

long time will elapse before you
will have a parish to your
mind. You may be assured
that if at any time I find
it in my power to be of any
service to you, you may fully
depend on me.

There are many things
that I would like to talk with
you about for which there
is no room in a letter.

Come this way again next
Summer if you can arrange
to do so. With kind regards from
Mrs. C. to yourself and Mrs. B. I am
most cordially Yrs. H. K. Crain

Falmouth Mass.

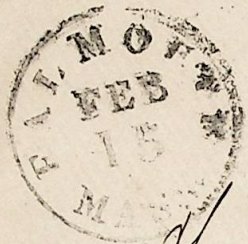
Feb. 13, 1883.

My dear Mr. Bidder.

Your last letter, received
a week or two ago, was most
acceptable, and I thank you for
remembering us. Our winter life
is a quiet one, yet it has
all that we need of occupation,
and is not without its burdens
and its cares. Neither Mrs. Craig
nor the children have been
entirely well since the cold
weather set in, so that little
matters of sanitary concern have
seemed to engross altogether too

much of our thought and our
time. We trust it is otherwise
with you in the city. You have
at least the satisfaction of knowing
that if serious illness should come
into the family, you could have
in attendance some trustworthy phy-
sician. I can sympathize with you
most profoundly and sincerely in
the annoyance you feel at being
so long without steady employment.
I have been in that wilderness
and know all about it. There
is nothing in it to be ashamed
of, but it is very wearisome.
Some of the very best men in

the ministry have had this expe-
rience of long waiting before the
right place has opened to them.
Indeed I often think that it is
the second-rate men that find
settlements the most readily. It is
astonishing how many churches
in hearing candidates let the
men of genuine ability and
worth go by, and then take
up somebody whose chief gift
is that of blowing his own
trumpet. Yet the good man
and the true usually finds
his place in the long run;
and I cannot feel that a



The Rev. W. H. Alden,
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