



George B. Wright and Family Papers

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VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

[1913?]

Dearest —

I am going by train to Washpeton
tonight and then also by train to other towns
and shall be gone two or three days.

I enclose deed which I should like to have
fixed at your convenience, so that the tags
may be tagged out.

V.



Hotel Henry

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sunday. March 2. 1913.

Dearest G. -

Here I am for a couple of hours and I can't remember any things left behind in N.Y. But if you look in my bureau drawer you will find a bunch of keys and probably some other small things which did not fit into my bag. Will you please forward the keys to G.G. so that I can use my office.

I found Geo. W. yesterday afternoon and he took me with another young gent to dinner at the N.Y. Athletic Club where there was a first class wrestling match or series of matches between the champions of most of the known parts of the world. The champion of Germany weighs 265 lbs. - most of it ^{is} _(over)

his Tummy. — He went against the champion of the world who claims a name made up of es, gs & ys in wonderful combinations which appear to spell "Habisco" as near as anything so I call him the "waifer." The German was a bit of a joker and played to the gallery sometimes. It was perfectly wonderful to see him wriggle out of apparently hopeless holds by agility which would do credit to a "spider." At one time he was gripped by the head and thrown completely over the other man's shoulders making a complete summersault but he landed like a cat and was on guard again in an instant. At another time he had his opponent under him on the floor and by way of joyful amusement jumped up on all fours like a young goat and came down with his 265^{lb} on top of the champion. This was repeated twice but the third



3

Hotel Henry

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Time the champion clipped out from under and down came the fat German on the floor on all fours much to the hilarity of the spectators.

You ought to have been there - there is nothing like it at Symphony Hall or the Opera in Boston.

Afterwards I got an 11:30 P.M. train for Pittsburgh where I have had breakfast and shall presently be on my way for Mansfield. — Baggage is checked — Bag is in Porell Room — Ticket is bought and I ~~am~~ still have hopes of getting all there.

Y.



SOUTHERN HOTEL

Mansfield, Ohio, Mich. 2 1913

Dearest G—

We have arrived — the baggage and I. Excuse me for mentioning the baggage again but it is only by continuous concentration on that subject that I hope to get through safely.

Mansfield is not attractive to the eye but its profound quiet has not offended the ear so I don't object to it. I am going out presently into the cold evening air to see if there is anything in the building way that is more than two stories high — not that care a — but well just to make business.

By the way I just missed getting into a thoroughly fourth class hotel but pulled out just in time. This one is fine.

Yours v.

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EUROPEAN PLAN EXCLUSIVELY

C.D. COLLINS

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Mich. 5 1913

Dearest —

I have been here two days and have about finished up. If luck is with me I shall go up to F.F. Tommons in the Oriental. Tonight I have seen the Miles family. Mary had gone to bed but got up and dressed. Carter was in the tub and came in in dressing gown. They have all had grip but appear to be well now. Mary goes to Montana on account of farm business. I have not seen an Annie yet and possibly shall not though I shall go to St Paul in the morning before taking the train.

with love
B.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dear G. -

March 7, 1913.

I arrived yesterday evening. Chas. D. seems pretty well and Murray is still here. His trunks occupy the room over Chas. D.'s and look as if they were packed and ready to go. Further than that I don't know and he doesn't tell.

I saw Chas. Ames a few minutes before taking the train for F.F. He says Mary has had grip ~~and~~ is going off for a trip. She will see Lesley who is selling law books in S.C. Carolina and the Buck Bruner in Washington and probably will go to Boston.

I don't find that there has been much of an exciting nature to stir up F.F. this year. They got enough last year and are entitled to a rest now anyway. But our friend Townley has just had another hearing before two judges on his application for a new trial. We shall probably have a decision on the application in a week or two days. This was interrupted by a call from my friend Mrs. Miller who had caught right

of me through the window. She has become acquainted
with Miss Perkins and Mrs. Adams and Mrs. Evans so
I hope she will not be so lonely hereafter. Fortunately
Mr. Adams dropped in before she had stayed long
and she withdrew. She is a harmless person but
she worries me.

Also my friend Swan Peterson has interrupted to know
whether there is going to be a job for him and his
cousins. Otherwise all is serene and I have
got a lot of things cleared off my desk the first
day. I shall soon be able to send you a
check for the rest of your allowance.
Much love from your V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest G. -

Sunday, Mch. 9, 1913.

It seems a long time since Friday, Feby 28th, I have been in so many places and puttime at so many different things. In Minneapolis I found that an enterprising real estate man had entered into a contract to sell my mother's land on terms which I could not accept. Mr. Parsons informs me that the contract does not bind me but the purchaser thinks it does so there is a possibility of trouble.

I think I wrote you that Mr. Rome Brown had just argued another bout with our friends Founley et al. - the al. being Senator Gunderson (the boob man) and a new but more able lawyer from St. Paul. The St. Paul man advised Founley to settle with us at our offer of twice the award of the jury. On top of this came the decision of the Court (both judges concurring) denying the petition for a new trial. As the argument had covered the whole of the legal questions involved the opposition felt that it was now time to quit and so Mr. Founley came in with one of his clients and Mr. Parsons closed up with him yesterday afternoon.

The other one, Mr. Brastad, is reported to be so far unshaken that he may have to go to the State Hospital. He suspects Founley and won't talk of a settlement. It is possible that he

may have to have a guardian appointed and in that case it is probable that we shall settle with the guardians.

This is all very unpleasant but I do not feel that the grasping methods of the corporations should be held responsible.

Pratt has always been off and his failure to extort large sums from us has been more than he could stand.

Mr. Kidder will come over tomorrow and we shall have many things to discuss. The 50 miles of transmission line to our new town of Morris will be the first thing to get under way so that we can stop the steam plant and use Dayton Hocking current there as soon as possible. Between trips to Morris and trips to F.F. Mr. Kidder is left on the go. Fortunately the trains run to both points from Wahpeton so that he can leave at a decent hour in the morning and get back about 6 P.M.

The alterations in the Bank have begun and Charles D. has been forced out of the back room and has taken the front room next to my office where Dr. Whittaker used to be. I am glad of an opportunity to get even to some extent for the long years of free board he has supplied me with. I shall try to see Miss Perkins today and this evening I go to the Adamses for sup. or tea.

Please don't forget to send me my keys from my bureau drawer.
With love to all of you V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

My dearest -

March 12, 1913.

I have received one letter from you and my keys and to-day a letter from Cyrus. While on the subject of keys there should be a key to Chas. S.'s front door - a plain aluminum colored door key - not a Yale or other similar kind. If you can find it I wish you would forward it. It should be where the bunch was.

I think I wrote you that one of our fighting farmers had settled. The other one is still out but Founby says he will come in on Saturday and settle. We are not entirely confident as he was in town today and could have settled if he had had a mind to do so. Still we have hopes and are glad that one of them is out of the way and our troubles reduced by so much.

Mr. Kidden came over on Monday and we went over some of the things but only got started. He will come again soon. The most important matter at present is getting the money to build with. Mr. Adams is considering the purchase of the entire issue which he will peddle out at a profit - at least that is the idea. It will take a big

load off if that can be settled and the bonds sold at a satisfactory price. Then there are no end of things to be done by way of getting ready to begin construction.

Every day men come in looking for jobs and I have to tell them to wait till the frost is out of the ground.

It is coming out fast the last four or five days and I hope there will be no more real winter.

Chas. D. looks pretty well and acts lively. Chas. J. looks very white and does not come down to his office regularly as he used to. He gets the Chiropractor to stir his circulation three times a week.

Mr. Barnard came in today and enquired about the bill which you spoke of. As you have no account here I think I had better pay it for you but I did not do so today.

I am waiting to hear about your new house-keep. The range heating unit is in the way of being repaired or renewed and will be returned soon.

With love

Your very V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

March 14, 1913.

It is two weeks today since I left my dear ones and it seems more like two months. The days have been so busy and varied. Sometimes it seems as though I am undertaking too much but it doesn't worry me. Nothing much has happened for a day or two except that another town, Herman, has voted us a franchise and contract — 117 to 15. Tomorrow I hope for a settlement with friend Brasted. I shall believe it when it happens. E.E.A. has not returned from Minneapolis so I don't yet know whether he will offer to take our bonds or not.

Today the weather has turned cold again. It is blowing hard and cold from the NW. Not too cold but just by contrast with the soft weather of the last few days. I am glad you like your house-keeper and also that you have a second maid. As you will need your money to pay her I am going to pay Mr. Barnard for you. Check for the balance due you for March is sent with this and much, very much love, Your V.

{ You had 300. of which 75 for Miss Wills leaves $225 + 125 = 350$. } 2 E.D.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Draught -

Sunday. March 16. 1918.

I have been to the Adamses for dinner and have stayed all the afternoon. We talked of schools part of the time.

They are both much pleased with the Hill School and think it is the proper thing for boys to go to boarding school. Mrs. Adams thinks that 16 years is early enough as to age.

The discussions did not lead anywhere but I told them of our problem and the possibility of moving.

The weather has turned cold again but cannot stay cold long now. For the last two nights the wind has blown gales during the night.

The latest news about Brastad is that he won't settle, he won't pay any more expenses, he won't pay his lawyer, he won't have anything to do with Lounsbury and in general he won't. If he sticks to this decision I suppose we shall have a chance to obtain judgment on the basis of the award of the jury and Lounsbury will have to sue his client for his fee. We shall see but I don't know just where we are at.

