

Cartwright Lane Co. Oregon, Sunday July 15th 1883

My dear Son and daughter

I received a letter from you more than a month ago and now I will try and answer it. I have been trying to have some of the men write you for me but I could not so I will have to do my own writing. Well to begin with we are all well and have made another change in places and have moved here to the Syuslaw. Pa traded his farm in the valley for this ranch and gave three thousand dollars in money for this Ranch a thousand acre Ranch. Pa will write you before long and give you the particulars. We came here on the 8 of June. I like it here full as well or better then I did in the valley. I have got to keeping house again and it seems more like home. We got the cookrange give in with the place. It saved us the trouble of fetching a Stove up here. Ellen and Sam gave me their white cow a four year old. I call her Whitie Cow. I offered them 40 dollars in gold but they would not take it. Cows are high here now. Pa bought Mr. Kennedy chickens, the man he traded farms with. I have not got my hens from Ellens yet hope to soon. I have 15 hens and a rooster and 37 chickens 28 of them hatched since I came here. I have sold five doz of eggs to a pedlar. He comes once in two weeks. I get 25 cents per doz. I have sold six pounds of butter got 25 cents per pound. Don't you think I will get rich in a short time at this rate. Well I feel quite proud of it. We have been living on expence so long it seems good to have something of our own again. Where do you sell your cream this season. Sam fetched Ellen and all of the children but Watkin up here four weeks ago to day. The children have all had the Measels. They had just got over them so they were able to ride when they came up here. Watkin had them first. He had them before I left there. Ellen was almost sick too. She had the same cough the children did. They came up here for their health. They staid most a week. Their cough had almost left them when they went home. I heard from them last week. Mrs. Kennedy went to Eugene and went to see the new place. She told me they were all well and looking better then when they were up here. We are 25 miles from them now. It is very dry here now has been since the last of May. The crops will not be more than half this season. The old Oregonians say last season and this is the dryest they ever new it here in the summer. It is dryer this summer then last. We will not have much fruit on this place this year. Pa and I have been a lone most all day. The boys and Mr. Kennedy folks went to Mr. Palms to practice music. This is quite a lively place. They have meetings and Sunday school every Sunday. We had a good time the fourth of July. Held the celebration on the camp meeting ground in the woods. Had speaking and music and ballplaying. I had a good time being a stranger in a strange place. Tell me how you spent the fourth and how is little Winnie.

Monday 16th

Pa and I took a walk over the farm west of the house yesterday afternoon. We went nearly a mile. The place has been sadly neglected for the last eight or ten years since Mr. Cartwright died. I told Pa yesterday when we were looking at the place if Chan should see the place he would make fun of it, but there is a chance for plenty improvement on this place, plenty plough land enough for two or three to work. The men are making hay now. This house is not so good nor so nice a one as the other one is but it is pretty good. Looks better in side than on the out side. It is a large house. It has the most nooks and corners in it than any house that I ever lived in. There is two kitchings, one pantry, two bedrooms below, two bedrooms up stairs, a sitting room and parlor and a conservatory on the south side, and a milk room, wood shed and work shop on the

north all under cover, barns and sheds a plenty. We have a good hen house and park to keep the chickings in. This farm is well waterd with runing streams of soft water the year round. Some times too much water in the winter when it rains so much that is the most I have to say against Oregon. The rain and mud in the winter but folks will get use t it. Pa thinks if he had Chan on this place it could be made something of it but you must do just as you please about comming. We all would be very glad to see you come and some others. I . Sais he would not live back in the States on a count of them Cyclones. Well they are feareful things. We read of a good meny this season in the States. I hope their will be no more this yeare or never. We have not seen any thing of Mr. Ransom yet. I wish he would come and see us. I would be glad to see him. How is Parks folks and where is Julia. Is she at home and the boys and all the rest of them. Write me about them when you see them give them my love and best wishes. I would like to see them. Tell Addie I will write her before long. I would have written before this but Ellen said she would write for us boath. O how I would like to see you all and Addie and her family together again. Winnie can sing in good earnest now. We'd go down to granies over the hills behind the Mill to see the little lambies = only I have not the little lambs. I want to see Winnie so bad some times. I do not know what to do. If I could see her come runing in as she use to do it would do my sole good. Winnie and Flossie are grandma little pets. I have not had a letter from Adria since last spring. I had a letter from sister Delia the same day I got your last letter. They wer all well at the time of her writing. I will close for this time and give some of the rest a chance to give you the perticulars about the farm and things in general. Write soon. Send your address to Cartwright Lane Co. after this.

I remane as ever your Loving Mother
J.F. Petrie