

Thursday September 23-31 - Cheyenne

My good brother-

The letter you wrote me Sunday came two days ago - a letter full of love and kindness that is dear to my heart - O, Georgie, I never dreamed how hard this parting was going to be - To think that I am gone from you all for always almost breaks my heart - I would be perfectly happy but for that - And yet we would none of us have it otherwise.

Mr. Ross is as kind and good and loving as any man could ever be - and we are so happy and contented - Only when I think of this bitter parting from you all whom I love -

I wish I could tell you what a kind good husband I have - I know we shall be so happy together - He is the only man in this world for me. If only I could have had you all! I suppose I want too much.

Yes it will be a sweet memory to us always to look back over these past years of our lives - so full of varied experiences - how we shared all our hardships and all our joys - and how we loved each other always - I say we shared our hardships - that is hardly true - You were the only one my noble brother, who always bore the hardest of it all that I might have comfort and ease - Never while I live will I forget or cease to love you for the noble sacrifices you have made for my sake. What would my life have been but for you!! The debt of love and gratitude I owe you no one can ever know but myself - - but U know it well - My brother, for the sake of all that is past never love me less - Do not, I beg of you, let my marriage be a barrier between us - I do want you all to feel just as free with me and just as near me as you always have.

I wish you could see our little home - It is so nice - Of course there is still a great deal to be done before it will be in real good order - We are pretty slow I think about getting things arranged, but I guess we will get it done finally. We thought the other day that we were going to get the house papered. They had me down to select the paper - but now they have about gotten out of the notion - I am afraid they won't do it for us but I haven't given up hope. It would make the house twice as pretty - These white walls look so cold and glaring - I don't like them - This is just as nice a little cottage as can be - The rooms are all a good size - The kitchen is nice and large - a nice large pantry and cellar - And the bathroom is large, with such a nice porcelain tub - Our dining room is such a pretty room. I believe we will enjoy it most of any - The cabinet & china look so pretty - and just think how much prettier it will be when we get our lovely cut glass - I was real glad to hear about the fruit knives - I was a little disappointed that we had none - I am so glad to have them - Mr. Ross' mother and sister sent us a lovely syrup pitcher & tray (silver) & a large heavy silver berry spoon. We also received a cookbook from Mrs. Watts (adapted to this altitude) and a boat shaped dish from another friend, besides the things we have already told you about.

Georgie I just wish you could see what rare luck I am having with my cooking - We are having lots of good things to eat - We have biscuits three times a day - The first ones I made were as light as feathers & every time since they have been just as good. You must excuse my bragging, but I am so proud of my luck - Every thing turns out just as I want it. We had some old fashioned vegetable soup yesterday - My! it was good. I told Mr. Ross I would give anything if you all could have some of it. I am just horrified all the time at the prices of things - It is simply appalling - Every thing is so high - We buy potatoes by the pound, tomatoes, cucumbers, cabbage & every thing - Sweet potatoes are three pounds for a quarter which

you see amounts to \$5.00 a bushel - and everything in proportion. It just seems terrible to me. Mr. Ross says he gets even with them when it comes to charging fees - If he didn't we would starve. I never saw things so high - They sell tomatoes ~~at~~ at 3 pounds for a quarter - think of that, at this time of the year - Mr. Ross brought home yesterday a little ~~1~~ pint bottle of Worcestershire sauce - paid 35¢ for it and 30¢ for a ~~1~~ pint bottle of vanilla flavoring. I feel as if I were eating gold all the time - No wonder the railroad men had to strike for higher wages -

The stores here are lovely such as grocery stores, meat markets & drug stores - I haven't seen any large department houses - don't know whether they have any - There are some elegant homes here and fine churches - I think the Presbyterian church here is nicer than Westminster. The minister called yesterday - said he couldn't wait till the first of Oct. I wish you could have heard the way he spoke of Mr. Ross - It made me mighty proud.

Mr. Ross is doing some work now for the democrats - investigating the Governor - They are going to make some charges against him - That is a secret now, but I guess it will do no harm to tell folks 500 miles away. He will charge them five dollars a day while he is pursuing these investigations. His cases were all postponed again until the 10th of Oct. He doesn't seem to feel very bad about it because he has a good deal to attend to now. If everything materializes as he expects we are going to get along all right - but as Mr. Ross says it isn't safe to count on anything till we get it - You know he didn't get that secretaryship but they say they are going to give him work that will pay him more - You see they have already given him this investigating - and there will be something in that. I certainly have the greatest faith in what Mr. Ross can do. I wish you could see him here in his own field. He is all business, I can tell you. Mr. McQuilkin said "He has brains - I predict for him a brilliant career - He is a young man that everyone in Cheyenne respects and admires -" So spake the preacher, just to flatter me Mr. Ross says.

I like Mr. Watts better now than I did when I first met him - I guess he is pretty good in his line. There is to be a great big trial here next month - Many lawyers here on each side, and Mr. Watts has been employed to assist the prosecuting attorney, looking up law, at \$10 a day - Mr. Ross thinks that case will last six weeks - If it does that will be a fine thing for us - but of course it may never materialize - We won't count on it yet.

