

Medicine Hat

Aug 21<sup>st</sup> 1888

Dearest Love,

I finished the coal work yesterday, that is so far as it can be finished in the field and without putting more time into it.

My intention was to make at once for the east, but a telegram from William received to day has made me, contrary to my inclinations, decide to go back to British Columbia.

The C. P. R. people seem very anxious to have me go over the disputed bit of road and I do not feel that I can afford to slight the company on the two or three hundred dollars which they will have to pay me for my services. I shall indeed be driven on my return home as I shall have to draw up a full report for Seath; but I suppose

it cannot be helped. Possibly  
the outing which I am getting will  
give me a little extra strength  
for my winter's work.

William says that he will meet  
me at Kamloops and I hope that  
we may find George there too though  
I have heard nothing from him all  
summer. According to Wm we can  
go over the disputed section of road  
in three days, but if the weather  
is bad it will take longer. Here at  
Medicine Hat we have been having  
it very hot - to-day 100° in the  
shade - which said shade is  
by no means common. This evening  
however, there is a little breeze and I  
hope that it will be cooler to-morrow.

To-day I got a letter from you  
dated Aug 9<sup>th</sup> and a postal card  
dated Aug 13<sup>th</sup> - the latter telling  
me of your father's accident. It  
must have given you all a fright,  
but I sincerely hope that before this  
he has quite recovered from the effects.

Saunders the experimental farm man  
is here with his wife and they are  
going west to-morrow by the same train



as myself, though only as far as Brauff, I believe.

At the hotel here there has been a young Englishman from London who knows Rankin having gone from Ceylon to England on the Massilia last winter. His name is Warren and he seems to be going in for horse-ranching. When at Calgary I hunted up Sidney Van Cortlandt - Walter's brother. He has been out in this western country for about ten years and in that time has not seen one of his numerous relations. He was delighted at seeing me and I was very glad that I had taken the trouble to hunt him up.

I am glad that the \$50 reached you safely, but fear that the amount was too small. If however, there are any large bills to pay you can ~~perhaps~~ leave them for

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me to settle when I reach  
Mexico. I fancy that Wm & I  
will be able to go east together.  
I shall have to remain one day  
in Winnipeg, but shall try to  
get him to stay also.

after receiving this you had  
better address letters to <sup>the college</sup> Montreal,  
writing on them "to be kept until  
Dr. Harrington's return."

It is bed-time and I am  
very stupid so must not write  
more. Possibly may write again  
to-morrow. Love to all the  
dear ones. Your fond husband B,

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