Mrs. Adams has made us an offer to take our bonds at 95. and I have wired Barranos advising acceptance of the offer. I don't feel sure he will want to but hope he will accept. It would relieve me to know where the money is coming from.

Yours V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dear Sir -

March. 18. 1913.

The days continue to follow their wonted way and sometimes we get 15 records of distance run in the minute and sometimes 8 more or less.

Mr. Barrows has agreed to Mr. Adams' offer for our bonds so our financing is probably settled though we have not yet got anything down on paper.

That is a big lift. Just now I am chasing Town supervisors, County Commissioners and City Aldermen for rights to bridge highways and vacate streets. Nothing goes of its own inertia, which is perhaps not strange, and so I have to push and the process is slow. Still we seem to be getting gradually nearer and nearer to the goal. Mr. Barrow tells me that you have paid your bill which was a grave error in your part. I enclose draft for your January expenses and letter from Ruth Parsons who is off on a vacation but with her doctor. My love goes to each one of you in individually representative lots.

V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

My very dearest —

March 18, 1913

Your rather doleful letter of 17th has just come and I need not say that it fills me with sorrow and a wish to help you. One thing is certain. If you find that taking care of Lucy wears on you you must get some one to do it for you. If a nurse-maid will do so much the better on account of the lower cost but if you must have a ^{trained} nurse, please don't delay until you are all in. I don't want to have you run up. All I can do at this distance now is to hope, as frequently happens, the darkest hour is just before dawn. But you must not let the expense interfere with getting the help you need. I will find the money needed. And always remember that I love you more than anything else and want to keep you as well as you can be. Y.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

My dear -

March 20. 1913.

Your letters got mixed and the bag one got here today while the shorter one which was posted last Monday got here yesterday.

It would not be easy to get away now but I will do it if you wish. If Miss Cannon cannot succeed in keeping you supplied with the necessary servants I am not sure that it would be a bad plan to try boarding for a while.

Of course the question is, where? Some suburban hotel or family hotel would seem to me better than to go into Boston. Possibly the Kendal Green place would do. Doesn't Miss Brooks come up on a morning train to school? If she does the children might come with her and keep at the Lincoln school. I have been staying off a cold for several days but think I am mending and will come for a few days to help me if you want me when you receive this and will let me know. Please don't hesitate if you feel that you ought to have me.

My best love Y.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

My dearest —

March 21, 1913.

It is no fun to try to do ~~your~~^{my} work and think all the time that I ought to be in Lincoln with my dearie. It seems impossible to drop everything and run but I am trying my best to clean up so that I can go.

There are contracts to make which have to be arranged months ahead of time so as to be ready at the right moment and it seems to take an endless amount of bothering about details before everything is fixed.

It seems too bad to put into you the responsibility of saying that you want me to come and yet I have no better way. Now I hope to get most urgent things settled enough to go away for a few days and I will do that anyway unless you want me sooner. Please don't hesitate to call me. If it were only my own business I should not have
(over)

waited at all but there is so much and so many
people's affairs depending directly upon me at this
moment that it seems like failing to do my
duty if I leave. But you the most important
of all. I am coming at the earliest moment I
can see my way or impudently if you call
me. I hope I am doing right. It is hard
to know. My heart goes out to thee.

Y.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

My dearest —

Sunday, Mch. 23, 1913.

The day is not so bad for Easter Sunday though the wind is blowing and the sky is overcast. It has been cold for several days but yesterday and today only cold enough to keep the ground from thawing out. I went out in the automobile yesterday afternoon for the first time, taking out a party who owns a ditching machine and is going to dig some of our canal. I have ~~not~~ ^{now} got under way and arranged for the poles and insulators for the new line and the water wheels and generator for the Hot Lake plant. There remain transformers to be ordered and that will about complete the list of things which have to be provided for long beforehand. I have not actually made any contracts for construction but I think most of it can be arranged with local people. The tunnel builders whom I was rather counting on cannot undertake our job and that seems to me the most serious obstacle at present. There are also arrangements to make about the issuing of the new bonds and the mortgage and the printing. But in a

general way I am making headway and shall be ready to start very soon leaving such matters as are not demanding immediate attention.

I think of this all the time nearly and wonder how you are making out. I dislike telegraphing because I don't want other people to be mixed in and so I am in two minds most of the time. I now hope to go to Minneapolis and St. Paul tomorrow night (Monday) and shall have to be there one or two days before starting for home. You know I am hoping to find the situation relieved and shall be most happy if such is the case.

Lots of love from V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest -

April 5, 1913

I arrived last night (Friday) after an uneventful journey. It was a long day travelling from Orleans to New York but I arrived there promptly at 3 P.M. and had about an hour with my water wheel man which was all that was needed and then I caught a five o'clock train on the N.Y. Central for Chicago. Friday morning I had about three hours in Minneapolis in which I saw several persons - among them D. Percy Jones whose wife you met - and then caught an 11:45 Oriental Limited for F.F. Incidentally I met Dr. & Mrs. Burlingame in a street car. They had just returned from a vacation trip in which they had been to Washington. Mr. McMahon was on the train coming up. On arrival we learned that the town had gone "Dry" and had elected Mr. McBride, water, patriot and Methodist, to be mayor. He means well but he can't help it. He was born that way. The day has been fair and not too warm. The ice has not gone but is very white and wait last long. I think that is all. I think of the just getting back to B.S. and with much love, V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

Apr. 7. 1913.

The three children's letters have just come to me from East Orleans — little Lucy's being not the least interesting of them all because it was interpreted by her nuddy. I have been out most of the afternoon with John Samitgen showing him where he is to build the Herd Lake plant for he is to do most of it. We got stuck in a field of innocent looking soft sod and had to jack up the wheels and put on chains before we could get out of the deep cuts. Mr. Samitgen has just come back from Phita with his blind or deaf boy because the deaf sister is probably not going to live long and wanted to see the brother. She is said to have tuberculosis. I saw the C.J.'s yesterday. He looks a little better than he did a month ago. and I thought Myra looked pretty well also. Ella & Florence were out in their machine. I have a check in So. Lincoln from Peter Tail Prow Co. which will have to be returned to me to endorse before you can have any more money. With the best hopes and love for you and the kiddies. V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

Apr. 8. 1913.

I am enclosing a deed which I wish you would sign and get acknowledged as soon as you can conveniently. You may remember a vacant block just South of St. Luke's Hospital. I have sold the whole block at a price that seems to me good and I want to get the money to invest in order to supply my growing family with shoes and other luxuries.

After writing to you last night I went back to C.D.'s and found the whole McMahon family "visiting". They wanted to play cards and I couldn't well get out of it. We played a new game "Rum" more devoid of interest and innocent of demands for skill than even "500". At 11:30 I was ready to fall off my chair with sleepiness.

Business continues pretty steadily to occupy all available time but I don't try to put in more hours than I ought to. I want to be prime when my family arrives in June. Mrs. Adams doesn't ^{think} ~~think~~ ^{think} ~~think~~ when she and all her tribe will be coming west but it will be about your time. She has sent for sailing lists.

Yours V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

Apr. 9. 1913.

The grind was relieved by a nice letter from you this afternoon. It has been snowing again but it is too warm for the snow to last and the only result will be to make a little mud on the roads and perhaps help the fields. Your friend and former school master is keeping us awake — I mean the President — He appears to have the confidence in his own judgment which is necessary to give other people confidence and I think most of us are willing to let him try and see what will happen.

There is still too much frost in the ground to begin digging but we expect to get at it in a few days.

I think of thee very often V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Frank G. —

Apr. 10. 1913.

Another routine day in which nothing in particular seems to have happened and yet I suppose that some progress has been made.

I have been out a short distance with some railroad men to see about a spur track which we hope to have put in by the Gt. Nor. and I have studied many pages of switch-board specifications and so it goes. This evening Mr. Herries came in to C. D.'s. He is always entertaining and I like him. He rather floored me with a quaint bit of orthodoxy which I had not supposed him guilty of. by declaring that the Turks are Ishmaelites of Jewish origin. You never can tell just how far a Presbyterian keeps his literal faith or just why he keeps some and drops some.

My love and cheer to the U.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest G. —

Apr. 11. 1913.

It has been another very busy day. Mr. Kidder came over and we spent most of the day going over details of switchboards and such like things.

I have fished out from my drawer the picture of Lucy on the sofa which was tucked away last fall and now it faces me against the wall and is very satisfactory to look at. Tomorrow Mr. Taylor comes over from Wahpeton and I am going to try to get a little surveying done. He is probably going to help me Saturdays and Mondays until his school closes and then he will give me all his time. He says he would also like the experience of running our new station next winter.

He is "Professor" at Wahpeton but thinks he could learn something from actual labor in a station at a lower salary — which seems to show that he has pretty good stuff in him. My love to the dearie
V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

My dearest —

Apr. 12. 1913.

Today Mr. Taylor came over from Wahpeton and we have been surveying — that is — staking out the limits of the first excavating which is scheduled to begin on Monday morning. The ground is frozen except a few inches on the surface but there is quite a large surface to be stripped and I shall be glad to see the work actually begun.

There seems to be a fair chance of more pictures with the native because we want to cross over some of his land to save going a mile out of our way.

The native is quick to see his chance and will both to make the most of it. But I hope it will be only a "little" trouble. A batch of letters came this afternoon including the long desired check and now I will pay some bills and send you some more of your allowance. That is, in a day or two. I have been trying to think of the name of the little Ruth girl but can't quite get it. Your V.