Mr. Ross has gotten several hundred dollars collections - He ought to make something out of them. When I think that he has only been here one year and how much practice he already has and what a host of good friends he has, I think it is just wonderful. If he can do so well in one year I don't think we need be uneasy about the future. You see I have lots of faith in him and I have more now that I am here than I ever had before.

Judge Clark is a quiet ordinary looking man, but Mr. Ross says he has more than ordinary ability. I saw him down at the office the other day. He was mighty nice to me - Mr. Ross and Mr. Watts have a mighty nice office - well furnished & neat - and it couldn't be better located. In some ways this is quite a little city but in many ways it bears the ear marks of the country town - We have wooden and gravel sidewalks out our way, & O, how dusty the streets are - It must be destruction on shoes and skirts - and ruination to complexions. The lake is only about three blocks from us. We went out there last night intending to have a boat ride but the boat man wasn't there & the boats were all locked so we were disappointed. It seems mighty pretty out there. There is a bicycle path & drive way all round the lake.

Since I begun this letter, I received the one papa wrote me the other night. That was nice for you all to surprise the Kreiders, and I suppose you enjoyed the concert too - especially since you had your Nelle with you -

... pounds for a quarter which

Didn't she look superb at the wedding? By the way what did people think of the wedding - Did you hear any one say?

I am so afraid that some of these presents that came in at the last were not acknowledged - The Metts' for instance & the Scotts - Mrs. Smith wrote some notes for me and signed my name - I wish you would ask her whom she wrote. I feel a little uneasy about that - It would be a shame if some of them went unacknowledged -

I suppose the presents will be here in a few days - Of course I will be glad when they come but I didn't want you all to hurry - I know there was so much to do after I left. And so you took Florence Randall to the concert (She wrote me) I appreciate the sacrifice for I am sure you did it because she was my maid of honor. She seemed to be mightly pleased about it. I hope you enjoyed it too.

And papa says Alfred took Mary to the concert - How did that happen? I didn't think Alfred admired Mary much -

How late did they all stay at the house the other night after we went to the train? Did you ever count up how many were at the wedding? To save my life I can hardly think of anybody who was there. I was in such a dream.

What was the explanation Mrs. Kreider had for you, was it about Fannie? You had better keep this letter to refer to when you write me next for you see there are lots of questions to be answered. I wish I could see you for about one hour at least - I just wish you could be here to dinner - I am cooking boiled cabbage, beef, potatoes & biscuits & we have pears & cantaloupe for dessert. Doesn't that sound pretty good?

Do tell Anna that Mr. Ross eats those cookies she made us three times a day. He thinks they are fine. We both have the best kind of appetites.

Papa sent me some clippings from the papers at home - It's right funny how they exaggerated the affair isn't it? The Cheyenne papers were full of it. We have lots of material for that scrapbook we are going to have.

How is Alfred getting along - Is there any news about his work? Bless his dear heart! How I would love to see the dear boy. I can hardly wait now till some of you come out to see us. I want you to see all our things & our little house - Of course I haven't been here long enough to know how I like the neighborhood - There are some nice homes around us & then some that are not so nice - There seems to be quite a mixture.

The house must seem pretty quiet now that Lawrence is gone - and me too - Have you all gotten over the effects of the wedding, yet? Just a week ago today it was - so much has happened since then.

Mrs. Sidwell wrote me the other day - Tell her I will answer her soon - I am awfully busy all the time. When I get used to the work I think I will be a little faster about it -

Tell papa he must write me every few days - I like so much to hear from him
Tell Alfred I carried this fountain pen away without once remembering that it belonged to him - I was using it so much that I was thinking it belonged to me - Tell him I will send it back if he likes it well enough to use it.

I see I have written you quite a book - I am pretty long winded when I once get started - I have been bearly all week trying to get started to writing you.

Mr. Ross has come home - He says the First National Bank sent him \$350 in collections this morning - That's good isn't it?

potatoes - by the - It is. I told we had an

When Mr. Sidwell comes tell him that I was so sorry that he couldn't be at our wedding - It seemed too bad - Tell him next time I will have it Saturday night.

I hope you all don't miss me too much at home - I know it seemd strange to you and Alfred to come home and find me gone - It makes my heart ache when I think of it - that I will never be there again to welcome you home. This new life is sweet and happy but no one can ever know how hard it is to break away from the old - the only lifex I have ever known. I didn't know that people ever experienced such feelings in this world as those I have had the last week. And yet I would not have it otherwise - none of us would - I must close now. My letter is so long I am afraid you won't do me the honor to read it through.

I am going down town in ~~xxx~~ a little while to walk home with Mr. Ross.

It snowed here the day we wer married (Changing the subject slightly) It's pretty cool now.

How are the Moores? Give them all my love and any other friends who may ask for me -

Tell papa I wish I could see him - With love to every one of you at home I am your devoted sister -

Nellie

I'm really ashamed to send this letter, it is so logg - but you see I had so much to tell you - Will promise not to do such a thing again.

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