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Jean (Carruthers) Boatwright Correspondence,
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Letter to parents, December 24, 1885

Jean (Carruthers) Boatwright

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Farmville, Dec. 24, 1885.

Dear Homefolke,

I received the box which was so thoughtfully filled, and I certainly was delighted with it. The flowers are now planted out in the box in which they came and are doing well except one geranium which was rather wilted when it came but I think it will come out. With this exception all are doing well. My shoes fit very well indeed but I have not had them on yet, that is, to wear them any. The little glass of preserves reminded me of the Sunday morning Patta and I were running a race to see who could get most to eat. I have not opened it yet, but have a good idea what they taste like from my recollection of the others. The wine lays in the bottom of my trunk undisturbed. Bert's little pictures are on the mantel-piece. Iris's soap, collar, and cuffs were very nice and useful. I shall enjoy the catsup some future day. I think I have mentioned every thing except the apples. Some of them are still on the shelf. I was at Mrs. Gilliam's yesterday evening and had a very pleasant time. I was treated to apples and some Christmas pastry. I met her brother there. It was the first time I had ever seen him. They invited me to their house to spend the holiday, but I will not have time

I will go to see them, though, during the holiday.
Miss Bush left unexpectedly Tuesday morning
on account of having some business to transact
for Dr. Ruffner. She will not return until next
Wednesday. All the other teachers spend Christmas
with us. Almost every ^{room in the} house contains a nice
box to-night and we have a profusion to eat.
My room-mate, Emma Richardson, received
two lovely presents from one of her acquaintances
in Farmville, namely, a lovely red plush
writing-desk handsomely furnished, and a
perfectly lovely Card, in the shape of a banner.
Until Sunday night all rules and regulations
are off and we can visit sit up and do
anything which will not be injurious to
our health. I went to the Methodist Christmas
tree to-night and every Normalite who was a
member of that Sunday School, received a
lovely leather-bound bible. I wish I was a
Methodist then. Our Sunday School is to have
a candy ~~and~~ at a hotel to-morrow night
but I do not expect to go. I am getting
sleepy and it is past ten, so I must stop.
Some of my cut flowers are pretty yet.

A merry happy Christmas to you all and
wishing I might be with you!

Wishes Merry Merry Christmas
to Cap } Lina } Mrs Lloyd } Yours affectionately
Ma } Lette } Mrs Lloyd } Dottie }
Ber } Ber } } Dottie }
Jean.