Tuesday Morn. Dec. 15, 1868. Dearest Mother. I didn't get your letter that came yesterday morn till nearly ten o'clock because the girls thought I had none so I did not go to see. So you have bought me a pair of boots for winter. I am sure that I should like them better than these that I have because they button, but these are very warm and high although they lace, and I shall like them very much. They cost four dollars. About the empress cloth - of course it is too late for you to make the skirt and sacque now so I will let her go on and fix it the best way she can as I carried it to her last Saturday - She said she could do it but there would

not be enough to turn it with the same cloth. I should like a garabaldi waist made of it very much but perhaps it would not be best for you to have it done. This waist is very much soiled and the lining is almost filthy.

I have thought that I would like my garnet silk made short and trimmed as the waist is with bias silk pinked. It could be done easily If I had the silk here.

What do you think about it?
I hope you will be able to send me a cloud(?) It would be so nice to wear over my hat or any way

and less work than to make a hood-

I am in the greatest hurry and must close now in order to get this mailed tonight If you have not sent the things to me you may send a

cake or two of soap as mine will not last through the year

Tell Nell to write me at once As ever Mary

[Mary (Parker) Woodworth, '70]