

Vaul,  
29<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1914.

My Dear Mrs McDonald,

It was really too kind of you to send me such a beautiful present; it is indeed lovely. I do not know how to thank you, but in the meantime please accept my kindest thanks. I am also very proud of Jessie Ann's nice present, and I shall value it very much for the sake of the sender. I often wonder what she is like, and if she resembles the one she's called after.

Neil and Hugh Archie are very good boys, and quite unlike each other in every way. Neil is the cleverest boy I had since I came to Kuaiq. I was sorry I could not put Hugh Archie in a higher class when the others got new books, but he's getting on much better of late with his lessons, and I expect to have him along with the rest in February.

I am always hearing about you from Neil, and I am glad that you are keeping so well this winter.

I must now conclude by  
wishing you all a very  
happy and prosperous  
New Year, and thanking  
you very much for your  
nice gifts.

I remain,  
Yours sincerely,  
Isabella Black.