



Philadelphia

Dec 25th 1890

Dearest Anna,

You see I am still in Philadelphia and I could with advantage to myself remain here for another week yet, as there are many things of interest to me. So far I have been most fortunate in finding the people that I wanted to see and in several instances caught them just the day before they were leaving home. [I got here early Sunday morning and after breakfast found my way to a Presbyterian Church not far from the hotel where I heard, or tried to hear a sermon

which was so encased in rhetoric and personal conceit that one could not get at any truth to carry away. Sometimes I think I shall take to preaching myself. I am so utterly disgusted with all the preaching that I hear.

I found that Brinley lived quite near the hotel and in the afternoon went to his train up. [He was, however, out and I did not ask for Mrs B., thinking that he would like to have the pleasure of introducing me. Later I got a note from her saying that she had seen my card and asking me to come to tea, when her husband would have returned. They gave me a very hearty welcome and urged me strongly to take up my quarters with them,]

but on the whole (I thought)
it best to remain at the hotel,
as they had one guest already
and I wished the greater
freedom afforded by a hotel
for coming & going. In these
large cities where distances
are so great it is difficult
to turn up at stated times
unless you interfere with
your business. I have however
dined with the Brindleys every
night and am going there
again to-day. She is a
very different from what
I had pictured her - a
large distinguished looking
woman, bright, pretty and
overflowing with kindness.
The children too are charming,
so polite and obedient. There
are three pretty little girls
Mary, Catherine & Alice, &
one boy - Charlie - the eldest

12 years of age) I think,
 but very much smaller
 than Eric. Mary is a sweet
 motherly child, reminding
 me in her pretty, simple
 ways of the dear one that
 was taken from us.

Primly is now a man of
 wealth apparently - in fact
 he told me that he had
 accumulated sufficient to
 live upon if he cared to
 retire from business. He
 is manager of the largest
 sugar refinery in the world,
 the capacity being 1000 tons of
 sugar a day, and the
 number of hands employed being
 about 1300. Every day he
 walks through the works
 to see what is going on and
 this little walk occupies four
 hours. He is just the man

for such a ² position, energetic
& determined, firm as a
dictator and yet fully interested
in the individual welfare
of every man in his employ.
He must have a very
handsome income to live
as he does, but what it
is I do not know.

Davenport of whom you
have often heard me speak
is at Bethlehem in this state
practically superintending the
most important steel-works
in the country and getting
\$10,000 a year for his services.

Monks, another old college
friend, was for some years
Prof. of mechanical engineering
in the University of Pennsylvania
here, but gave up his position
but gave up his position because

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he could not support his family (a wife & two children) upon a salary of \$3000 a year & pickings. He is now engineer & manager of the Edison lighting establishment here and evidently drawing a very handsome salary. He designed all the building and plant, which have cost \$1,300,000. He invited me to dine with him last evening, but I was obliged to decline as I was going to Brinleys.

Most of Sunday I spent at the University where I saw a good deal that interested me. I knew that they were doing a good deal of assaying by electrolytic methods and was anxious

to see their appliances for
the purpose. The professor
in charge showed me every
thing and I have since
purchased appliances that
will enable me to carry
on similar work advantageously.
The largest part of my time
here has in fact been spent
in looking at apparatus
and minerals and I have
got a number of things
that will be most useful
for teaching work.

To-day I am staying
quietly in my room, writing
letters, notes &c. but chiefly
thinking of you all as months
and of the Christmases which
have been. You talk of
my having leisure and
sometimes I have thought that

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~~it~~ would be good for me
and those about me; but
now I feel that unceasing
work is necessary if I am
to live at all. I should
however, like to confine that
work to certain lines in order
that it may be effective.

How pleased Eric must be
at the prospect of going to Toronto
I am sure he will enjoy it
and that it will do him
good in many ways. I think
too that you were wise in
keeping him until after
Christmas. When he goes
you will I fear miss his
services as well as himself.

I hope Conrad is better and
that the colds generally are
saying good by for the rest
of the winter. It would make
everything so much simpler for

you if the children were well. You say nothing of yourself, darling, because I suppose, that as usual you only think of others; but I do hope that you may get a little rest & enjoyment during the holidays. I cannot tell you how I miss you and of the pleasure it would give me to have you here. One of my dreams for the future is a jaunt with my wife, & so many of my dreams have been realized that this one may yet be too.

Love to all the little

ones. I sent them cards
which I hope reached
them.

Your loving Bernard

I shall probably go to Baltimore
to-morrow morning and shall
stay at the Hotel Rennert - but
not for long. After that I expect

to go to Washington & to stay at
the Arlington. B.F.H.