

Wednesday first
I rubbed lard all over ^{Donnie's face.} ~~Donnie's face.~~
Dear Mary: - I put a little on his ^{to} ~~to~~ ^{face} ~~face~~
My letter telling you of the E. N. R.R.'s rate
on the 15th of Sept. has I suppose already reached
you. I am writing now principally to tell you that
I can send you at least fifty dollars a week from
Monday. It would reach you between the 6th and 8th of
Sept. I may be able to send sixty or seventy dollars,
but possibly not as my expenses of moving are
quite a little and maybe I can't draw my check in time
to get it to you. You see I am going up with Percy
I leave tomorrow morning. Of course I shall try to get
down to meet you when you come and I know Percy will
do his best to arrange things for me, I am going to
get a pretty responsible position where I can't get
away any minute, but will take a little vacation at
Christmas, possibly at Thanksgiving. You might spend
Sunday with me almost any time and we can easily
reach each other by phone.

Now that I have really got the matter decided I feel
a great deal better about it. I worried an awful lot about
whether I should go into school or not and wrote several
long letters discussing the question which I never mailed.
One especially that I wrote to Ellen, I read through
and I had put the matter in such a clear light that
that I saw my answer right in the letter. I am
going to work my very hardest to make a success of
this year. Percy is very encouraging and thinks I
can make a good thing. Our mill is running twelve
hours daily Percy says. (over)

Say if you decide to come sooner than I told you
or by another route you'd better write right away. If
you telegraph I'll mail the money immediately. You needn't
worry about repaying me as I guess I owe you more than
that anyway. I wonder if Selden can lead Ellen the
money to get away on. I'm afraid I can't handle her
case. I received a bill from Mr. Cook the other day
and I shall write him that I will pay him when
I draw my month's check.

I am going to try my best to save thirty dollars
a month to send home. I ought to do better but I can't
guarantee any more. I shall feel responsible that far but
beyond that I don't intend to be too awfully economical
except for special emergencies. \$30 a month would about
clear off our debts at home during the year. I wish we
could get them all transferred to the bank so that
we wouldn't need to worry about its inconvenience
anyone. Perhaps I can do better than thirty a month.
I am aiming to be earning \$400 a month before the
end of 1906 and perhaps I can make it. Our ^{stickman}
at Parker Lumber Co. who is now foreman of another
planing mill offered me a job at \$3.00 a day running
a planer. but I'll do better with Percy I think. I'm
awfully glad to hear Selden is making \$2.00 a day.
That's pretty big money for him. I should think he
would find it pretty hard work swinging a hammer
all day. The carpenter trade is a fine thing to learn.
A good carpenter gets \$3.50 here although there are
too many poor ones to make a big demand for
ones of that class. I hope he'll get interested
in Physics this year and mathematics. They
offer a fine course in electrical engineering
here at the U. and if he gets interested in it will
see that he gets a chance at it here or some
where else.

and had a fine meal at the little cook-house which unlike the central camp was startlingly neat and clean. The engine had a break-down so we had to walk back. It made about a fifteen mile walk for the girls altogether but they stood it finely. Edna and I ran the last half mile. The Stevens boys have sold their mill to a company which will be incorporated at a million dollars.

Another thing you ought to know about is how the boys claims come out. ~~But~~ Harry's were all right and they now hold them. Percy paid his \$150 to get located and not only lost his claim because of a previous entry but couldn't get his \$150 back.

You ought to know why Percy left the Parker Lumber Co. The Hillises will tell you about that. Percy put in \$1500 in the co. and was to put in as much again but left instead because he had no faith in the management. Mr Parker drinks and is awfully careless if not dishonest in his accounts drives away a great deal of trade by his bold-faced lying and grafting and doesn't attend to business. He is ~~only~~ good at figures and can drive a sharp bargain. Percy's leaving without putting in more capital threw them into a confusion from which they haven't yet quite withdrawn. I'll give you more details some other time. I leave because Percy offers me a better paying job and I haven't any respect for the co's management.

Address me W. H. Belden

Care of A. J. Cain,
Thornwood,
Wash.

Letters to Parker Lumber
will be forwarded if the care
Keeps my directions.

There are two or three little things that I want to tell you rather confidentially as I don't think the others would especially care to hear. I know you always hate to find out from any one else what I ought to have told you. Several little extravagances for one thing. The boys got Lizette a little watch. It was Harry's idea and he bore the major part of the expense. We all wanted to do something for Lizette and a watch is something that she really needs and Harry got her to describe the kind of a watch he should give Joy and got her ideas on the subject. Lizette has just done everything for us boys. She was chief nurse for Harry most of the time and just with him night and day and she really gave up trying to keep up with the music lessons she had the opportunity of taking. I think she was just worn out with the nervous strain when she left for a little rest in the mountains two weeks ago.

You needn't repeat what I have said or it might make the Hilliers uncomfortable if it came to their ears. One little extravagance was an automobile ride we took last spring. Of course that wasn't so awfully expensive. The four Harry and I and Fanny and Edna went out to the camp at Monroe for a sight of the woods on Monday. We took a number of pictures which I am hoping will turn out good. Mr. Bothwell at whose house H. and I boarded for a while is a photographer and lent us a camera as he has several other times. He develops fine negatives. There is one picture I do hope is good of Edna sitting down at the bottom of a nine foot log. You know she isn't any bigger than a minute anyway and the log was immense. We had a ride on a locomotive up to the upper camp

SEATTLE, WASH.
AUG 22
5-PM
1906



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Miss Mary M. Belden
28, West College St.
Cleveland
Ohio.

OHIO
AUG 27
8-AM.
1906