WAHPETON, N. D.,

April 14

1913

My dearest —

This has been a very busy day and now I am on my way to S.D. Paul. This morning John Samitz's new broke ground for the new project. The post has gone out of only a few inches but the day has been almost hot and we expect it will do its work. I got your letter giving me the Ruth girl's other name and I will look her in a day or two when I get back. It is just about two months now before you and the little people will start and I try to think it is not a long time. I am very sorry there is tired in the head and hope that the helper will prove adequate enough to let the off duty part of the time. If she does, wouldn't it be a good plan to reconsider the scheme of visiting your very good friends in Wilmington as well as Edith in Falmouth. If Mrs. Hughes



WAHPETON, N. D.,

191.

persons capable of taking care of and managing the children more or less I think they might be allowed to go to Wilmington if Mrs. Fields can have you.

If possible I should like to come as far as Detroit when you come west and finish the trip with you. That would be a change and rest which seems mighty attractive to me. I feel much solidier in my pins than I did in March when I first came out and from now on shall probably be out down a good deal.

My best love to thee, dearest, and be of good cheer. The days of reparation will not always last and the children will be fitting big enough to relieve you of some cares before we realize it. Again, best love, Thy B.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest G. —

Apr. 16. 1913.

I didn't write you last night because I was on the train coming up from Minneapolis with Mrs. Froubous. She is just back from a two weeks absence. Her mother has been very ill in Rochester ~~and~~ but is now thought to be safely recovered. Mrs. F. G. and I conversed and ate supper together in the dining car and were quite chummy. Dr. F. G. and three daughters were at the station to meet her and the girls were evidently mighty glad to see their ma. It has been hot today — 80° at noon — and the sudden transition from cold makes it seem all the hotter. Most of the small towns in the region are sending letters or delegations to see if we can supply them with electricity. Tomorrow Wendell is to be here in an automobile — and will hold most of the population of that center — and while I was in Wahpeton Monday evening Dorcas took advantage of a spare quarter of an hour to urge claims. It makes me feel "biggity" to be so very much sought after and I may develop kangaroo legs in consequence.

I enclose check for \$200.⁰⁰ and will try to see the Ruth girls soon but there are two sets of visitors tomorrow.

V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Draught —

Apr. 17. 1913.

This morning I drove Mr. Adams's machine with him and his two guests who are buying some of our boards. They came up from Minneapolis to look over our property so we had to be hospitable. They have gone over to Wahpeton where Mr. Kidder will take them in charge. I hope they were satisfied and will buy the boards.

This afternoon a very different outfit from Windell appeared and asked questions about electric lights. We have apparently come to an agreement for doing business in their town and if their town council ratifies their bargain we shall expect to light them next fall.

I thought the stove part had been sent to you but if there is another one gone I will send the wires for it and I think the Edison man can put them in.

I have been wondering whether it would be a good plan for us to board in Minneapolis next winter. There is a large and I think excellent private sort of hotel which I will enquire about if you think well of the idea.

If I have to stay here later than usual to finish up it would be consoling to have my family near. V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

My dearest G. —

Apr. 19, 1913.

Last night we had a meeting of Otter Tail P. Co. which lasted from 8 to 10 so I did not write you.

Today I have been out all day with the engineer of the State Board of Health who is examining the proposed reservoir to see if it is proper for a supply of water for the city. I think he will report favorably but with certain qualifications. Mr. Taylor has been kicking his heels all day in my office with nothing to do and tomorrow I shall have to go out with him and do some surveying which should have been done today.

The news of the town is that Mr. Parnes is appointed to the Bench to fill a position just created. His duties begin at once and tonight all his relations with his clients cease and determine. It is a personal loss to me but if he had decided that he wanted to go on the bench I am glad he got the appointment. It is somewhat of a problem to decide on his successor as an advisor but there doesn't seem to be much choice. Either Jas. A. Mann or McField and Mc is the better man for us. Incidentally I lose tenants which is all in the day's work. Still I haven't had a moment to find
Your Ruth — V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Sunday —
Apr. 20. 1913.

My dearest —

Your letters do not come with great frequency but the last one was very nice to get. I have seen the M'chinsky mother and she told me that Ruth had been thinking about it and after a sufficient display of decent reticence she concluded that she was sure that Ruth would come unless something should happen such as sickness. Ruth is helping a lady on Saturdays and Sundays so she was not at home.

This morning at an early hour I departed from C.D.'s and went into the country with Mr. Taylor to do a little quiet surveying. I think we were unobserved by anyone who might have been shocked. The wind is blowing and my face burns but otherwise all is pretty well with me and business is certainly busy. The warm days of the last week have made no visible effect on the trees but the grass is just beginning to turn green. The ice in the lakes disappeared so suddenly that no one knows when it was here and when it wasn't.

Mrs. Adams will be coming West about the same time you are planning for. I will try to find out her definite dates if she has fixed them. With love V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

Apr. 21. 1913.

This has been another subwaying day with Mr. Taylor. He comes over Saturday evenings and stays till Monday evenings so I have to get out with him while he is here.

The weather is fine. Tomorrow morning a big ditching machine will move out I hope it will get to work in two or three days.

Before me lies a card inviting me to play cards at the Grand Hotel next week Tuesday.

My cousins Charles Rotta and Florence and Elsie are guilty but I have not been able to get up courage enough to accept their invitation and shall regret. Mrs Adams expects to sail from Buffalo on June 18th and all except possibly Margie will be there — also some friends of S.

Another letter came tonight and I am very glad that you are expecting to go to Wilmington. They are good people for you to see. Y.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

Apr. 22. 1913.

Today has been just another day with nothing in particular to mark it. I have been in the office most of the time but tomorrow I ought to go out again. The Ditching machine got under way about 6 P.M. instead of A.M. and made about one mile on the way to the job. They will proceed tomorrow if all goes well.

I had a letter from mother today which shows that she has been slow in recovering from the grippe but she appears to be gaining slowly.

I will enclose the letter. I saw Florence this morning and made a very lame case for declining her invitation. But really I haven't the spark to go to a card party of such vast proportions that the Grand Hotel is required to hold the people. Florence said she was reading it some. I should say it required more executive than a Hook Lake Project.

Lots of Love, dearest, V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

Apr. 23. 1913.

You will note that I am a half century old today. How time does keep up flying. But I am not going to regret it and I don't suppose time will either. Two birthday letters came this afternoon — from Thomas and Cyrus — and they help to enliven the day. Your announcement of the new boys school is interesting but somehow I don't feel much taken by the idea of building up a new school. It seems to me I should rather have one already built and in possession of traditions and atmosphere. I suppose that is because there is such a surfeit of newness out here. Newness seems to me more appropriate in power houses and tunnels than in schools. It has rained much of the day and I have had a chance to catch up with some things. The Journal says Mr. Parsons took charge of his first case as naturally as if he had been a judge all his life. My love to the V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

My dearest —

Apr. 26. 1913.

We have been out all day - Mr. Taylor and I. It was cold riding but not uncomfortable working. The worst trouble was starting the automobile after it had cooled off. We took turns at the crank for unlimited times before we could persuade the thing to go. The work is progressing at the only point where a beginning has been made and in about two weeks more there should be a right smart bit doing. Tomorrow if the day is fine as it now promises to be I mean to take a long drive over country roads looking up most desirable routes for our transmission line. It often happens that the most apparent routes are well occupied by other lines — telephone mostly. So we have to find new ways. For the first party on the ground gets the locations. I may not be able to write you tomorrow if I am late in getting back. But be assured of the continued love of your V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Leavest -

Apr. 28. 1913.

We did the long tour yesterday - Mr. Taylor and I - and covered 101. miles and for our pains we think we discovered a proper route for the greater part of our new transmission line. Today we have surveyed. Also the committee from Wendell came in and brought their signed contract. Mr. Banon writes that he will be here about May 4th or 5th. I am afraid he won't want to stay long.

Chas. D. said tonight that Rolla and Florence are to take the Dwyer house (formerly Hiltner) for the summer while the Dwyers visit the relatives in or on some island in Puget Sound. I think this is all the news unless you are interested in the Elks' minstrel show which takes place tomorrow night. It will be a great show. I think I shall not go. Your very nice letter gives me more pleasure than anything. What will happen to the mail? will the new people use it? Someone should charge it occasionally. Love U.

It seems to me that I should not leave Ellen. You will have to have her for the summer.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Frank —

Apr. 29. 1913.

Another day and a windy one. This morning we sent five men to Wendell - 20 miles south - to unload poles from cars and when they wanted to unload the agent said they would first have to produce a bill of lading. So I had to crank up and drive against a 30 mile wind to carry them the document.

This afternoon I have been in the office continuously for the first time in several days. Mr. Samitz's ditch is pouring and as soon as it is deep enough he will begin the tunnel. Last night after I had written my letter I found the Wellahaus playing cards with C.D. and Murray. Char. D. is quite stiff with rheumatism or whatnot and they are good to him and help to keep him cheerful. He does not go to the Rolla and Florence party night. I understand a second party is to be given to take in younger ones like Murray. My love to you all V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

My dearest —

Apr. 30. 1913.

Today finishes another month anyway and now there is only one more and a part of another.

I am very busy but not overworked. In fact I don't try to overwork. It doesn't seem necessary.

