

The worst is in another envelope

Eugene Nov 18<sup>th</sup> 1882

Dear Chan, and Mary, and Winnie  
This being my 60<sup>th</sup> birth day I thought  
I would write a few lines to you  
You must not think I am very proud  
of our home here because I have taken  
so much pains to represent it to you  
I done it because I thought you would  
feel a little curious about it and  
no one else would do it - If the old  
place is really sold I am willing  
to sell this also if I can to advan-  
tage - I presume I got this place  
pretty cheap - The owner was badly  
in debt and was obliged to sell  
I suppose the buildings are worth  
nearly or quite half what I paid  
for the farm - There is about 220  
acres of good land, the river spoiling  
the rest for tilling purposes I think  
the time will come when it will  
be worth double what I paid for it

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I dont intend to decide as to how I like this country until I have been here one year at least - I knew before I came here that it was a good country every thing considered and think so still although in some respects it is not quite as I expected this farm like nearly all the lands in the Mc Kenzie, and Willamette River Vallies is very level and in this rainy climate is apt to be too wet rather too much - If you do not come out here and see for yourself I shall probably some time sum up the advantages and disadvantages in living on this coast and strike a ballance I think I know on which side the ballance will be but I dont know how large it will be - I enclose for you a fair sample of the wheat raised on this farm last year it is either Winter or Spring wheat - I wish you would send me a sample

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of the winter and Spring wheat raised on the old place last season. When the farm is really sold I want you to have the Insurance Policy immediately Cancelled and I would like to know what your intentions are in that case. I will tell you a little more about the house. The rooms are all ceiled overhead. The sitting room <sup>and</sup> dining room, ~~and~~ ~~kitchen~~, are ~~all~~ <sup>both</sup> wainscotted ~~the~~ two first ~~being~~ <sup>and</sup> nicely grained. Also the doors in imitation of White ash, the doors in dining room have fruit painted on them such as apples, ~~pears~~, Plums, Peaches, Cherries and Grapes. The Kitchen is all ceiled above the <sup>moor Boards</sup> ~~wainscotted~~ and the sitting room is ~~papered~~ <sup>papered</sup>. The Parlor is a very nice room nicely papered. The rooms upstairs are all papered except the drying room which is all ceiled and now if you want

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To know any more about it you must come and see it - There is no stone on the place except the gravel I spoke of in a former letter neither is there any needed <sup>of any</sup> except to underpin buildings, to stoning wells, and no cellars to be stoned - About 1 1/2 miles east there is a spur of a mountain about 2500 feet high jutting into the valley like a Promontory into the sea, and 4 miles south there is an isolated and very sharp Peak about the same height called Spencer Butte, and away to the East & south much higher mountains can be seen one of <sup>them</sup> always covered with snow which looks very beautiful - from the windows of the house we can probably see south and east from 10 to 12.5 miles and by going on to the mountains near the house we can see up and down th. - - -

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up and down the Willamette Valley  
and looking east can see much  
of the Cascade range - Its Spurs the  
Galopovia Mountains and several  
Peaks covered with perpetual snow  
I think one can look over 1/4 of Oregon  
Last night there was a very beautiful  
display of Borealis I will not say  
Northern lights, because the greatest  
and prettiest part appeared in the  
east - did you see it in Concord?  
We are having rather pleasant weather  
here - occasionally a frosty night -  
a sunny day or two or warmish  
rainy weather - please hand the  
following to Albert May

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Ma wants to know if you gathered  
any Hickory-nuts etc - We sometimes  
have very good music with Organ  
accompaniment dispensed by  
Petrie's Band - And now a  
Little Letter to little Wennie  
I gave all my Children and  
Grand Children who are out here  
some Candy on my Birth day. I  
wished very much that you were  
here to have some to. - Tell your Pa to take  
some of Grand Pa's money and buy some  
Candy for all of you  
Grand Pa