

Houghton, May 31. '92

My dearest "Betsy!"

Yours of the 19th was here to greet me on my return from the iron district, and the portrait seemed very life-like, with the exception of a slight exaggeration of the nose. Otherwise I think I should have recognized it at once!

To-morrow Lane, Seaman and I take a team from here, and drive away out on Keenan's Point, to be gone four or five days.

I wish you were going. I shall take my camera, and, if fortunate, may get some views to show you later. The Geol. Board are to have a meeting on Thursday, when we hope they will take final action on our case. Until my return from the Point, I can't say when

I may start east. Next summer I mean to remain out here through the season, unless some unforeseen event should occur again - which may kind Providence prevent!

I have made no plans for Mame prior to September, when I expect to go to the vicinity of Mt. Ktaadn - a hard trip, which I shall take unaccompanied save by Jim.

If Ch. wants to camp out, I could take her in August to Moosehead or Lobster Lake.

I doubt very much whether Dr. W. would enjoy that kind of a trip. There is no fishing, and I should want to explore, ^{entirely} on foot, the neighboring mountains and valleys, which would necessitate some pretty hard work. Just how much enthusiasm he could muster for that sort of occupation, I do not know, but I should be very apprehensive of a complete failure to enjoy the outing. If one could ever become acquainted with him - if he would ever thaw out - it would

be easier to form an opinion on the subject.

We have a very small family at present, and to-morrow there will be only two or three at the table. Mrs. W. is still absent, and apparently no better, as far as nervousness is concerned. I played "pedro" with the Dr. last evening and afterwards we took a walk together. I did not realize before how gratefully he must feel for a little social companionship, and am sorry I did not think of it sooner. I think he would like to go with us out to the Point, but he feels that he must await, in Houghton, news of the action of the Gen. Board at its approaching meeting. I just happened to think that there is to be a dance to-night at the armory, but I don't believe I shall go, as we must leave here by six o'clock in the morning. Saw the Jackins the other day. They are well, and sent kind regards. So did Toodles, who says she

harbors no unkind feeling, against you. She danced all over me, so great was her delight to see me after our long separation. I hope you won't. I'm afraid I could not bear it.

Capt. Vivian has just moved in, along side of us, and is busy getting his minerals arranged. He has given me several interesting specimens. Dr. Lane expects his mother and father here early next month, and they may occupy my room after I am gone. My custom poles have not come yet; people are so slow up here! I ordered a pair of shoe packs four weeks ago, and the man has not commenced them yet.

Well, Meezie dear, I must run down to the P.O. with this before the noon mail goes out. With love & kisses to you all, ever yours

Honest messages to Grandpa. Tell him he must not think

Lee.

of going to N.Y. — for a long, long time.