Sometimes things don't get done as promptly as they should but my method is, to a large extent, doing business under my hat instead of according to rules of office practice; so that I can generally give directions to keep the work going without delay even if details have not been all worked out. I like to be able to change any part of the work to meet the exigencies of the moment.

The ditch is pouring. The wind has been frightful today and the air ~~is~~ filled with plowed field that the horizon could not be seen at all. Now there is a change and it is growing colder — from 91° to 63° in a few hours. This sounds like a Thomas letter. V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dear —

May 2. 1913.

Mr. Baranz came back with Mrs. Galt yesterday ahead of schedule and as their house was not open the Adamses took them in for the night. I went down to see them in the evening so you did not get a letter. Now it is morning and I had intended to start on a two or three day trip with Mr. Kidder but it is raining and cold and we can't go.

We may decide to try the trains instead and if so I shall go to Wabington this afternoon.

Mr. Baranz looks brown and well and says the Witsmanns are well. He is probably going to return to Cal. soon. I enclose check for \$350.⁰⁰ to keep off the most voracious of the wolves and incidentally I love you very much U.



WAHPETON, N. D.,

May 5, 1913

Friend -

I seem to be travelling most of the time. Last Friday I came here to Wahpeton and the same evening with Mr. Kidder went on to Graceville arriving at 11 P.M. We got two beds in one room and after sweeping them out with a whisk broom passed the night without a bite. Saturday we talked with the mayor and others and in the afternoon went on to Morris - then at 12:30 (night) back to Wahpeton where Mr. Kidder got off while I continued on to Fargo arriving at 4:30 AM Sunday. There I sat in a hotel lobby until breakfast time and shortly afterward got a train for F.F. arriving at 10 AM. not having been in bed at all. After dinner I went to bed and slept all the afternoon and then at 9:30 went to bed again and slept all night. This morning I was fresh as a lark and now I am here in Wahpeton again on my way back to Graceville. The reason for all this travelling is that we are trying to

make a contract with the village.

Of course they will get special rates
on account of their name. The difficulty
seems to be that they have a very bad
case of municipal book keeping and
under the influence of the disease they
imagine they are now getting electricity
for nearly nothing when in fact they
have been running behind for years.
Such cases frequently occur and it is
hard to make people believe what they
don't want to believe.

The results were stunning. How
did you know they were "just what
I wanted"?

I don't know just where you will be
so I shall make sure by sending
this to the B.S.

V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

My dearest —

May 9, 1913.

I have just got back to F.F. again and have been busy all day and all this evening and now it is 9:30 and I have to go to bed so as to be up in the morning. On the whole I don't like country hotel life for a steady thing.

At one place we were given the choice between a large outside room for two and two inside rooms. Inside rooms to me meant rooms as a court but not on a street. But to the hotel man I discovered that an inside room meant one with a sky light and no windows. Fortunately there was a ventilator in the sky-light so it wasn't as bad as it looked. Miss Perkins was in today. She has a possible plan for you which she will investigate. She doesn't seem to recommend Miss Thurman. With love - Your V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

My dearest —

May 11. 1913.

You have been neglected of late. I was away for nearly a week and seemed to be occupied evenings with village councils and such. After getting back I was busy with Mr. Barrows one evening and last night I had to do some catch up work. Today, which is Sunday, Mr. Taylor and I have been out locating or trying to locate the new power house but this afternoon we were driven back by rain. Now the rain is falling gently and encouraging the crops and incidentally the birds and things. The civic something has got after my river banks and tactfully indicated a willingness to have them cleaned up. Mr. Ristad is chief and Mrs. Hannah seems to be understudy. I have allowed them to have their way and clean it or them at my expense. Of course I ought to do it myself but I can't attend to it. I think they intend to plant things and do more than merely clean up. I must get after a painter now and have your floors done at Swan Pond. Your two long letters were appreciated and I hope the supply is not exhausted. Also that you will have a beautiful time. I am pondering about Fredric Richardson. I can't see anything now.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

May 13, 1913.

I hardly know where to write to you since your letter from the College Club saying you might not go to Philadelphia. Two letters had already been sent to Wilmington. I am sorry to hear that you have been "sick" again but relieved to know that you are going to Dr. Kilbourne and the other man. If your eyes are changing that should account for any amount of trouble.

The stove bricks or heating elements were shipped on May 2nd according to a statement of the company. They are sending a complete new set - ovens and all. If they don't arrive soon you must let me know and I will write to them. There is a boat on June 14th - the Octavara which you sailed on last year. I will enclose \$150.⁰⁰ as a guess at travelling expenses. You will probably get \$60.⁰⁰ soon as a dividend on your Otter Tail River Co. stock, which will also help to cheer you. I was nearly laid up yesterday as the result of a cold in the head acquired on my recent tour but today I am nearly all right again. With love and hopes
V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

My dearest —

May 14, 1913.

I did not enclose check for R.R. fares last night because I was so doubtful where to send the letter and today I know no more than yesterday. In the mean time your \$60.00 O.T.P. Co. money has been paid in to me and as soon as I know where you are I will send it with the R.R. money. It has been raining all day which has given me a chance to catch up on office work. Mr. Barnes is probably going to Cal. again very soon which I regret but can't well object to. He is in charge of raising money from the sale of preferred stock and I am afraid it may languish if he is not here to keep up interest and keep things going generally. I have all I can attend to without doing that and don't know much about selling stock anyway. But there is the catch that if it doesn't go he will probably be just as ready to come back across the continent as he is to go out.

My cold is much improved and I am nearly all right again. Miss Perkins telephoned that she has talked with Miss Hotchkiss and asked her to call on me

Miss Perkins appears to think Miss H. is the person
for you. She is not young and can take responsibility
with serenity according to Miss Perkins.

When Miss H. comes in I will tell you what I
can about her. but even then I should place
more reliance on Miss Perkins' judgment than on
my own. With much love,
U.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

My dearest -

May 16. 1913.

Last night it rained hard which is the reason I didn't come down to write to you. I have sent two letters to Wilmington, one to the College Club, and one to So. Lincoln and this one I will send to Phila. as a variety and in hope that some of them will reach you. Mr. Adams says the person to write to about steamer sailings is H. D. Hoerner, Genl. Pass. Agent, Anchor Line, Buffalo, N.Y. The Aetovara sails June 14th and some other boat June 18th.

Thank your new doctor for being encouraging. I am putting my faith in the eye man just now but I hope he won't change one of your eyes so much as to make you unrecognizable. Out of sympathy my left eye is just now inclined to go on a strike too.

It will not trouble me at all to have Lucy Christened if you want it done by your favorite saint. I still don't feel like sending checks until I am more certain where you are at. Accept the love of your V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

May 17, 1913.

For several days the ground has been too wet for work outdoors so I have had a chance to work in the office on drawings and book work in general.

This afternoon Mr. Hannah brought up Senator Ole Sagung who was through pleasuring and was willing to hear my views on Public Utility Commissioners. He is a member of a committee which is to study the question in preparation for a coming extra session of the Legislature which the Governor is going to call for the purpose of passing a bill. I am very much in favor of such a bill but the committee which was appointed is rather inclined the other way. The eldest Lauritzen girl died yesterday. I think she was one of the defectives children — about twenty years old. Mr. Banows goes soon and I shall be left to run the shop again for another month. My love to the U.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

Sunday - May 18, 1913

This has been a busy day in spite of Sunday. This morning Mr. Taylor and I went down to Dayton Hollow and leaving the machine wandered off a couple of miles in search of a desirable cross country route for a transmission line. It was a pleasant day after rain and we enjoyed it. In the afternoon I went to the Lauritzen funeral and there joined the overflow on the front piazza. I could not hear the service but was impressed with the lack of consideration of numerous automobile drivers who went through the street chug-chugging especially the noisy motor-cycles with the best girl tied on behind. They must have known from the carriages that there was a funeral service but they apparently made no attempt to avoid the block. Decidedly we need civilizing. After the funeral Mr. Barron and I went out to see the work which has not progressed much this week on account of rain.

I wish I knew just where you are but hoping you are in Phila. I will send again there.

The Post Office has a new trick of early closing so I must hasten. But I will take time to remind you that I love you very much V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearst -

May 20. 1913

- It is five o'clock and raining so I probably shall not come down to write you this evening - especially as I am going to supper with E.E.A. in the absence of Mrs. Adams. She has gone to Wellaby for Margaret's graduation.

We have just begun our campaign for selling preferred stock and the day has gone well which encourages us. About 1500. sold today and 2000. more pledged. Mr. Bannan got away last night and will be gone a month. And it will be less than a month before I see my little family and that fills with joy the heart of yours V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

May 21, 1913.

It keeps on raining and I keep on with plans which are behind the work. So I am not entirely sorry. It is too wet for work and too cold for painting and I haven't got your floors painted yet. I will try to arrange to have them painted as soon as the weather improves.

Miss Hotchkiss has not come in. I will find out why and report.

Chas. D. is quite lame and Mary keeps the house at 80° more or less which seems to suit C.D. exactly.

Our stock sale has started off nobly. About \$4000 yesterday and today nearly 10,000 - was taken or spoken for. The raise of the dividend rate from 6 to 7% is probably what is doing the business. I only hope it will continue. We want to sell \$100,000. Check for \$200.00 has been forwarded. With love V.

Leaust —

May 22, 1913.

