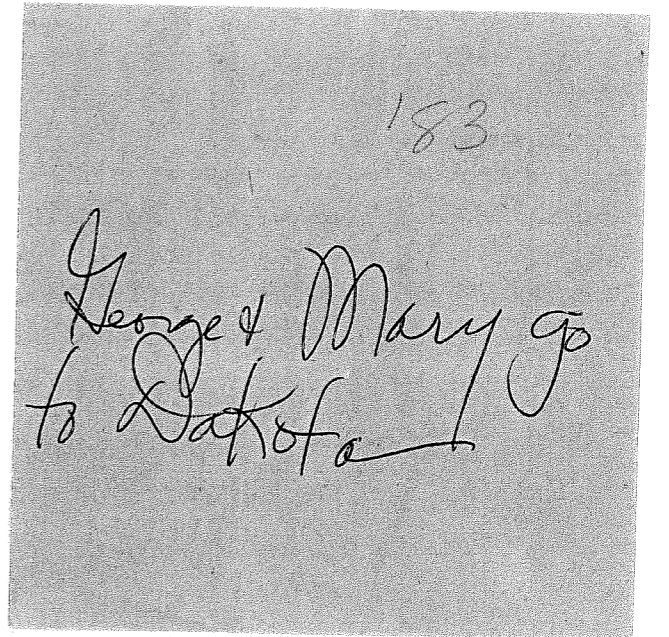


4/20/1883

head so. I scarcely remember any
thing - We had a beautiful view of
Lake Ontario, altho we did not
see it - till we passed Niagara Falls.
altho the distance looks short on the
map, it was quite a long ride
beside it, and looked as blue as
the sky - we came on Boston and
Albany road to Albany, then New
York Central to Suspension Bridge,
then the "Great Western" to Detroit.
"Michigan Central" from Detroit to
Chicago - then "Chicago Milwaukee
& St. Paul" here - When Geo
writes he will give you a better
description of our journey, places and
the changes we made - I was very
much disapointed with the Bridge
& Falls - for we could not see the

Loa Croese. April 20th 1883.

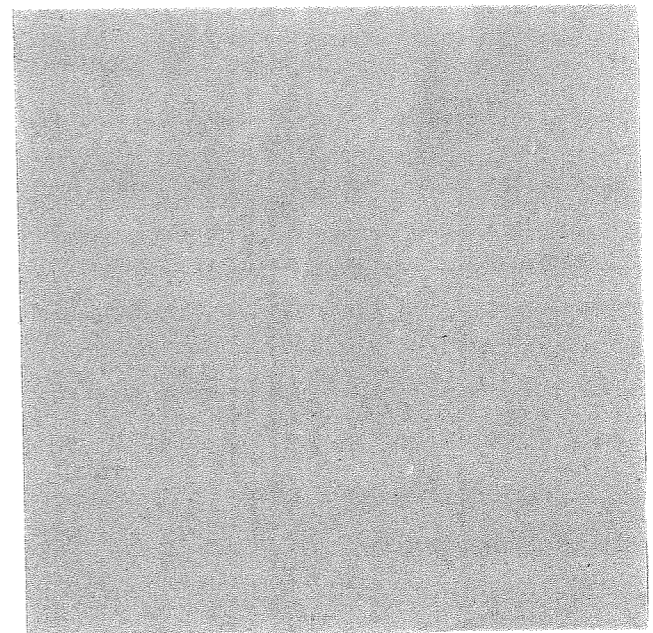
Dear Father, Mother, Horace & Allie,
You have probably wondered why we
have not written before this - but as
Geo wrote two or three cards on our
way, that we would not write this we
got rested. George has met so many
friends - and has so much to say and
see, and spent two days with Arthur
up in Midway. that he has not had
time to write. And I have not been able
to do as I have been sick - I was completely
done out, could not have rode another day
We left Boston Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock
on St. Louis Express - rode all the time
day & night - reached here 3 o'clock Sunday
morning - I was just worn out, crazy



183

George & Mary go
to Dakota

sick - but you know I was all
tired out when I left home. If
I had rested two days before me
started, think I should have stood
the journey well. The 5th was in
yesterday & left medicine. so
better, a good deal better to day. I
am up, and trying to scribble to you
my head is in a whirl yet. and I
am not my self - but hope to be well
by Sunday - so to go to church. -
Oh it is a beautiful journey here
and how many times I wished you
all were with us - We rode all night
Monday - and got in Bath Tuesday
morning. Had Henry Partridge & wife for company
to Vaneboro. He & his brother James
tend the Station & dining room
there. There was no snow in Bath
we left there for Boston Wednesday
morning - arrived in B. at 6 P.M. and
left next day at 3 P.M. in Snow
The sun & the patches of snow
once in awhile in places in Mass.
and that was all - Grass all
green in Boston - and though Mass
the farms looked nice & green - and
oh what handsome orchards. I never
knew what orchards were till I saw
them in Mass & N. York - It is
just beautiful through New York
State, and then when we came
to the Prairie land, I don't know
saw any thing so beautiful - one
broad field for miles & miles
green with "winter wheat". Quite
a contrast to the fields of Snow
we left in Arrostort. How I wish
I could describe our journey to
you. I tried hard to remember
all the pretty Cities, Lakes
& farms - we saw - but seeing
so much - and trying to take it
all in, it has confused my



