

Smith's Inlet
Aug. 4, 1907.

Dear Mamma:-

I'm sorry I didn't get off
a letter to you telling you where to address
me up here but I haven't had a spare moment
since I came. We got here last Sunday and
were busy straightening up our boat and
getting ready for the week's work. My
mail could come here to Hick's Cannery
Smith's Inlet but you had better still
address me at Port Harvey as I will
soon go back probably before my
mail would get here.

Well I have seen the Pacific
Ocean at last. We had to cross
Queen Charlotte Sound which is
really open water in order to get here

The Western trade winds blow here every afternoon in the summer so that there is always a swell running on the "loose". Several persons got seasick and one fellow after half an hour's torture came over to one of the crew and said, "Mr. Captain aren't we almost across the ocean now?"

We have been doing pretty well this week and have been working early and late. It still stays light enough to read till after half past nine. We two boys have run across specimens of what look to us in our ignorance as some kind of ore, probably copper with traces of other metals. One stream that we followed up had half a dozen branches that were all led from iron rust. Of course we will have our samples tested and if they amount to anything will stake claims

I may be busy at that next month. The government will probably revoke the privilege to license timber by next month. I don't know

Oh, by the way please don't say any thing to any one about my finding anyone out here as I may wish to have some specimens assayed in Berlin and I don't want it by any possibility to leak out where to or come from if it shows up well. You know anything like that could very easily get into say the Berlin news and then maybe the Cleveland papers and would very rapidly find its way out here as Cleveland papers are read out here. When I get where there is a post office I may send Selden some specimens to find out about but I don't expect him to tell anyone what he may

know about where they come from.

The animals are a little different up here from what I've seen before. For instance I've seen some beaver up here. They are protected by law now for a period of seven years, five of which are already gone. I guess Indians are allowed to kill them. At least they killed a couple the other day. We have seen lots of bear signs though we never seem to see the bears. They love grizzlies up here and cinnamon bears that they say are even more fierce than the grizzlies. We caught some trout for supper the other day and you might guess what we used for bait. I suppose to have a rather large hook and a line and we saw a few trout in some of the pools of a small stream

and we fished for them with blue-berries. They would take the berries with a jump. The trout weren't very big only eight or ten inches long and pretty slender but they were the real thing all right and tasted fine.

We have a good deal of fresh salmon up here now. The finest conning salmon you know are the "sock eyes" which are about two feet in length and weigh from 7 to 11 pounds. They "run" when they are four years old coming in great numbers to certain rivers and streams where they lay their eggs, after which they die. They are caught as they go up the river or before. The "spring salmon" which really run in the fall are bigger and weigh from 60 to 90 pounds apiece.

I hope you people are getting along

finely at home. I'm glad to hear that Selden has decided to stay another year in school. What did he think of taking up claims in Canada. My present working partner thinks he can put me next to a good thing in that lands as he was in the land office himself and has friends there. Next month (September) I'll very likely put on either prospecting, or hunting a homestead, or hunting some timber for my self. I have several wild plans for the winter which I may follow. I might possibly "hand-log" or perhaps trap furs or maybe "beach-comb" or work in a logging camp or homestead or go to school or if I could afford it, start a camp of my own.

What did you think of Kinsome inlet. I'll try to send you some photographs

later if I can get some. Don't you think it would make an ideal place for a summer resort?

Please give my love to every one at home. I'm sorry I can't plan to be home this fall but you are all going away so soon and I will be so busy that I don't see how I can get away any way. Perhaps I'll be back next summer, or maybe you'll be out here to see me.

Goodbye with love
Willie.

Port Henry, N.Y.
June 22, 1907

Dear Mamma:-

I guess I'm pretty late
in wishing you a happy birthday.
I hope you do have a very happy
one.

The boys leave in the morning for
a two weeks trip. I just have
time to write this little note to
say goodbye for the time being.
I suppose Mary will tell you all
about me when she gets home.

I had a rather rough voyage
up here this trip and my boat
was about fourteen hours late

getting in to Port Harvey. The
dock at Lund was slightly worn
later and the waves knocked
one side so that it sank
six feet. It really never gets
very rough up here though compared
with the open ocean. I expect
soon to see the open ocean and
go further north. You know
there is an inside passage
from Seattle clear to Alaska
with only one little stretch of
thirty miles or so of open water
that and the scenery are two
things that make the excursion

to Alaska so enjoyable. I
really wish you could make the
trip.

I guess I'll close now with the
promise of a longer letter next
time.


Truly
Yours,

Willie.

W. H. Belden.

Port Harvey.

B. C.



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urning.

Victim of Auto Accident Dies.

PITTSFIELD, MASS., August 24. — Miss Mary P. Root, of Bristol, Conn., one of those injured in last Sunday's automobile accident at Ashley Falls, died at the House of Mercy here to-day. She had been unconscious since the accident.

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Aug 10,
1907



Mrs. W. H. Belden,
28, West College Street,
Oberlin,
Ohio.