Nothing in particular has occurred this day.
I have just been busy. This morning Mr.
Lamitz took me out over the work and
that took all the forenoon. The work has
been delayed considerably by rain but today
the sun is out again and everything is
moving. Also the trees and grass and other
green things. This afternoon I have been
going over things with Mr. Kidder. We shall
probably make another pilgrimage to Graceville,
the home of the Irish the first of next week.
We want to get them on our list if possible
as they occupy a strategic position for getting
at a number of other towns next year.

The stock sale is progressing. I think of
them as again at home in the Exp. Broom.
U.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

My dearest —

May 23. 1913.

You have probably received Miss Perkins' letter saying that the Hotchkiss has decided she doesn't want our job. Miss Perkins says she has not any one else to suggest at this time so if you have someone in Boston who would come that would seem to be the best plan.

I am probably going to the ditch in Graceville again next Monday or Tuesday. The tunnel has been started and men are now working at the hard dry clay. A hard blow brings away only a small chip but apparently they will be able to make satisfactory progress if the material gets no worse. We hope that we shall not run into water anywhere. The day has been beautiful. I have been out with Miss Frye and Mr. Eames to look at the Frye slaughter-house which we have to remove from the shore of Hart Lake. The time keeps on apace V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dear —

May 24, 1913.

I received your message this morning and word back that Miss Hetchkiss would not come. I am now wondering about the size of the family which say will consist of three grown ups and four children. After counting them several times to make sure I am unable to make out more than three children in the regular roles and hence my mild surprise.

All this afternoon I have been engaged in the absorbing pastime of watching concrete actually put into a tunnel in the ground so as to make a complete ring and tightly fill up all the space excavated. It can really be done and at the present writing 12 feet of finished tunnel out of about 1400. feet have been completed.

With love V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

May 26. 1913.

I am off in a few minutes for Walpeta
and thence Graceville of the Irish. Perhaps it
may not be convenient to write so this will
explain. The trip is such a round-a-bent
one that I cannot be back till Thursday
morning. This morning I had two letters
from Thomas and one from Cyrus which pleased
me greatly but Thomas's phonetic spelling is awful
and it will take some real application somehow,
sometime to correct it. All of which indicates
my doubts of modern methods of education as
compared to old fashioned ways. I must
father my belongings.

Yours v.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

My dearest —

May 29. 1913.

I am back again from the Irish. We had a meeting at which there were two sides but I think our side is likely to win out. It was quite like 7.7. because the opposition was led by the Water & Light Commissioners. Incidentally the Town of Chokio has voted 36 to 1 in favor of making a contract with us so we are gaining some.

Chas. D. is going to Battle Creek tomorrow. He seems to feel that he is getting no better here and surely his rheumatism keeps him pretty lame. He doesn't like to walk down town because he is ~~less~~ lame while he keeps still. He went up to see C. J. this afternoon and found him looking very badly. A few days ago I thought he looked pretty well.

It has been a fiercely hot day and my office is now like an oven. Your letter came tonight saying you would not sail until June 18. If it will help your old head ache I shall be willing to wait the extra days.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Frank —

May 30, 1913.

This afternoon I went out to Swan Lake to shut our faucets so that water can be turned into the mains. Mrs. Whelock and I think Mrs. Junett are already out. While there I arranged with Mrs. Wickland that Selma is to go over next Tuesday (June 3rd) if Ruth will help. So this evening I have seen Mrs. Matkinsky who agrees that Ruth will go though she appears to be partly engaged elsewhere. If this arrangement goes, there will be time to have the floors painted before we move in. Chas. L. went this morning and Murray went with him as far as St. Paul and is to return tomorrow. I have been out on the work nearly all day and am again writing in an office that would cook me if I stayed long enough. Much love U.

Lines Crocker Wed 12

Wes. A 1:30

Garner

Dr. K.

Killed & bleached

Wool

Chamo cloth

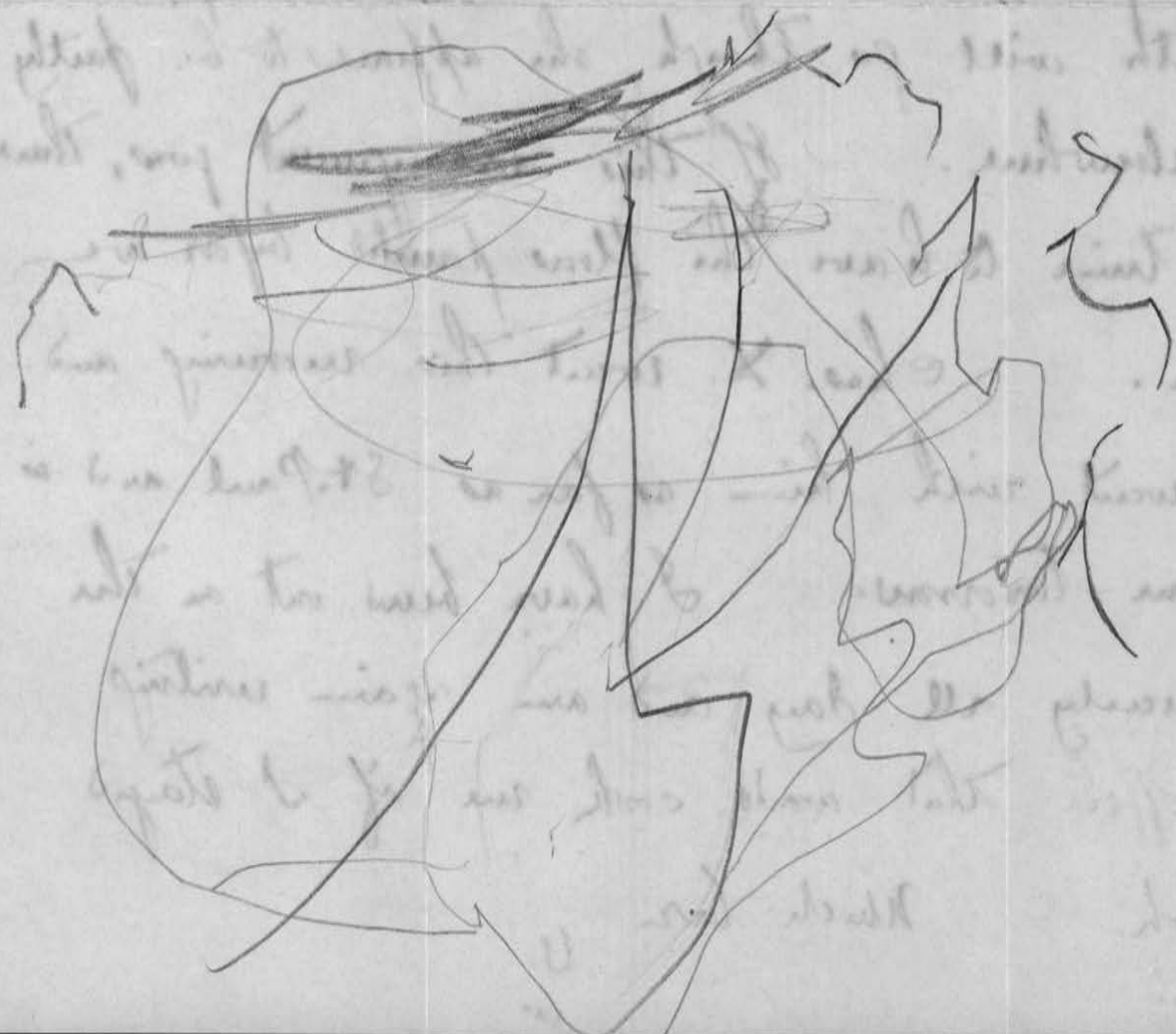
Silk & cotton

Buttons

Papa napkin

Quilt

Groceries



VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

May 31, 1913.

Another week gone. Our tunnel is progressing and our ditch is growing. Our sale of ~~preferred~~ stock is languishing somewhat after the first wild dash. But we have got to make it go somehow and I suppose we will therefore.

Mrs. Parsons has asked me to dinner tomorrow which is Sunday. I understood she also expects Mr. Adams but have not seen him. He has been off in Dakota looking at banks which are offered for sale. It rained hard this evening. We were out on the work and rushed in just in time to get only slightly wet. Now the air is cooler and the green things are very green and fresh. Rain delays the work but helps the crops so we don't complain of it.

U.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Friend -

June 2, 1913

Yesterday Mr. Adams and I dined with the Parsons family including Ruth and her Doctor.

Afterwards I drove Mr. Adams machine with Mr. and Mrs. and Marion and Mr. Adams to

Otter Tail Lake and back. It was nearly eight o'clock when we got back so you get

no letter. Nothing of special interest happened but the day and the country were beautiful.

The roads were bad as bad could be.

Tomorrow I expect to take Ruth Mat- out to clean house and hope nothing will prevent the event. A letter from mother says she is

still in San Francisco but intends soon to go to Los Angeles. It seems pretty sure that she has been unusually slow in recovering from grippe. With much love
check for \$350.00 inclosed. U.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

June 3, 1913.

I took Ruth out to the lake this morning and found that Selma had already been at work two days and had finished a large part of the work. She had said she would not begin until today. I made no arrangements for feeding Ruth so Mrs. Wickland will have to provide for her. There is a split in a pipe in the bath room which will have to be fixed by the plumber and I will try to get it done tomorrow.

Nothing else of importance has happened today and tonight I feel quite idle. Murray has received a note from his father telling of his arrival in Battle Creek. Will you bring me some summer underwear. I seem to have nothing but light wools which are all in and of size which shrinks me to an unnatural thinness. 36 upper and 30 rather are the required sizes. Also I must have left some hose supporters in some bureau drawer or elsewhere which would be useful. U.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

My dear —

June 4, 1913.

