

Obolun, Ohio, May 4, 1906
My dear Willie: -

You will be interested
in this telegram which Mary has
sent me from N.H. enclosed in a
letter. She got the telegram May 2,
the trustees meeting having been May 1.
"Tacoma, Washu. May 1, 1906

Miss Mary Belden

130 Howe St., New Haven, Conn

You are elected Dean. Letter will follow.
Wire answer acceptance

J. H. Kroeze.

Now is it that grand? Won't it be
fine for you and Mary to be near together?

What are you planning for next year?
It is a very long time since I have
had a letter from you, or since I have
seen one you have written to any one.

Do write for I want to know about
you - how you are, what you are doing,
what you want to do, or hope to, or mean
to try for. What companions have you

beside Percy? What do you think of going on at
College this fall if you have a chance? Can you
get a course in forestry near where you are?
In what way, if any, has Seattle been affected
by the San Francisco disaster? Have you done
anything about Cook's bill? Have you any other
unpaid bills? I have been trying to pay up Good-
rich's bill this year with the girls' money as it
has come. Could you help with that a little? I
have been embarrassed all year by the lack of any
money from the Relief Board, but still have small
bills pretty well settled. We keep even now all the
time with grocer, butcher &c. never charging anything.
Those are all paid. But I can't get the Bank
loan paid. I don't want to drain you of money,
but I think the girls feel that you ought to keep at
home as they do. They spoke particularly in reference
to Goodrich's bill which was your books as well as
theirs, + Cook's also. I feel very anxious that ^{you} should
set money ahead, so that you can get something
for the future - for a home of your own, when you
need it. I wish there was some way you could
take up land, can't you have some one on the watch
for a good chance. You ought to lay up something
every month - perhaps you do. Of course it can't
be much, with your present wages, but a little
here + there will form a good habit. I have
heard it said + believe it to be true that if
one does not lay up pennies on a small income
he will never lay up dollars on a big one. Habit
is everything. Now my dear, don't think this is
a lecture + throw it aside. It is common sense, is
it not? - Did you get entirely over the skin trouble?

What do you know about Tacoma? I
have always heard that Tacoma and
Seattle were rivals. Is building cheaper
or dearer there than here - lumber +
work both? How about town lots
in the rival cities. Is it cheaper to buy
or to build? What would you think
of our moving west after a few years -
say, when Evelyn is thro' College?
I think now she will go on with
her course this fall. I want Selden
to finish High School before we make
any move. I am glad you write him
good advice. How I do wish there was
a manual training department in
the High School, or something of the
sort in town, any way.

Well, this is a poor letter, but it
takes lots of love, and a mother's heart
longing to hear from her oldest boy.
Does every thing go well with the Parker Co.?
Tom & Louis & Marjorie. Ellen. S. Bal. 122