

—OFFICE OF—
COPPER RANGE COMPANY,

L. L. HUBBARD, Manager.

Copper Range Historical Society

Personal Correspondence.

Houghton, Mich., Sunday, Feb 25, 1900.

My dearest Fannie:

Ever this reaches you, the sad news will probably have been sent to Frances, that Alice Gray has passed away. She died this morning, as we learned on coming out of church — after prayers for her recovery. I don't suppose there is a person in Houghton — who knows the Grays — but feels the magnitude of this blow to the afflicted parents, and sympathizes with them fully. Alice always seemed to me one of the purest and sweetest of young girls — the most innocent and unaffected, and I know how dear Patens will mourn for her. I am going to anticipate Patens' wish and order some roses sent to the house from her. I suppose the funeral will take place early this week. Mr. Curzon is down to-day with symptoms of grip. I stopped in to see him. He thinks he will be able to be around soon. Mr. Culver officiated in his place this morning, and read quite an interesting sermon on casting our bread upon the waters &c.

On my return to the house I found your letter of the 22nd. For it, and especially for the one that preceded it, I wish I could express my love. Your sympathy is indeed a balm to my troubled spirit. Mr. Paine still appears to me a sort of enigma. I think he is a man without much soul, when hardness means the saving of a few dollars. I mean by that, that I think he would not hesitate to discharge a man without notice, if he took the notion to do so. Charlotte gave a little card party the other night, and Mrs. Cooper, seated between Mr. P. and me, asked me how soon we were going to build, and I replied that the matter was in Mr. P.'s hands. He at once replied: "I'll tell you what I'll do, Doctor. If your wife will agree to live in it throughout the year, I'll build it." I called every one to witness, then and there, that I accepted the proposition, and have since explained to him that we

am trying to rent the Camb. house, and should know without delay the attitude of the Co. on the house question. He will give me no definite encouragement at present. He says the Lavel Co. are complaining about the amt. of money necessary to open up the mine, and he wants to show a larger ratio of mining expense to surface expense in the next year than we have shown thus far. This is all well enough, but he apparently does not, or will not, remember that it was nearly the first of October before we could begin to work on three of our four shafts, and that I was in the beginning told to rush the development as fast as possible.

I suppose you have heard that Mr. Wright has resigned as G. Mgr. of the R.R. He has had a good many people down on him for some time, but until lately had Mr. Paine's support. Mr. W. feels quite badly about it. I think procrastination has been one of his great faults. The new G.M. - a Mr. McKeeves - will enter upon the discharge of his duties Mich. 1st

Stuart is quite interested in his R.R. work and Mr. Paine seems to like him. Mrs. Paine is here with her husband, and they have spent most of the time at Ch. & S.'s. I dined and floped with them last night. To-day they have all gone out to the Winona. On ~~Monday~~ ^{Friday} Mrs. P. was out at the Champain and seemed to enjoy the novelty of her visit. The weather turned bitterly cold Friday night and a fierce blizzard has been raging until this morn'. The sun has set clear to-day and if the wind does not blow to-morrow, we shall probably have a beautiful day. I can hardly realize that you have been having rain. The severe cold can not last very much longer. In the sun to-day the mercury was about 30°, and in the shade about 3° below zero! That shows what power old Sol is assuming.

My nicotian is a picture of luxuriance. Its leaves are very broad and the buds are just showing at the top end of the stalk. Another two or three weeks ought to see it in flower. It is a great solace to me in my almost isolation, and I can commune with it in peace, when all the world has gone to sleep, and ^{you} forget that men are unjust and heartless.

Kiss dear Peter for me and thank her for her letter. I shall write to her soon. Ella writes that Mamma is not very well. I hope to hear better news soon. If you will send me Lloyd's address, I will write to him.

Ever affectionately your husband
Lucius