The Water and Light Commission
are coming in a few minutes with
their engineer so I shall not be
able to write tonight except to say
that all is well.

V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

June 5. 1913.

Your letter of June 1st requires lots of thinking. I will try to think. 1st If you want Miss Wills you had better ask her to come. I had rather have her take less for her time than regular weekly charges but if you don't want to ask her to take less or if she thinks she should have regular wages I am content. But what you need is a cook. I can't tell whether you could get one here or not. Of course no professional Irish lady would be satisfied to be isolated at Swan Lake. She must be a plain person if you bring her from Boston and not a superior person. A superior person would be unhappy and would not be satisfactory to us.

2nd I don't much want to sell the Swail and I don't see how it can be properly looked after while we are away — especially if we should stay a year. The battery is nearly new and cost about \$300. in addition to exchanging the old battery. The rectifier has cost about \$150 besides installation charges.

That makes \$450.⁰⁰ besides the wagon itself which
 should be worth at least \$250.⁰⁰ more. That makes
 \$700.⁰⁰

It is worth that to us if we could
 use it but I am afraid it isn't worth so much
 to Warren Blodgett.

The Snail has its weaknesses
 and requires special care to see that the wheels are
 set just right. I should be sorry to sell it to
 anyone who might be disappointed with it. Unless
 it is properly looked after it might go to pieces fast
 and prove a bad investment. On the other hand

unless someone looks after it in our absence and gives
 the batteries an occasional charge it may be ruined
 by neglect. If Warren Blodgett wants it at \$700. perhaps
 we had better sell it but I cannot advise him to take
 it at that price. If you have it behind be sure
 and give it a charge and perhaps the tenants can
 take care of it. if you leave them an instruction book.

32 If John Tamm takes the back field it should be
 with the understanding that he will have to give it up in
 case we should sell the place before his term expires.
 He will have to take his chances without claim for damage.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest -

June 6. 1913.

I have just received your Cape Cod card and note saying you may have a substitute for Miss Stearns - I hope so. As for the allowance it was sent Monday June 2 and probably has reached you before now.

Tonight I am going with Mr. Adams to the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra concert and I wish you were with me.

Mrs. Parsons told me she was going to Washington in July but did not explain why.

Everything is going well as may be but we have hardly made a start on some of the work we expect to do. It takes so long to make preparations and get materials ready etc. etc.

It is now less than two weeks to Detroit Hoop Le - which reminds me that I ought to stop at Battle Creek to see Lab. V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

My dearest —

June 7, 1913

This has been a busy day but all out doors which is a pleasant change from office work.

Mr. Kidder and I went by automobile to Wendell where we met a new assistant who is to install the lighting system in the village. We walked all over the town which is small and then came back and after a half hour I went out to the Hot Lake tunnel which I had not seen for several days. This is Saturday night and they have finished 114 feet of tunnel out of a total of 1344 feet and at the rate they are now going should complete the job early in October which should be early enough. Meantime the money comes in in dribbles from the sale of stock.

I have not got anyone to paint the floors yet but will try to do it the first of next week.

Your letter about the Lucy girl's behavior in church was very dear to her daddy — So are you. V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest -

June 9, 1913.

This morning I had a good letter from you and I enclose check for an extra hundred dollars. It is a good idea to get all bills paid as you propose. It also strikes me as a very good idea to get Miss Brooks for the summer and I am glad she wants to come. Tomorrow afternoon at 5 o'clock I am to take a pair of painters out to do the floors. They think they can do it in one evening. I am doubtful but willing. At the Hospital meeting this afternoon we raised Miss Perkins' salary to \$75.00 per month. Perhaps it should have been done sooner. It was gratifying to note that all seemed to approve of the advance. Sam Adams arrived this afternoon as advance guard of the family. Murray has just received a letter from his father which indicates that he is beginning to improve already. Also that he is cheerful and making acquaintances. With love V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest -

June 10. 1913.

I have just got back from Swan Lake where the painter and I did all the piazza floors including the new kitchen piazza. Thursday evening we plan to do the lower stairs rooms. Incidentally we painted the small round table tonight. It was pretty well worn. Otherwise life is much the same. The tunnel men struck a bad wet spot this morning which delayed them two or three hours. I hope there are not a great many such in store for us. We can just finish on time if we have no serious set-backs but not otherwise. Sam Adams came last night and looks very well. He is proving up. I have made no arrangements for passage in the boat and have rather expected that you would reserve me a space when fitting your rooms. Am I right about it or not. If I must do something perhaps you had better wire me.

With love V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest -

June 11, 1913.

Nothing in particular has happened today. I have been out on the job most of the day helping to get new work started and looking over work under way. Two of our contractors are away for a few days and Mr. Kidder also so I have to stay on the job myself. The wind has blown furiously and there has been dust in the air so that the day has been a rather trying one and I shall be glad to get to bed. But first I think I shall drop in to hear a part of the Messiah by local people - that is, the chorus is local but the soloists are imported. Thank Thomas for his letter

b.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest -

June 15. 1913

It has been a torrid day - a bright sun and no clouds and very little wind. I hope the hot spell will be over before you get here. It makes me long for Lake Superior. I wanted to get some work done today in preparation for going away but I had to stay in the house until four o'clock and then go to Dayton Hollow where a piece of machinery is broken so I have not done much. Mr. Adams is not going with me though I invited him. He and Sam have just returned from a trip on which Sam is being broken in to canvassing for the Building Association. Richard Evans arrives today and will look for me during vacation as an assistant to Mr. Taylor. Surveying will be a large part of his work I think. This will be the last letter that can reach you at Buffalo. Expect me at Detroit.
D.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest -

Oct. 24. 1918.

It is already a week since you left F.F.
The days have gone rapidly. Mr. Baranz left with
Mrs. on Wednesday but before going we arranged the
conditions under which Mr. Adams will become a
stock-holder. This deal is much to my satisfaction.
Incidentally it will provide us with needed funds
which would have to be provided for by other means.

Yesterday Mr. Lauritzen reported that the tunnel headings
were within 4 feet of each other so we went out and
gave directions to break through at once. Mr. Lauritzen
took his station in one end and I in the other and
as soon as a small hole was opened we clasped hands
through it and in dramatic tones congratulated each
other. It was a touching moment. Just after you
left there was a sudden freeze and we feared that
we should have a hard time finishing our concrete
but for two or three days it has been warm again
and we are making good headway. A few days
more is all we need but we can hardly expect
enough good weather now to satisfy us. Love to the S.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Darnt -

Oct. 28. 1913.

This true tale is to remind you how very little since my last report things have altered in the building trade at F.F. The tunnel is joined and nearly finished.

a little more concrete has been poured at sundry places and a few more poles have been placed in decorative alignment on the country roads near Graceville. The weather has suddenly gone cold again which increases our difficulties but we can't stop.

Mr. Taylor and the staff got away at four o'clock this morning in their gal and also in a snow flurry. I think I wrote you that E.E.A. is coming in. ~~and~~ He will make his first payment Nov. 1.

which will help. Francis looks well. Did I tell you he has been offered a foot ball scholarship or something of that sort ~~which~~ at Blake. He doesn't have to begin yet he is through his present job. Miss Patterson wrote asking for the F.F. Journal and Cyrus has also favored me with a letter. I assume that all is well at Nepls.

Mother is preparing to go to Nepls. but has not said how much she will stay with us. I think she looks forward to Southern California. Geo. Mike is here 25 years younger as a result of hardships in Montana. U.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Daunt -

Nov. 12. 1913.

My hand is out at writing from long disuse.
The days are filled with jobs mostly of
inspection and arrangement of trifles that go
to make up the completed Hort Lake project.
Tomorrow morning the Engineer of the State
Board comes. We have found a way of
burning weeds. We first cover the ground
completely with straw then burn the straw and
the weeds go with.

Mr. Anderson promised to investigate the heating
problem the very next day. He said he had
told you that he could not agree to heat the
maid's room so I admitted he was not bound
to do so and agreed to contribute \$10.00 toward a
radiator. That interested him and I hope will
produce results. He was still trying to find a man
to fix the coal bin. I enclose L's report V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest -

Nov. 13. 1913.

Mr. Anderson finds that he cannot undertake to put in a radiator in the maid's room. He gives reasons fairly plausible so we shall have to accept them and find other means of heating. Perhaps a gas stove would be best. It would be easiest to take care of and quickest in results.

It is Thursday night already and I do not feel that I can come down this week but will try to make it next Friday in time for the concert. To do so means sacrificing a day time day in the cars as the evening train is not due there until 10: something and is often late.

Mr. Bass, the engineer, was here this morning and went back at 9:52 this morning making only a short stay. He is not likely to make a damaging report but Dr. Bracker may feel obliged to stand by his former order to some extent in order to save his face. He has a very good case but not worth too much sacrifice to pass. I shall have a deed to send you tomorrow. V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

Nov. 15. 1913.

At any rate Mpls. is warmer than S. L.

We are cleaning up and it is most exciting to see things gradually getting actually finished. Water will be let into the tunnel and the filling up of West well begin about the middle of next week — possibly a little sooner. That will seem like a real achievement to your man. — a real one put over on nature.

I have not received many letters from you but I know that you have things to do and to make others do. and anyway I shall be going down again in few days.

