

Clifton Springs Dec. 27th 1887.

My dearest Elsie,

I have been wanting & yet not wanting
to write to you for several weeks. The last time I wrote
I told you that Luke seemed better & that the Dr.
had great hopes of his recovery. & I could bear to say
anything to worry you or cause you any sleepless
nights. He has ^{now} about decided that nothing can
be done for him here. He says he has tried every
thing & I have tried to work with him, but lately
she has grown worse. As she would not go down
to meals regularly she said it was important for
her to eat, he told me to take bread & milk up
for her, for she must eat, now for ten days or
more she has not gone at all. I have tried in
every way to induce her & she realizes herself
that she is worse & you know the only alternative
is the Asylum. He told me some days ago that
I had better write than the arrangements made for
her going there. Had written to John about it, but
he has not mentioned it in any of his letters which

I have received almost daily, I think few fear that I shall ever see them. Poor father it will be a great trial to him perhaps more than to the rest of us, I suppose the sooner we get away the better. Father said he would meet us some where on the road, I would rather he would not come all the way here for I do not think I will have any trouble about managing.

Father sent money to pay for the week before last he also sent enough to pay for the other little expenses - but now I am out & he does not know when he can get any more, you know he has not the faculty of making his debts pay him, beside there are other things that have not met his expectations.

I have not written to any of the family about our needs as you chose to do so for us.

Addison with the rest is here pressed at this time, Jerry says, but she not broken which he told her about before they were married. He has also had more than usual care. The Mr. Geo. Cooper, who has had charge of his weatherford yard who was a reliable & competent man, perfectly reliable had been there

ten years, a dear friend committed suicide some time ago. Cause unknown no messages of any kind excepting a note left on his desk for Addison saying that he would find acct^y of the business all right. I have been pressing Joe to pay Cousin John but if necessary he can direct it in this channel, but I will depend upon you to arrange, shall I?

I told Mr. Dewey on Sat that I could not visit any more but would settle on this Saturday, I suppose the sooner we go the better, & I want to ask the Dr. more about it. He recommends Sunday as a day, what do you & Mrs. think he says he can get her in there they have only 50 patients which he thinks is an advantage.

The cart keeps this from the world & of course they will talk so perhaps it would be better for her ^{visit} at Monstoun when we can see her some time & will be less expense on account of it being on the way to NY. How are the dear children I hope it has been a happy & mes-
to them I have thought much about you all, Mr. Foster expects to have this for Florida, the sleighing is beautiful so is the weather.

This morning - I have grown to love this place
I shall leave it with regret altho my heart bounds
at the thought of being at home again. I hope
the blessed influences of this home will not
be lost upon me, but that henceforth I may
live a better Christian life & be enabled to do &
be more for others. Lulu & I were invited

to take a sleigh ride yesterday - we went to Phelps

I have just had a call from a Mrs. Pumphrey
to ask me to do a little shopping, so good bye
with a heart full of love & much love
Always your aff. mother,

Hope to hear from you soon

Have not written to any one yet - The W's opinion
but will to Father today -



Mrs. Mrs. H. Pelden,
Bridgeton,
N. J.

