to hurry, we shall
leave New Haven next Saturday
morning - May 31 - for Detroit.
We shall stay there a few days, then
go to Louisville for a day or

two and three hours by the 13th
of June. Please leave a letter
waiting for us in Detroit; Care
of Prof. J. M. B. Sill, 4 Warren
Avenue East, Detroit; or in
Jonesville, Care of Mr. G. G.
Peabody. Direct the Jonesville
letter very carefully "Jonesville,
Hillsdale Co. Michigan" as letters
are so apt to go to Jonesville.
If we do come down now, it can
be beautifully well we have been
according to our original
plans, and not in response to
any program newly ar-
ranged.

We hope the children are
well. Our best love to Mamie too,
and to you all. We are both very
well and impatient to see you.
Can it be, old friends, that we shall
see again be see well you after the
old way - I mean see in a crowd

Work and interest - Ours in Mutual
affection and confidence we
shall receive -

Devotedly Yours -

Henry M. Wells -

Mr. Wells will write Mr. Stanton
soon. His will answer for both
of us and is to both of you - Mr.
Wells is very busy with letters and
with his brother and a thousand
things - H. M. W.

Hotel der Post: Wilmerschen Wald-
deck: Pommern. April 29. 1854.

My dear Mr. & Mrs. Stanton.

Your dear letters have reach-
ed us and made us very
happy. Will you forgive my
even asking an explana-
tion - I never said I doubted
you - did I - and I cer-
tainly showed my faith
in you by writing as frank-
ly as I did. The same
mail that brought your
letter brought one also
from Mr. Clarkson speak-
ing in enthusiastic terms
of your loyalty and Oxi-
ford service you had done
and were doing and for.

Que too has done you the
fullest justice - And that
I see you - Which will be
soon - I will drop this sub-
ject - and when I see
you I shall only remain
it to tell you how fully I be-
lieve in you and how dear-
ly I love you - You must not
Name Wain or Bee or Mr
Clarkson or Gove see too
much - For my sake you must
forgive all the misconceptions
I am so happy as I write
that I can scarcely com-
mend myself to write legi-
bly - If I could only take
your hands and look
into your faces you would

realize my affection and
my fault. - Sometimes I wish
I had not written you - then
again I am glad I did for
it is always better to be
 frank than to brood over
troubles and let them grow
and fester - You know how
all that was in my heart; &

I know you forgive me and
love me and there is nothing
hidden to make future
trouble -

What a hard winter
you have had. and the
precious babies - Thank
God they have passed
through the terrible ordeal
safely - au revoir

Wishes we shall be on the ocean
morning our old home - I will
write you at once on landing
and tell you all our plans -
My greatest joy in the thought
of returning to the Gables is the
expectation of seeing you all.

Mr. Melde will add a letter
to this - You will make all
due allowances for my epistle
~~being short and incoherent.~~

I am just recovered from
three days severe headache
and am weak and tremulous.

With devoted love - and
more tender than of old -
and kisses for you all -

Fellow, Mother and babies both,
and with implicit trust and
confidence, Mary B. Melde.