I am sending two deeds which ought to have attention before I get there — that is — They should be returned if possible in time to be attended to here before I go to Mpls.

I have a cold which I hope will be better by that time.

Yours V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dear —

Nov. 17. 1913.

Last night which was Sunday I was at the Adams' after walking out with them to their pasture where Mr. A. thinks he wants to start a Jersey cow dairy farm. Tonight just as I was coming down to write to you Cyrus Ball and Mrs. came in to talk to C.D. about Battle Creek. They are enthusiastic which is doubtless food for Mrs. Ball. She now takes two meals a day and walks. Now it is after 9 P.M. and this may not fit off tonight. This afternoon is warm as spring and I have had my arm in a cold spring under the new power house for several hours. There is a hole which must be cleaned out and filled in and I don't trust anyone to do it. So my clothes are covered with clay mud. The cold water has'nt affected the arm however. all is going well and now I will hurry this across to the P.O. in hopes it is not too late

V.

~~Exhaust~~ -

Nov. 18. 1913

Murray is back and seems to have impressed by the size of the breakfast that he saw Lucy eat. All of which surprises her dad. Francis is back from the last trip which appears to be required of the staff and I think that tomorrow I can let him go back to his parents and his new job. I have not seen him since his last return.

Today the muddy water standing in the ditch was let into the tunnel and is now running into Herd Lake and tomorrow we expect to turn the clean river into the ditch to wash it and the tunnel out and to begin filling the lake. Thus do we put one over on nature.

The hole in the bottom of the power house is still giving trouble but we shall doubtless find a way to stop it up. We have to. Tomorrow we also have a trial of Mr. Palmquist's appeal from the award of the commissioners for running poles over his land. So there are a number of things to keep me from entire stagnation. V.

I suppose you will take all precautions possible to prevent K.
~~staying~~ staying in Mpls instead of coming home. v.

VERNON ALWRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

Nov. 19, 1913.

This has been a busy day. First there was the daily round of Host Lake inspections and then immediately after luncheon citizens in three automobiles went out to turn in the water. There was me with Messrs. Hannah, Adams and McMahon and there was Murray with C.D. and friend Winslow and there was Taylor with Mrs. Taylor and a strange lady and Francis. We took off enough boards to let in a good strong stream and then followed along to see it move down through the ditch and tunnel to Host Lake. It went rapidly and didn't find any unexpected hill to climb. At three o'clock I had to be back at the Court House for the Palenquist appeal which got started some after. Mr. Erickson for Palenquist called me as the first witness and asked me questions for perhaps half an hour or more. It is all work and very little hangout. I hope you will succeed in finding someone more competent to take Katie's place. I have just tried to telephone Mrs. Kritzer but she had gone to the "Crystal" which I suppose means "movie". I will try her again in the morning and tell her K. is coming home Thursday. v.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest -

Nov. 25. 1913.

I think I can come down tomorrow evening on the train which is due in Mpls. about 10 P.M. but is sometimes late. It does not seem as though I ought to stay over until Sunday night but I will if I can.

Chas. X. is in Mpls. now. He didn't know whether he would be gone two days or five or six days. Murray thinks he (C.D.) may go to Battle Creek now. C.J. was to leave this morning but I don't know whether he did so.

Mrs. Kritzer is hard to find. She is at present at somebody's dance at somebody's hall and won't be home till quite late.

Everything is going satisfactorily, thanks to the weather.
Y.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

Nov. 29. 1913.

Mr. Anderson was not in his office so I did not see him but I wrote him ~~immediately~~ an airtel asking him to supply us with more windows and suggesting that he make haste slowly but not too slowly with the heating matter. Mr. Skutumpah will get out Miss B's possessions for my inspection. He says her chairs will have to be repaired. If we are to use them I suppose it would be no more than right to repair them so if they are not too badly out of condition I shall tell him to go ahead and fix them. Hoot Lake is still a-hooting and the work is progressing. Mrs. Evans has invited me to Cooking Club on Monday but I shall decline. Also I didn't go to the Chippewa Club annual reception last night. Mr. Parsons is president this year and an attempt was made to revivify with some success. Since the Elks took possession in F.F. the Chippewa has lost ground but is still respectable if not aggressive. Mrs. Krutger is hard to get at by telephone. I have not been able to reach her but talked with Katie today. She says she is not going back to N.Y.

Much love from V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT

FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Nov. 30. 1913.

Dearest -

I am informed that a certain contract in N. Dakota which has been held up for a year can now be settled so as to give mother some money. So I have been speaking the morning preparing deeds and ~~sub~~tags and notes.

As the matter is rather pressing on mother's account I will ask you to sign and get executed or rather acknowledged at once without waiting for my next appearance.

C.D. is back. No letter has yet arrived from Battle Creek since the arrival of C.G. and Myra.

Yours V.

61 days A.I. - XII.1.
 \$ 122.00
 73.05 pd.
 50.95
 3.57
 454.52 - due miss C.I.P.
 20. - Pd. Mrs. P.
 41. Hospital
 10.05 C.I.P. cash
 2.00 C.I.P. "
 73.05

1.15 Gr. over C.I.P.
 .25 }
 .06 } " " C.I.P.
 .20 }
 1.91 - Gr. " "
 3.57

3.06
 51

20. -
 41. -
 9.90
 2.00
 72.90

10.05
 1.15
 9.0
 1.25
 1.00
 .20
 .51
 3.7
 .51
 61

122. -
 72.90
 49.10
 1.91
 51.01
 .51
 50.50

5.93 steel for house
 5.00 V. gave C.I.P.
 5.93

5.93 household
 .98 roaster
 6.91 - steel by C.I.P.
 for house
 5. - V. gave C.I.P.
 1.91 - V. over C.I.P.

VERNON A. WRIGHT

FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

Dec. 1. 1913.

This is to say that the weather continues mournful and I continue cheerful. Work is progressing. Mr. Banow arrived this afternoon but I did not see him and he is now at the Cooking Club at Mrs. Evans' where I declined to go. The stock sale goes well and that helps a lot. Mrs. Adams says that postponement of your club stint need not prevent your coming up earlier. Have you had any luck in finding a helper for mother. Please let me know if landlord doesn't fit busy. U.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest -

Dec. 2. 1913.

Nothing in particular has happened today. The weather continues to be remarkable and we take advantage of it as much as we can.

Mr. Barrows came in last evening just before I had finished your letter and we talked for a long time so your letter could not get into the P.O. and was mailed this morning. The Barrows sail from N.Y. for the Mediterranean on Jan. 27 and will go to Egypt. I am expecting to go down on Friday by day train so as to go to the concert with you but we may do certain stunts on Sunday which I should be here for and in that case I should have to come up Saturday night. We shall see. In the mean time I am counting on the concert with thee.

U.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest -

Dec. 3, 1913.

This has been another busy day without very tangible results. I went to Dayton Hollow this morning. We are finishing up some work there too. This afternoon we had a directors meeting in act. of Mr. Barrows being here and provided for taking the Northern Light Co. into the Otter Tail which is only a formal matter as the ownership is practically the same. Then Mr. Taylor and I went to Hot Lake power house. Incidentally I managed to write a few letters. Your letter came this morning with one from mother saying she had secured a berth in the car with Helen Jewett which I was glad to learn - also that makes sure that she is going directly to Los Angeles instead of San Francisco. Love U.

VERNON A. WRIGHT

FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

Dec. 4. 1913

I have to write up a contract so this
is only to say that I expect to take the G. N.
day train tomorrow (Friday) and arrive in time
for supper and the concert.
With pleasant thinkings U.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

Dec. 8. 1913.

By the time I got to F.F. there was large sized gale blowing from the north and it was cold. The Dayton House plant looked like a ship just in from a blizzard storm. Today it is milder again. The stunts which I came up to help do have not succeeded and we must try to find out why and then how.

I saw Miss Leman this afternoon and she asked about you. A bill from the Blake school came today for books for both boys and use of piano for Thomas. I presume it was all correct and I paid it. I have also paid the fare bill and hope you will like them when they get home. Check for \$150.00 is enclosed for general utility purposes. Also buying fueling for G. V. C. S.
V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dear G. —

Dec. 9. 1913.

We have now been at the stunts for
three days and they don't stunt.

Not a single incident has turned out
just as was expected or hoped. Nothing has
gone normally according to our thinking
which is therefore not good thinking. We
cannot think to give 165 volts then we
try it out and we get first 90 and then without
any change whatever we suddenly get 248
volts — all of which lends variety to an
otherwise not already unexciting existence.

C. D. thinks he may go to Battle Creek
but just when is another and different story.

Mr. Barrows goes tomorrow night.
With love
V

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

Dec. 11. 1913.

Mr. Taylor and I have been putting in another day on Transformer stunts and all we have been able to do is to run down a faulty switch which would seem to account for some but not all of the abnormal results of the week's work. We shall continue the hunt and hope to arrive at something definite next Sunday when it is easier to try experiments than on week days. I cannot see how I can get away this week. Things are piling up and the plot is getting thicker. In a few days I hope to let the water fill up the new reservoir and come on down as far as the surge tank so as to try out that part of the work. The water wheel is set and the generator is now being put together. There is a hole underneath things which is hard to stop up but I think we shall succeed somehow. Altogether you will see that it is a busy time. Tell Thomas to make up his mind what he wants for his birthday and when I come down we will go and buy it.

With love V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

Dec. 12. 1913.

