

Centralia

Oct. the 13th, 1889

Dear Uncle and Aunt,

It's with much pleasure I try to answer you of recent date. Was glad to hear from you once more. This leaves me well and hope will find you the same. Well Dave Brown was at Mothers the last time they wrote and Frank the last time he wrote to me was at Mr. Mageres on the same old farm that Dan and John rented when they went to Tex. Franks address is Williamson Co., Tex. Dan's is Denison, Tex. Well the last time I heard from home, Dan and Mother and George was trying to sell out to come here. I sent Dan money to bring him and his family out. He got broke there on farming, so I look for him any day to come here, but have not heard from him for about 2 months. Think he is waiting for George and Mother to come too. You wanted me to tell you about this country after seeing all the country from Ind. to Tex. and from Tex. here, I like this best of all. California is a fine looking country, but it's a poor place for a poor man. With money you can do well there, but a man can do well here with money or without, if he will work. There is not much farming done here. The timber and coal mines is what the working people bank on. Wages are from 2 to \$5.00 per day. Carpenters get from 2 to \$4.00 per day and lands are improved lands, are high but there is plenty homesteads here. Yet good lands as ever were back from town aways.

The homestead law requires a person to be on the land and do some work on it every 6 months. A person can work for a living and hold a claim too, I think. 160 acres of this timber land when you get a deed for it will be worth \$2,000. to any man who wants a home. You ought to see some of this timber. I've been logging for 8 weeks at \$2.00 per day and there is plenty of trees that makes 5 logs 40 ft. long. Good timber not saying anything of the top. It has been the prettiest summer here this season, I ever saw. It never gets hot or cold here in the West, M.T., the hottest day was 106 and only one day at that. We have a great deal of cloudy weather in the winter and rains a mist often, but never storms or thunders much. I have heard it thunder about 4 times this season at a distant rumble. Well as it's getting late, I will close by saying, excuse me for neglecting writing sooner, for I've been very busy.

As ever yours,

H.A. Dossor

Give me some rhymes suitable for me to write to my little duck. Thanks for the one you wrote the other time.

Oh, Yes, Aunt, I've forgot to tell you I'm keeping house all by my self--batching and haveing a fine time. Come over and see me. So Good-night.

(this letter was written to Francis Marion Trowbridge)