

The Limberlost  
49 Meadows

Dear Homefolks:

You have my first letter by this time I'm sure and know the whys of the delay in hearing from us children.

I'm going to take up the story of our life just where I stopped before if I can do so so that you will know just how it goes with us from day to day.

The boys were over before they left for town. I think I told you they were here when I wrote you before. Mr. Fleming left with them that morning, stayed all night with them and went to town with them Sunday morning. Dynamite went to Clarkia, and peace reigned on the Meadows. Sunday morning Myrtle and I started over to the "Limberlost." We passed Bills trap line on the way and in the first trap was a martin. We went over to Mrs. Taylor's then to tell Bill about it. Mrs. T. was quite cordial and bestowed upon us both an affectionate little bird peck. We had dinner and then started for home. Bill came over with us to get the martin.

The following Thursday Bill came over and reported enough lumber made to put up my cupboard and bed and wanted us to come over Friday and over see the making. Also the Boys got back and brought us the mail. They brought Bills mail in too and established peace with the "Crescent Lodge" inmates. The boys had trouble, I mean Bill and Hanzen and Larson, while we were gone. They dug up all the old scores and hacked each other to pieces. They were powerfully angry still but when they all met here Thursday they swallowed their ire and tried to be pleasant. When Bill found they had brought his mail in to him (He was not so kind when he went out) he was quite repentant.

The Boys have treated us just fine. They have been princely since we returned. Bill has been good too. The boys get our wood, carry water when they are here, bring us the mail, and make themselves generally useful. Why folksies they brought we'uns some gum and a half dozen oranges from Avery besides bringing in all the things we had then that we wanted. Art Larson brought my pack sack in for the use of it later.

After we get our work done we read or sew. I've not been able to knit any as yet. I cut my finger while cutting bread and it catches on the yarn, so I'll have to wait until it is well. I've been working on the lunch cloth.

I made bread the other day, it was very good. Myrtle baked today and was very successful. We'll be cooks yet, at least we can cook prunes and beans, such bean soup as I can make and such baked beans as we put up out of the remainder.

Sunday the Boys came over again, and Dynamite was with them. He had just got in from Clarkia and guess what he brought us! Well it was nuts and oranges. Say not don't tell me we are not the most popular girls at the Meadows. He says the trail is passable for horses to the old Tamarack cabin near White Rock, but from there in there is mountains of snow. He helped make garden at Clarkia.

The Boys and Marsden/Dynamite have gone over to Hemlock this week to get some traps. They took my pack sack and are going to bring over some of my pans, dishpans flour etc as they come back. Dynamite has planned a trip to Clarkia for some eggs for Easter if it doesn't storm so we may have eggs and a lemon pie (The boys have a hankering for a lemon pie) some day next week. Easter may be prosponed indefinitely out here but we will have it eventually. I forgot to mention that the Boys brought us three flowers from Avery. They picked them along the trail at the St Joe, pressed them and brought them in to show us that spring was really on its way.

It has been snowing all day, it cleared up about seven and at present (nine thirty) we are having an electric storm. I can imagine what you have had out there. It seems so funny to see the lightning and hear the thunder when every thing is covered with snow. The snow is about four feet deep and packed solid. We haven't used our snow shoes but once since we came in.

I wrote Miss Caldwell a good long letter today. Bill expects to leave Wednesday (Apr. 12.) for Avery.

I wonder what you all are doing? How are the preparations for the trip progressing? Have you help? Have you the girls sewing under way? How is your silk dress looking? Is Daddy to have a new suit and a new tie? Write me all the particulars.

Did you forget to tell Mrs. Cozier that I called, and please don't forget we borrowed two eggs from her to make a jelly roll.

How's Ernest and the cow making it by this time. Does he fall short any more?

What do you think of me selling the stone and timber? Is it best. I really need the money and I also need all I can get out of it. If I had it I'd spend it. If I keep the claim I'll probably loose also. So whats a fellow to do? I don't want to sell for less than \$1800 or \$2000 if I can get it and I'd like as much more as their charitableness will allow. Would you include the land in the sale or only the timber. I'd like to raise sheep or run a monkey ranch there some day, if it didn't make too much difference in the price for the same. I'll leave it to your judgement Daddy but squeeze out all you can for me, and then I'll pay you back. Would it be any use to have the claim estimated. If I have anything left after I get through paying up old scores I'd like to put it out, but not in mining stock. ha!ha!

Say, does the same rule hold in stone and timbers ~~that~~ as in Homesteads? that is, if you don't take 160 together, can you take enough after wards to complete the 160 allowed you? I was just wondering about it, and have no way of deciding.

Tuesday.

Bill was over this afternoon and cut us some more wood. Myrtle and I will try our muscle on the saw soon. The storm last night proved to be an old fashion snow storm heralded by thunder and lightning. We have about six inches of fresh snow this morning. The Boys will be out about the first of May for the mail. After that just as soon as a horse can be brought in, Hanzen will be out to Moscow for his.

Write soon and tell me all the news.

Mother, I want some drapery for the cabin. I want enough to cover the bed when against the wall, for a cover for a large sized lounge or window seat and for side curtains to the window and possibly a cushion cover. The bed is large I think it will take about six yards for the cover. I can make the cover do for the curtain to the end of the bed and use the big red curtain for the side curtain. I got the burlap out and measured today and there's only three yards, not enough for a cover or curtain. It will take quite a lot of the material, get some thing light tan and red or yellow or green or any old color just so it is pretty and as cheap as possible and can be used either lengthwise cross wise or upside down. We have used up all our ink and are down to the leadpencils. Doesn't it seem strange to get a letter written in pencil from me.

I'm enclosing a model letter authorizing papa to do as he pleases with the claim. My how very business like.

Girls, I want you to write to me and look out for the coming examinations.

Lovingly  
Iona

April 11. 1911.

Envelop addressed to Mrs. W. Adair, Moscow, Idaho. Two-cent red stamp. Stamped by Post Office in AVERY, IDAHO: APR 13 A.M. 1911

Back of envelope date stamped: MOSCOW, IDAHO, APR14 12:30P 1911