I have just received a letter from mother telling of her safe arrival. She appears to be glad to be in a place with an agreeable climate. As you may imagine, she is receiving appeals for help and she has forwarded one of them to me. Ed's wife went to see him and found he was not getting the attention and care of a special nurse for which they were paying so she decided to take him home again as soon as she could make arrangements.

Mr Taylor thinks he has run down the cause of all the erratic phenomena we have been experiencing and on Sunday we shall try again to make our stunts work.

I hope he is correct and am inclined to think he is and that we shall get the results we want at our next trial.

The lesson seems to be that it is not safe to take anything for granted but you must verify every step of your investigations before proceeding to the next.

The weather is still all we could ask and more than we should expect. Many returns of the day to morning.

V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest -

Dec. 13. 1913.

Another day has gone. I have been at Hot Lake power house nearly all day trying to stop leaks in the slab dam at the bottom of everything. It is a difficult thing to do and I doubt if our efforts have accomplished anything. If not, we shall have to begin all over and take more time and have more patience and devise more accurate and scientific methods. Concrete will not set if there is water pressure going through it. The pressure is there now so our problem is to relieve it in some way until the concrete can have time to set.

Tuesday morning at 4 A.M. Mr. Taylor and a helper begin work on the stunts again at Dayton Hotel. I expect to arrive at the Substation at the leisurely hour of 9 A.M. and he thinks things are going off all right this time. I hope so. Chas. D. had a letter from Geo. W. saying he hopes to have a distribution of money from the estate of David Murray by the end of the month. Mother should get about \$2000. from it and I now have over \$400. for her from the same source. But I fear she will not get much personal benefit. Much love, dearie. U.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dear —

Dec. 15, 1913.

Sam came in just as I was going to write you so now there is not much time before P.O. closing. Yesterday the stunts started. Taylor and the trouble man worked till 2 a.m. this morning and finished today and it works which is satisfying. Next Sunday they have one more transformer to do but they now know how. Today I have been personally conducting 16 men of Wahpeton in automobiles over the Hard Lake circuit. They showed intelligence in a moderate degree only but there was one star citizen who was a banker — not a policeman. Men were created equal but some of them have diverged from the procession. So nothing has been done today toward stopping up the hole and the water still runs.

The marvelous weather still holds. I have asked the Transcript to go to Nels. Are you getting it.

Will you please sign and return the enclosed card and oblige

Yours lovingly
V. A. Wright

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dear Sir -

Dec. 16. 1913.

This morning I first looked over a meager mail and wrote a letter or two and went to the bank. Then I went to Dayton Hollow and laid out some arrangement of poles and lines and then it was dinner time. Afterwards I reclined a bit and then hunted up the board of health consisting of Dr. Tignor, Cyrus Brall and J. W. Masan. Mr. Masan said he didn't consider himself a member so with the other two I went out and inspected the reservoir which is now ready to be filled. They approved and I now have to write the State Board and see if they will let me turn in the water. Then after bringing in the local board I went back to the Hord L. power house for the rest of the afternoon and spent the time with Charley Swenson tinkering with the holes in the underlying slabs. The slabs were very accommodating and reassured me a good deal. I have hopes that they are coming out all right and won't have to be done all over again. That is much - very much to you V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

Dec. 17. 1913.

It was good to hear from you this morning all about the birthday and how Francis saved the day. It was too bad that I. was out up to the mark on the auspicious occasion but I hope he is all right again. Things have been going pretty well again today. The hole seems in a fair way to be stopped in due time which I hope means about two days more. I spend my time back and forth between Dayton Hollow and Hert Lake and am in the office very little. I do not see how I can come down to the cement on Friday so you will have to find a substitute. I expect to come down on the afternoon train arriving at about 10 P.M. Saturday night and will have to come back again Sunday evening by Winnipeg train. Can you send up the deed to John Gauder — with or without sance U. with love,

Dearest —

Dec. 18, 1913.

Nothing in particular happened today but all goes well. Most of my time is passed outdoors so I am glad of the unusual weather. It is warmer today than yesterday and now that we have become accustomed to a little lower temp. it seems like October.

I am preparing to launch our next project which I told you about and wonder how it will strike the good and other people of F.F.

It seems to me that it cannot be ignored and ought to create quite a situation but you never can tell. It may fall flat or be taken as a matter of course. I think now we shall be ready to spring it about Christmas or not later than New Year's so that there will be plenty of time for discussion before spring elections.

V.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest -

Dec. 19, 1913.

I received your letter this morning reminding me that the symphony tickets were in my pocket. I immediately mailed them with a special delivery stamp and they ought to reach you by 7 P.M. this evening.

I hope they will. The orchestra is to play the "Pathétique" on Sunday afternoon and I should like to hear it if it could be managed but not otherwise.

We turned the water of Hoar Lake into the reservoir again today and will let it fill up slowly. Things are going well but the weather is turning cold. It is time and we can't complain. Farewells right at about ten something if the train is not late. Y.

Everna Butler
2004 Crystal Lake Ave
Hawar Brookgrove

THIRTY A MORTAL
LIFE OF A MAN

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest -

Dec. 20. 1913.

Thank you for the two letters - one containing useful and profitable sayings and one containing a dub. It will really be more convenient for me to stay over Sunday in F.F. and then take a longer vacation than to make a hurried trip for Sunday only and then go down for Christmas.

But I cannot come until the evening train on Monday. That will give me Sunday and nearly all of Monday and by that time I hope to feel easy about several now unfinished jobs. There is still a final stint for tomorrow and and the final closing of the spring either tomorrow or the next day. Also by Monday I hope to know that all bills now due - a mountain of them - have been audited and paid so that we can end the year in peace and with reasonably good consciences. Will the enclosed \$150.⁰⁰ do for a few days?

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Frank —

Dec. 26. 1913.

The journey was uneventful after you left us. The children were self possessed and Myra likewise. I sat with her quite a while and she talked easily and apparently without restraint.

It was evidently a strain to arrive in F.F. where numerous friends were waiting. Mrs. Pickett told me that Myra said she didn't want to be talked to just then. There was the bridal party getting off at the same time and Lynn's strident voice rose above everything. Gen. Miles went up to C.G.'s but as they are pretty crowded he will probably come down to C.D.'s.

I am sending readdressed letters from Newport, N.S. (1) New York City (2) Scarsdale (3) N.Y. (1) unknown place in N.Y. (1) Bathmore (1) F.F. (1) making 6 pieces altogether.

I don't see that my coming can be of any use here but it may have served to make the journey a little easier. G.C.M. felt better than yesterday and improved during the day.
With much love U.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

Dec. 27. 1913.

This morning I went up to C.J.'s where I found Aunt Elsie and later the younger members of the family came down. Myra had slept pretty well but was keeping in bed at Dr. Tubman's request. Rella, Geo. Miles and I went out to the cemetery and staked out the location in the family lot for a grave-digger who appeared to be a direct descendant of Hamlet's friend. Then it was nearly noon and I came back to C.D.'s. This afternoon I went to the power house. Carlton, Mary and Hazel are expected tonight and will fill all the spare rooms at C.D.'s so if you find you can come I will ask Mrs. Adams to take you in and have no doubt she will be glad to do so.

The younger generation are proving themselves all you could expect or ask. They don't lose their heads but take their responsibilities like enlightened human beings. Your v

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest -

Dec. 28. 1913.

This has been a rather busy day. This morning I took the four milers up to C.J.'s. Then they gave me the job of taking a lot of Spruce boughs out to the Cemetery to cover over the excavated earth pile. The Spruce had been cut from their own yard behind the barn. It was necessary to go back to town to get burlap to spread over my automobile so that the pitch would not get all over it. Then I loaded the machine full and as high as it would hold and drove out. The wind was cold and it took a long time but the work kept me warm. It was time to take the party back to C.D.'s for dinner when the job was done. Afterwards I took them back again and we all went out to see if I had done the job properly. - which I think I had. I saw Myra for a little while. She has been kept in bed since she got home and has rested and slept pretty well. She has hardly seen anyone except the family. The burial after the funeral service at the house is to be attended by the family only which seems to me a good plan. As I have not heard from you I have to assume

that you are unable to find anyone to take care of
the children and let you sit away. The three
younger Milnes are going down tomorrow evening
and Majorie Adams is going with them. Mrs. Adams
wanted to know if you could take care of M. for a
day or two. I told her I knew you would like to but
didn't know whether Miss Bumbant was still occupying
our only spare room. If you can't take her she
can go ~~to~~ with Mary for Geo. is not going down
for a day or two. Mrs. Eggleston has'nt room
just now. I am hoping to come down again
Wednesday evening & stay for the rest of the week.
Catherine says I say is to stay at the convent
on Friday. That will be great for we U.

VERNON A. WRIGHT
FERGUS FALLS, MINNESOTA

Dearest —

Dec. 30, 1913.

The funeral went off all right. Myra was up but did not go to the cemetery. Dr. Freeman wanted her to keep quiet and see nobody but I understand that she is up again today.

I have been working up final details of my letter to the mayor about the F.F. lighting business and in a few minutes the dye will be dyed by dropping it in the P.O. Will Robertson has his copy and this afternoon I explained the thing to him so that he could write up an intelligent article about it. He is going to show me the proof.

Naturally I am somewhat on the "qui vive" and not fit for much other business. So I shall be glad to visit with my family again for a few days. Geo. C. will go down with me on the 5:10 tomorrow evening and I shall expect to see you about 10:30 if at home. U.