

If not delivered within 10 days, to be returned to



Miss Sarah J. Lyman

Forest Grove

Wash. Co.

Ogden.

Kellogg, July 27.

Dear Sarah,

I have been enjoying my stay in Kellogg extremely. My mind has been too much occupied during the most of my absence thus far to feel much of the homesickness which used sometimes to harrow up my soul. This is not said to disparage the claims of home, of course.

To day we have been having a tremendous rain.

Young rivers have gone meandering over the land, and the loose black soil has assumed the appearance of

padding. Just at this moment, the sun is bursting through the clouds, and the prospect of clearing off is very good. To my grief, there have been no remarkable electrical displays thus far.

The hardest thunder shower I have seen was on the desert plains of Wyoming.

The telegraph poles were shivered, several of them and the dry land became pools of water. Our ordinary language is most too <sup>prolix</sup> prosy and long-drawn ~~for~~ vivid description. When the imaginations of people become sufficiently cultured, I can conceive of characters varied a little in color and shape standing for whole pages of our present descrip-

tions. This branch of the Lyman family is a very interesting one.

Some of them, ~~Especially~~ and Fred in particular have had to endure a terrible amount of disappointment in their plans for life, but they seem to bear ~~the~~ it with great patience.

Uncle A. also has been bitterly disappointed in regard to his work in the church.

He feels much as I suppose father did in regard <sup>to</sup> leaving ~~for~~ Portland. Theresa is an extremely good <sup>girl</sup>; though ~~but~~ she has rather a hard time of it, since in the sickness <sup>illness</sup> of both her mother and Emily, most of the work devolved on her. They don't seem to have very congenial ~~neighbors~~ neighbors. Kellogg is a beautifully

situated place and one of some local importance, but that is about all. There seems to <sup>be</sup> no literary atmosphere at all, and, in fact, although the town is in the East, it is much inferior in most respects to certain Oregon towns. Theresa is an excellent singer and plays well, although they have nothing but a small melodeon. She is the chorister and also organist in the church, although ~~but~~ seems to have almost as much trouble in collecting her singers as Mrs. Ellis has. They have a poor church, and not at all a remarkable preacher, though he seems thoroughly in earnest.

I expect to leave here to-morrow:  
my present plan is to stop in  
Moline a half day and see  
cousin Mary. Uncle A.  
said that if I were disposed  
to stop here for two weeks  
or so that he could give me  
work in the hay-field, but  
I concluded that a delay of  
that length of time would  
destroy the likelihood of getting  
a school, and at the same  
time would not ~~net~~ amount  
to enough to pay for doing  
nothing next winter.

Besides, owing to my poverty,  
I purchased as cheap a ticket as  
possible, and in consequence,  
my time is limited. I could  
not sell the ticket here, and

I don't know that I feel any wonderful change thus far in my mental grasp induced by my extended travels, although my views of the American continent are very much clarified. It seems much like a dream (though I will not weary you with another bird's-eye view of my journey) since I left home.

It seems to me incredible that I left home only a not quite three weeks ago. I should suppose it to be about six months.

I have been a little disappointed in the cities in the East which I have seen thus far, though Des Moines is rather a nice looking place. Omaha is not near as fine a place as Portland, though ahead in

population. I presume that the magnificence of San Francisco will ~~do~~ spoil every thing until I reach Chicago. It doesn't take long to go anywhere after one reaches Omaha. I shall leave here at 3 o'clock in the afternoon and get tooline at ten in the evening. Then leave there at ten the next day and reach Chicago at about five in the afternoon.

I concluded to take only ten dollars of the money in Uncle A's possession; I think I shall not need it as much as you do.

I can get the draft cashed whenever I wish.

I have half a notion to make inquiry when in

Wish in regard to work.

Mary's husband is working there and it may be that I shall find something there which will pay better than school-teaching.

Well I must close.

I suppose that you are still at Astoria, though you may be at home before this reaches you.

Good by for this time.

You may as well direct your letters to Kalamazoo.

Willis.