

Houghton, May 12-92
Thursday.

My dearest Fran:

Your welcome letter and the two drawings came last night, and I was very much amused that you should have gone into such raptures over your new lounge, at a time when my plaintive appeal for a similar luxury was almost at your front door. There must have been a magnetic current at work between us the night I wrote.

His drawings seem to me to be very good, but before I send them to Mr. Eaylor she should write a little letter to him to go with them. Please persuade her to do so, as a special favor to her "Pop."

To-morrow morning I leave here to join Mr. Denton at Ironwood for a week. From there I shall go to Antonagon while

he takes his class to Ishpeming, joining
him at the latter place a few days later.

I expect to be back here by the 27th or 28th
Shall have letters forwarded from here to
wherever I may be.

Dr. W. returned yesterday without his
wife who seems to be threatened with nervous
prostration. It is very hard for them both,
and with the annoyance of this Survey matter
I don't wonder that he is nervous, too. The
latest phase of our troubles is that the Board
will allow him to hold over on condition that
he will give them assurance that a very large
amount of work will be completed by next
Nov. They do not seem to appreciate how little
uninterrupted time we have for office work,
nor that we must do some field work presently
with one man absent several months. They
are wasting valuable time by trying to reach
some impracticable agreement, and lay them-
selves open to the suspicion of "hedging" for
political effect. We assistants have

given Dr. W. formal notice that if this unsettled state of affairs continues much longer we shall feel free to seek employment elsewhere, and he is to communicate this fact to the Board. If we should go from here, it would be equivalent to the temporary disbandment of the Survey, which the Board seems anxious to prevent. I hope the affair may be settled by the time of my return. We will accept nothing short of an appointment for one year. The fact is, the Board has got itself into a "hole" - in common parlance - and is trying hard to crawl out. I almost feel like going, on my own responsibility to Detroit, and asking Uncle Henry to introduce me to Don M. Dickerson, to see whether the affair can not be straightened out.

Club House matters are running smoothly, altho' we can not get a cook. If you see one, or hear of one, please send her out at once.

I am delighted that you are having fine weather. To-day is

very bright here, and much warmer than for some time past. How much
you will enjoy your drives with "Grandpa"! Don't go over any rough roads,
and take good care of your dear self and the "coming man." I shall try to
come east as soon as feasible, altho' I should like to earn another month's
wages. I don't anticipate that you will have a hard time. It went last long,
anyhow, and you will be amply repaid in the end. Am glad Aunt L. is
to be at Wayland again - that lovely place.

Shall write you a line from time to time during my ab-
sence, and hope to hear good news from you. With love and embraces from your

Ever
Papale.