Wednesday -

My dear Aunt Emma -

No wonder you are provoked and indignant over my long delay in acknowledging your Christmas Gift and answering your letters but if you had been with me this last month I think even you would have admitted that there was some excuse.

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Service before the Holidays
I have been working day
and night, week days and
Sundays - My Christmas
letters are still unwritten
- except an occasional
letter to Mamma. I have had
no time for anything or any-
body outside of my work -
not a pleasant situation
but one from which I have
not been able to escape.
I did enjoy the Christmas
package greatly and the
the little brass souvenirs
were additions to my treasures.
Thank you so much for
remembering me.
Now about the chair - As
I told you it is at Glenview.
I wrote at once to the tenant
there asking her to give
it to the expressman whom
I ordered to call for it - but
she declined to do so, on the
ground that she rented the
house furnished as it was and.

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she did not want any
of the furniture taken away. Last
year we took some
things from the house
to Ravenswood - and
I remember that she
did ask me if the
house would be left
just as it was when
she looked at it and I
said yes - So of course
she has some reason
for taking the position
she does. I have ex-
plained matters as
best I could over the

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Telephone but to no
purpose and I
simply have not
been able to get
up to late the thing
over. I cannot
afford to quarrel
with her for she is
the sort of woman
who would give the
house up in a
minute if she wanted
to. Still is a good
servant and pays
her rent promptly. I.

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store room which
would answer every
purpose though not
quite so luxurious.
The real trouble is that
I had an art linen
cover made for the
chair and a lamp
shade painted to match
it - the two pieces
making a pretty
effect - which would
be spoiled if the chair
were taken as the cover
could not be used
on another chair. I will
try my best to see her
this week and get the
chair off if I can some
day next week -

I did not suppose
I was indefinite
in what I said about
the $250.00 - I mean to
have it in your hand
not interest - by the
first of May - I hope
sooner - We are closing
up the years business
at the store so I shall
have pretty soon how
I stand there - and about
what we can draw out this

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had hoped to have
things all settled and
the chair on the way
before I wrote - but
I will do the best I
can to get up to
Glenwood this coming
Saturday. You can
imagine how I feel
over this. There is no
excuse for the womans
acting as she does.
There are too many
chairs in the living
room as it is - and if
one large one in the

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year - It will probably be some time in March before we do actually take any money out as it was the middle of March last year.

I do not know about the monument - I do want to do my share but it does not seem likely that I shall be able to this year. It costs so much to keep up my payments on the house - pay taxes insurance and life

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insurance - that I
have only little left
out of my salary. I
dare not say that I
could spare 100 - for
that purpose - yet I
would gladly do so
if I could - and will
try so as soon as I can.
That is all I can
promise just now.
Mamma seems
to be improving but
I do not feel as if
this California trip had
been altogether a success.
It seems almost im-
possible to make
Mamma comfortable
no matter what is done.
Some mishap is sure
to occur later for there
is always too much
or too little of heat
or cold to interfere
with her pleasure. I
thought with comparative
freedom from arduous
household cares she
would surely have
a good time but
apparently the little
inconveniences of keeping
house, simply as they live,

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lived, have more than
outweighed the pleasure
of the trip. And of course
the weather has been
abominable most of the
time.
I am glad Lodie is
going away for March -
I shall have to school
my self to say Amen -
so it might seem strange
if ever I do see you both
again
Please don't be too hard
on me for really you
can have no comprehen-
sion of the way I am
suffering. - With love to
you both Grace -

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