long tedious stay here as we have been so busy that we haven't been much company in the way of entertainment, though the children are running in and out and demanding stories often during the day. She comes down now for dinner and supper which makes a nice change for her. She has read the complete works of Walter Scott and Macaulays History of England, she is now reading the Bible.

Before all this snow we went to see our dear Red House. It seemed so like home, it seemed really to welcome us and beg us to stay. We spent two hours there as the day was quite mild. The children played about so comfortably there in the rooms with the old rubbish

January 16, 1945

Well darling,

We are in the midst of such a wonderful snow storm. It is so beautiful. There is so much of it too, for we had fifteen inches of snow already on the level and this new storm has added a foot and it's still snowing!! The Christmas trees are laden with it — along the roads are great banks thrown up by the plough — and to come in our

driveway is like coming between two miniature mountain ranges. The children are beside themselves with the joy of it. And such a fine fringe of icicles as we have on our front roof — how they gleam when the moon and sun shine upon them. We have two that are at least four feet long. It is so beautiful and pure and white — I only wish you were here to see it and to share the wonder of it.

Tonight we all tied up the part of your Christmas present that comes from Tom and the children, my part is yet to come. I feel badly to be so late with it, but I know you will understand. I just can't hurry over it for that would take away the pleasure. But it will come.

We haven't heard another word yet from the Draft Board, but I guess we won't until Tom has gone through the exam. He should hear about that, I mean, get the notice to appear, any day now. He feels so confident about it all.

Mama is better all the time, though still confined to bed most of the time as yet. The doctor says she may go to Aunt Emma in Needham in about ten days if she continues to improve as well as she has. From there she will take a plane trip to California to Ted's. I know the change of Aunt E.'s will be good for her. She has had such a

bright with happiness, standing on the great rock, against the cloudless blue of Heaven. Then to look beyond & Down sitting in all her serenity among her trees — oh Nell, Nell, it was more than we could almost bear of happiness. We took it in without even being ashamed, but we fell humble and sad too, not forgetting others who are suffering.

You must come, you must share some of the new wonder of it. When will you come?

We too are sorry this house couldn't be rented for you all this summer. Have you asked Mr. Dunbar? I'm sure something can be had, but I would do it soon before the summer really starts.

I think the idea is perfect. So much better for the children than the heat of Texas. And to be together like that would save sore hearts as much as they could be cared.

Baby still behaves but I keep my fingers crossed.

There is so much to say, I feel as though I had but half said it, but it

late and I must stop.

Oh, I love you so and wish, oh how I wish, I could do more for you.

Please come and see us I long for the sound of your voice,

I love you, I love you,

E.

So walk across the pasture and realize we are putting our feet down on our own land, oh Nell, only you can understand fully what it means to us.

Such a picnic as we had on the first day it was ours. It was a warm sunny day and we walked down to a big rock in the south pasture where we could look back at house and love that. I'll never forget that day as long as I live. It was a day among days in our life together.

So look up and see our two fine and golden children