

El Modina Calif 4-1-1898

Dear Anna,

The ? busy winter has passed with us and here it is the 4<sup>th</sup> mo. We wonder very much how it has gone with you. I expect we will tell many of the same things ? so many of us are writing but we do not know how to do otherwise. It is only these months now till our year is out here and I do not know yet whether the Lod will want us to stay longer or not. I am sure He will tell us though. The last three months have been very hard on me. I have been at Whittier as much as I felt like I could and carry the work here. Did most of the preaching in a 10 days ? of meetings here beside the housework ?. We have been making butter to sell and I have often wished I could put some of it on your table. In the things that are to be sent by this boat are two red flannel skirts that were Irena's. I helped her make them when she was getting ready to get married but she never wore them. They are for thee and there is a heavy cloth ladies coat that was hers also thee can take it if thee needs it or trade it for something else thee needs. Jesse I suppose will tell thee all about Irena's last days and her triumphant death. So it is not necessary for me to repeat it.

Sadie Bond is to come home the last of this week and get ready to go to England. I think she will be home about a month. Her mother begins to feel the approaching separation [sic] keenly. Father and I brought some things and ate dinner with the P? girl at San Pedro when we were there this week. I do not think any of them knew thee but Esther Bond. She went with us in the skiff to see the Penelope. I am sending some copies of the Workman and I put some clippings from the Register in the roll.

I had a letter from Lizzie Morris the first of this week. She seems to be getting along very well. They have a Christian trader there now. I was with the committee in Los Angeles the other day when they brought the supplies. I knew thee wanted a red eiderdown ? so much that I influenced them to get one, though it was not as heavy as the other color. We could not find colored silk handkerchief. If I had been able I would have made it before sending but I just could not. We hope to hear before we send the next supplies and we will know better how to buy.

Thee will be sorry to hear of the death of Miss Milland in New York City- in the 2<sup>nd</sup> mo. Her death seems a great blow to the N.C.S.U. work but I am sure God has some one else to fill her place. We had a matron's contest in the N.C.S.U. here. That May was one of the speakers. I was one two [sic]. Milton Mills' wife got the prize and now the men are going to have one. Father is learning a piece & Curtis May & Thomas Nicholson.

We have had a very dry winter and no barley ? at all has grown. Hay is 20 per ton now and we don't know what it will be the summer. I have enjoyed the work here very much and hope if it is right for us to stay another year I will not have to do so much outside work but of course it has all been right. if I had known how it was going to be with Irena, I would have given up this work here for a while and would have gone and stayed with her and Jesse but she kept about

the same for so long that it seemed like she might last quite a while. Ida Curtis a young lady from Pasadena helped me here in the ? meeting.

I see in a paper today that gold has been discovered in the Island where William Duncan is with his Indians and they are trying to take the Island from him. We have wondered many times if you knew how many people have gone to Alaska the last year and now it seems like we might have ? ? ?. It seems in some ways that we are living in the last days.

One week from next Sabbath is Easter. I wonder what kind of eggs you will have and will you color any. There is hardly a meeting of any kind here but what there is a prayer by some one for the missionaries.

So we do not forget you and we are sure God does not.

Lovingly Mother.

Jesse remarked after Irena died that we had quite good evidence that thee was still alive or Irene would have surely seen thee in the other world and called thee by name, as she did others.