

**Mari Evans**

*When in Rome*

**Mattie dear**

**The box is full**

**Take whatever you like**

**To eat**

(an egg  
or soup  
...there ain't no meat)

**there's endive there**

**and**

**cottage cheese**

(whew! If I had some  
black-eyed peas...)

**there's sardines**

**on the shelves**

**and such**

**but**

**don't**

**get my anchovies**

**they cost**

**too much!**

(me get  
the anchovies indeed!  
what she think she got—  
a bird to feed?)

**there's plenty in there**

**to fill you up.**

(yes'm. just the  
sight's enough!

**Hope I lives till I get home**

**I'm tired of eatin'**

**What they eats in Rome...)**