leaving out.
 Gards made
 panel of prices on
 of the farming
 It was as hot - the
 day we came from
 Chicago that we
 suffered with the
 heat. Money out
 for from here for
 two or three weeks
 as if you should
 mile - I would get
 it - as it if I had
 10 - it would be
 sent - so do write
 for Lam as much
 to hear from you
 and mile - every
 thing - will write
 to Lami & Aggie
 apt. - Hope to
 hear soon
 back all.
 first by
 you driving straight

I wish you were all out here.
 As we could not help but like,
 I shall hope to see you all here
 next fall - We have not got our
 boxes yet, and don't know when
 they will come - suppose we will have
 to write as others do - We shall
 write often as we can - but shall
 not expect to hear from you till
 we get settled somewhere - If G. don't
 like Dakota, we will stay here - I feel
 at home here - and made some friends
 already - and like the looks of
 the city, Peoria & Bluffs - and
 the grand old Mississippi. Read a
 letter from Dad yesterday - I was sick
 about it - was it did me good - for
 I am very - I am dreadfully tired now
 and must lay down awhile - I shall be
 well tomorrow I hope - We are stopping
 to Mrs Russell's - his first - was a sister
 to Mrs Hilton (Kate) They are very nice folks.
 I am proud of my boy Arthur - says he
 wishes Horace had come too. I hope you are
 all well - I think of you all - every day - and
 miss you so much - but I hope we are out to
 be parted long - sell the first chance you
 have - you can enjoy life here better than
 there - the grass is green here - trees

Falls very plain, and we were as
 far above the river that it looked
 not much larger than a good stream.
 We probably saw one side of the falls.
 Both the falls & river was a pea
 green. We rode over the bridge
 so could not see that at all.
 The train goes very slow over there
 scarcely moves - so it takes quite a
 while to pass - We changed Cars
 at Albany - Rochester, S. Bridge
 Detroit - & Chicago - In Chicago
 we had to be transferred across
 the city - to the Chic. & Mil &
 St Paul Depot - waited there
 three hours - to connect with
 the Western Train -
 There are two, three & four
 tracks nearly all the way

Some times two and three
trains going same way at
same time - and for miles &
miles there are freight-cars
standing on tracks that are
loaded for use west, but can't
be moved on account of so many
passengers going over the roads.
Remember one place, between
Detroit & Chicago there were nine
miles of freight-cars loaded
for Dakota - on a side track,
and the conductor told George
that every riding from Chicago
to Portland one, was full and
all going west, but had to
stop all the freight - for there
was such a rush of emigration
they could not carry both,
and this is only on one road.
For on the other roads there
is as much - It is all

push and boom. It does seem
such a wonder when so many
people are going, to - I don't
know how long our train was
when we got here - but it was
crowded, and nearly every place
one or more cars was added to
the train - and every body was
talking west, one train that
came here one day last week
but one thousand passengers
going to Dakota - and that was
only one train - they say the
trains are loaded every day over
George & Arthur start for Dakota
next day - I shall stay here
till they find a place that suits
them. I should like to live here.
This is a pretty little city of
seventeen thousand persons
or more - and not as old as
St. Fairfield - how is that,

Winter wheat is just splendid
and spring grains are being rapidly
sown. Gardens are made in
many places and few warm days
will make nature smile.

We miss our friends very much
but are determined not to be home
sick at least at present. I
expect it will be a long time
before our roads get like as
the roads are completely blocked
with freight from this place to
Portland Me. Across the set
river on the Canada side are several
9 miles of loaded cars on one side
track and every siding full to
the east. Such a rush of freight
grants meat was never known. I am
every foot of land in Dakota will
be taken. A reaction will set
in and every thing will assume a
normal condition. Some will become
rich - others poor. On leaving I
will write a full description of the

La Crosse Apr 20 1853
Dear father & mother

As Mary has
written you I will include a few lines
as a reminder that I think of you &
would write a long and descriptive
letter but have not time tonight.
beside am not in a writing mood.

Am very sorry to say that Mary
is not very well. Her journey, tired
her pretty well and together with
a cold, fatigue & dyspepsia she
is pretty well "under the weather".

We did not consider ourselves
fairly on our journey until we
left Boston, for after that we
made no stops except at a few
points for an hour or so waiting
for the connecting trains which