

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 advantage - 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. I don't 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 everything 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 McKensie 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 sometime 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 don't 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 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 siting room and dining room, ~~and kitchen~~ are both Wainscotted ~~the two first being~~ and nicely grained. Also the doors in imitation of White ash, the doors in dining room have fruit painted on them Such as apples, Pears, Plumbs Peaches Cherries and Grapes. The Kitchen is all ceiled above the ~~wainscoting~~ mop Boards and the siting room is ~~Papered~~ ceiled. 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 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 of any except to underpin buildings. No Stoning wells, and no cellars to be stoned - About 1½ 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 them always covered with snow which looks very beautiful - From the windows of the house we can probably see south and east from 10 to 125 miles and by going on to the mountains near the house we can see up and down the Willamette Valley and looking east can see much of the Cascade range - Its Spurs - The Calopooia Mountains and Several Peaks covered with perpetual snow. I think one can look over ¼ of Oregon. Last night there was a very beautiful display of Borea-allis. I will not say Northern lights because the greatest and prettyest part appeared in the east - Did you see it in Concord? We are having rather pleasant wether here - Occasionally a frosty night - a Sunny day or two or warmish rainy wether - Please hand the following to Albert May.

Ma wants to know if you gathered any Hickory Nuts Etc - We sometimes have very good Music with Organs accompaniment dispensed by Petrie's Band - And now a Little Letter to Little Winnie. 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 too - Tel your Pa to take some of GrandPa's money and buy some candy for all of you. Grand Pa

Upside down -

The wheat is in another Envelope