

The definite and pungent-  
are making their appearance and  
so it seems quite like spring. The  
mor. was at 58° a week ago yesterday.

Forest Grove, Jan. 23 '80

My dear parent,

I see by your last, in which you say that you are going to Vermont in the next week, that you take rather too much to heart our animadversions on the number and size of your letters.

There was one <sup>of a month</sup> spell soon after you reached the East in which we received only one letter. This was the basis of our remarks, which were mostly in jest, but which you took with a seriousness which has rather appalled us.

Your recent letters have  
amply made up for any  
former deficiency.

Work is moving onward  
here in pretty much ~~the~~  
the usual routine, excepting  
a squabble with the Giger  
boys resulting in the suspen-  
sion of one of them and  
the withdrawal of the other.

Both difficulties occurred  
in my department. The  
young<sup>er</sup> of the boys flatly re-  
fused to go through his deda-  
mation in the way in which  
I told him. Consequently  
we suspended<sup>ed</sup> him. The  
other had a copied composi-  
tion, for which he was  
publicly reprimanded.

Although we knew from  
the style of the composition

and from his own tacit ad-  
mission that he could  
not have written it, yet  
we had not the article  
itself which he had plagia-  
rized. He has therefore  
been making a great fuss  
and fume, but has pretty  
much subsided by this  
time.

We also had  
quite a nuisance in the  
church one night, some of  
the hoodlums making a  
disturbance. We took steps to  
have them legally punished.

The church trustees, however,  
seem disposed to back out of  
it. This place is going  
to the Devil anyway.

The advent of a new  
president may prevent  
that lamentable result.

We are sadly in need of a new minister also.

Mr. V. seems to be petering out entirely.

If we could get a man like Mr. Hopkins for president and Mr. Ellis back here for pastor, we might take some satisfaction. Since receiving the letter from Slater which you enclosed, I have thought more and more of trying some of the U. P. R. R. lands in the vicinity of the mouth of the Snake. Copelen said that there were lands along there very well adapted to fruit raising, as good perhaps as the Umatilla. The price is only 2.60 per acre, probably not more

than a third of what Matilla  
land would cost. We could  
probably get enough to  
make a good deal by wheat-  
raising. Here is where the  
value of co-operation might  
come in. For instance,  
if six families unite and  
purchase, say 3000 acres,  
they can have barns,  
machinery and horses,  
in partnership, even if  
they have separate houses  
and distinct titles to their  
land. By this co-operation  
a large amount of wheat  
could be raised at a greatly  
reduced cost per acre.

I have written to the  
land department at Colfax

to get information.

In regard to Uncle L. coming here, of course he would find things entirely new, and at his age it might be rather hard to become accustomed to the change. In a money point of view, it cannot fail to be an improvement. If Henry does not plan to go through college, it would be one of the greatest possible absurdities for him to remain on that rocky hillside in U. C. and as for Horace, if he can sell his place, there can be no question whatever that it would be vastly better for him to come here. It is as certain

as anything in this world can be that he will always plod on in poverty in Mass., and that he can become independent within ten years by a judicious investment of the proceeds of his property on this coast.

But then of course they ought to understand the drawbacks of a new country. Because in many respects, they will find, for a few years, at least, many deprivations.

Yet there can be no question that this coast is going to become, within 20 years, one of the greatest countries in the world in material prosperity, and moral and intellectual

Be sure to go get  
the brotch and the books  
by Victor Hugo if you can.

provisions will soon follow.  
I presume that  
it will be well for  
you to reach <sup>home</sup> by the last  
of March, in order that  
the land at Coeur d' -  
Alene may be properly  
attended to.

I presume you have  
received the letter sent  
first to Jb. telling about  
the great storm. Our losses  
were simply part of the  
grape-trellis, fence between  
here and Mr. Watts, cherry-tree,  
one of the chimney covers, and  
the east side of the fence around  
the morning-lot.

We are all well.

Good-by W.