

5/16/83

4

in spots on them, I presume
in a few years. The City will
be built back to them--

This City is just a forest of
trees. Every St. except the main
ones, have trees on both sides.
They are all leaved out, and
are so beautiful, but it is
impossible to see more than
from one St. to another. They
are so thick-- It seems
strange to me, that things can
grow in this sand-- but they
do very rapidly-- trees grow in
a very few years-- The sand
is about the color of brick, not
quite as red. The front yards
are all green, but they have to
sod them-- They haul rock
from the bluffs, pound or
grind them up, to put on the
Sts, which are soon smooth
and hard--

Will send
you a picture
of Havana
and when we
go, will tell
you where
we live.
Alice has
Old Frank
for one mil
will about
the cows. Chick
and all
crops and all
sent out for
you and be a
teacher out here
some time
New Thom all
for your sister
(which I could)

La Crosse, May 16, 1883

Dear Precious Father,

Your letter
of May 6th was recd last Sat.
and you may be sure we were
glad to hear from you. for
I was afraid you were not feeling
well enough to write--
I am so thankful that you
are better this spring, and
now dear father, do not work
as hard this summer, as
you have in the past. You
had better hire more help,
or do less farming, or better
sell part of the farm, or
better still, sell the whole of
it. If you were out here

3

You would never want to go back to Arrowsfoot to live again. I do hope that before another year - you all will be with us - or near us - - Why Pa you don't know how different every thing seems here - and looks - Business pushing - Every body has enough to do - The working class all have good homes - or most of them and even those who have plain houses outside - have them nice inside - - One half or two third of this City are small houses - that is, one story - but large on the ground - some I thought looked very poor and shabby but George said they were very nice inside - and beautifully furnished - and also there are some of the handsomest - homes here - that I have ever seen.

2

a great deal prettier than any I saw in Boston - - I call this a very pretty City and should be contented to live here - only should not be satisfied till you all come west - - The City is built from the river back to 13th and 14th sts - The streets numbered run parallel with the river - the others from river to bluffs - or we would call them mountains - They are just splendid - They look to be about one fourth of a mile from here - but are from two to three miles - There are farms all over them and between them - can see the green fields as plain from here as we can at home to look down to the lower end of farm - - There are trees

brick he could get, and take
 to sell - for he could make
 money on those - and be sure
 and buy a Cow + some hens, for
 if we did not want them, could
 sell them quick. and beside
 the Car would go right along
 if there was live stock in it,
 and if not, we might not get
 our things for a month, and
 beside Geo would have a free
 passage, as he would have to
 look after Cow - &c -
 Our boxes did not get here till
 last Sat. - over a month on
 the road. - We had to borrow
 bedding, Chairs &c - We got
 a nice little Cook Stove, pot^s 34,
 Dishes + a small Extension
 Table - We cannot take our
 stove, as it is for wood - and
 they dont have wood in Huron
 so we will have to sell or leave
 it - We cannot go before next
 week as Geo has work to finish

tried to
 Huron
 to take
 next time
 hope there
 will be a
 letter there
 from home
 when we
 reach there
 Love to Mr
 + Mrs Young
 also old Mr
 Robbins - tall
 thin - 2 things

I have seen no poor people
 here - or such ones as we
 see in Anovostok - no body looks
 hungry, or half starved, as I
 have seen them there - or
 half clothed, but instead
 look as if they had a "good
 square meal" and enough
 for another day.

This is a real June day,
 so warm and nice, and
 the birds are so thick, and
 such splendid songers I never
 heard before -

Well Pa next week we are
 going further west - I am
 sorry in one way - that is, I have
 learned to like this place so well,
 I do feel sorry to leave it - and
 we have got to housekeeping too

5

Q
and now pack up and move
again - but George thinks he will
do better there than here - He and
Arthur went out there - Arthur
staid but Geo could not find
a house nor shop - Every place
was jammed full & running over.
So he came back & went to work here
has had all he could do - and
more too - Can make good wages
while the work lasts here - but
cannot find a shop to rent or
buy - He has been papering & painting
but he cannot stand that kind
of work long - as his back is so
lame - And here the papering
season will soon be over, and
in Huron they are building up
so fast - there will be lots to
do - and Arthur will be with
him - He is a dear good boy
just about like Hod - and as

full of fun - ^{(they would make 2}
^{What a good span)}
We had a good long letter
from him last night - wrote
that he had at last found
a nice little house - which would
be vacated next Monday - and
he had rented it - for us - also
a nice garden with it - and
besides had rented land to
build a shop on -
George will buy lumber here
for a shop, have it all cut
and ready to put together - nails
glass - Brick - and also
we are going to buy a Cow if
we can find a good one, and
some hens too - You'll laugh
I know - but George has got to
hire a bar to take his lum-
ber in which will cost \$35.00,
so Arthur wrote him to put
all our goods in same car
with lumber - and buy all the

home. We mean it for all at home - We shall expect some one of you to write every week if not more than a Postal Card for you cannot imagine how good it seems to hear from home - for I do see some lonesome days - I go all day - Except to dinner - and I not have a person to speak too. There is a family under us - but they are Germans - they keep at home and so do I - I have had a number of callers - and made some good acquaintances - but they are not like own folks - or old friends. I hope Ma, Allie and Hod will write - when I get in my little home - shall have more to write about that will interest them. How I wish Aggie or Allie was here with us - Hope to see some of you before many months - I have scribbled over a lot of paper but dont amount to much - We have no ink - so excuse pencil. Love to All - your loving daughter Mary

My sewing machine got broken coming - but I guess it - can be fixed - next come - alright - Pa, Hod & I wash in to come out - heat and go in business + make money - you could do it - sure. 9

which will take him the rest of this - then he has got to see about lumber - and hunt up a cow + pack up - so we cant go before the middle of next week - and perhaps not till last. We will write home as soon as we can after we get a little settled. It will take us about 24 hours to get from here if we have no trouble. Now Pa I hope you will write us often and we will try and do the same. We heard of the fire the next day - read it in the daily paper here - and since have read it in a number of different papers - How thankful I am that we were out of it - for if we had not come here - I should

have stocked up - and probably
 would have lost some - and I
 been turned in the St. beside.
 I am very sorry for them all
 except Mrs Ketchum. In
 one paper I read that among
 the others Mrs Ketchum's store
 and stock was destroyed.
 If she had any stock there
 (and I don't doubt it) I do hope
 it was all burned, it would
 serve her right.

George will not have time to write
 to day - for he is so busy - but sends
 love to all - & will write soon.

I forgot to tell you about the Elec-
 tric lights - There are four towers
 one hundred and fifty ft. high
 which light the City - they also
 have it in many of the stores.
 The Gas light looks dim as
 a Tallow Candle beside it.

The Electric light looks white and
 almost dazzles one to look at it.
 It did not make us cringe to
 ride over Niagara - wish we
 could have seen the bridge.

They went very slow so we had
 time to see all that could be
 seen of the falls from bridge.
 They are quite a distance from
 bridge so one only sees one
 side of falls. River & falls
 look a bright green. It
 was not half so pretty to me
 as "Ald Orchard Beach".

The papers read seemed almost
 like getting a letter. You all
 must not wait for me to write
 to each, separately - for it would
 keep us writing all the time
 and we should have to write
 the same thing over and over
 for when we write to one at