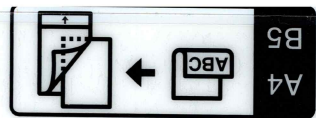
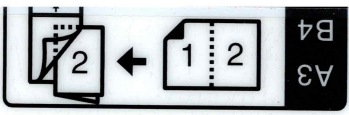


Chinook, Alta
July 12, 1911.

Dear Mother:-

Will wrote to you from Alaska but the letter might not get to you so I will write also. He went to Alaska to telegraph to you but he got there on Sunday & one cannot telegraph on Sunday in Canada so he did not wait as your letter gave us the impression that you were not going to start on the eleventh anyway because you were not sure of several things. We want you to come to Brooks and will meet your train there on the 28th. If you leave Toronto on the 25th you will get to Brooks sometime Friday afternoon, the twenty-eighth. I was thinking that it took four days from Toronto but I just looked in an old C.P.R. time-table & I see it only takes three. You may start from Windsor on the 25th instead of Toronto, you didn't say. We will meet you at Brooks on Friday the 28th anyway, unless

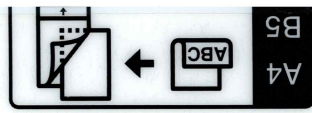
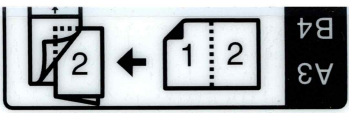


[Faint, illegible handwriting on aged paper, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.]

2.

you send us definite word to the contrary, which you will have had to send before you get this letter. If you should answer this letter it would not get the answer until the second of August. We will go to Brooks so as to get there on Friday the 28th so do not fail to come!

I cannot find your last letter in which you asked several questions but will try to answer ones I remember. Do not bring any preserves if by so doing your trunk will be over-weight. Do not bring any pots & pans or cooking or table-ware. Bring anything light weight that you want to ward off mosquitoes, better get high shoes to wear & gannet gloves & several strong veils. Do not bring any very large hats because the wind is strong here. Be sure to prepare for the mosquitoes because there are more here on our one section than in the whole of Ohio & New Jersey put together. That may seem to you to be slightly exaggerated, but it is not. You will believe when you get here! We don't dare go outside



[Faint, illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

3,
now without having everything covered but
our eyes. We have to build a smudge in the
barn & the horses stay in without anything
to eat rather than be outdoors and get eaten. We
tried to cut some hay this noon but had to
give it up because we could not see to drive.
We did get a little cut however & are going to
rake it up & haul it here tonight by moonlight
when the mosquitoes are not so bad. I do hope
they are not as bad when you get here!

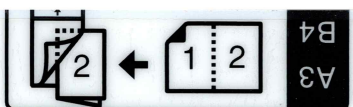
The size of the high shoes that I want you
to get is seven & one-half. You can get them
at Person's for \$3.50 and be sure to get tan,
because the wear much better. You can also
get me some cheap socks if you like, either
woolen, lisle or cashmere(?) but not cotton. If you
get any please be sure to get them big enough. I
would also be glad if you would bring that
album that has a lot of miscellaneous photos in
which I left in Oberlin, the scrap-book album
you know. Also I would like to have a
print of each of the photographs that I took of

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is cheaper in Oberlin than in Canada, by quite a good deal. You can bring a hammock we will make a place to put it up. It would be very nice for you to have a hammock I think we can buy a rocking-chair for you in Alaska.

For goodness sake mother don't get the idea into your head that we don't want you to come! You would be a very, very great help to us + comfort us a lot. The only inconvenience would be to you, not to us.

Be sure to engage your berth on the tourist in time. You couldn't possibly take the trip without having a berth + it is very hard to get one unless you engage it a long time ahead. The C.P.R. west-bound trains are always overloaded. The trip will be tedious enough anyway. It will be quite a job for you to change at Toledo, and Detroit especially because your trunk has to be opened when you cross the river to Windsor + you only have a very short time to change trains from one side of Detroit to the other. You had better ask Mr. Healey to tell you



[Faint, illegible handwriting on aged paper]

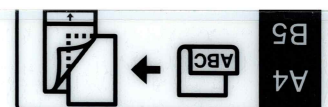
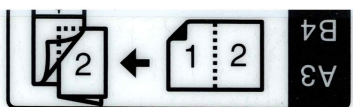
6

about the changes because they are very hard
to make & very intricate

Well it is too dark to write more
and all the lamp & lantern chimneys are
broken so I will say goodbye, I do
hope we will hear from Aunt Jenny
in this mail. I am awfully sorry if
she is wasting her money on frivolous
living. I don't see any reason why she
shouldn't lend us some because it would
be perfectly safe & would be bearing interest

Lots of love to you all & ask
Ellen to write often. She has heaps more
time to write to us than we have to
write to her. I wish I will would invest
in the quarter-section of land next to us.
I would like awfully to buy it myself but of course
cannot now. I'll write to me please

Love "Daddy"
Charles Dabden Belden
Chenook Alta.
July 12. 1911



6/12/11

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the paper. The text is written in cursive and spans across the entire page.]