

Wellsville, Ohio

Jan 2.05

Dear Papa: --

Your letter of Dec 2nd arrived in due time and I will take advantage of a few spare moments to answer it. Am glad to hear that you had such a pleasant trip over and that you and Margaret find Italy so attractive. It certainly must be a beautiful country and some of these days when my ship comes in I hope to go over there too. Just now however Motion Power Matters in the rail road are tacking up most of my time. There have not been any changes in the road thus far that affect me although a good many were rumored for the first of the year. None appear to have been made.

I am quite well and strong again and have been for a long time and my weight is about usual possibly a little more than before I was sick. Sent two days in Washington at Christmas and now Aunt Lena and the girls and Sid Reg and Frank were there too. It was really quite a large gathering of Henrys and three colleges represented. Boston Tech, U of V and Lehigh but luckily they did not get scrapping over their various colleges and the gathering passed off pleasantly.

When I got off the train in Pittsburgh [Tanaerass?] my friend the ambulance surgeon from the Mercy Hospital who was waiting for some victims. I told him how glad I was not to be "it" but he wanted but me to ride up with him anyhow, but I decided that one ride of that kind was enough for a long time and I had had mine last summer.

Have been spending the day at Cambridge a small and very inaccessible [sic] town where we have a small shop that I have to visit once or twice a month just to see if it is still on the map, found that no one had made way with it since my last visit. We have been having a great deal of trouble with the engines on account of the very long spell of dry weather. The streams were all so reduced in volume that it had the effect of concentrating the acids etc in the water which of course has been making the boilers leak like sieves.

It has been remarkably mild thus far and I certainly do hope that we will escape the large siege of cold that we had last year. The physical discomforts are bad enough but the difficulties in operating a rail road in severe winter weather are far worse.

Jean and Rob are comfortably settled in their apartment and I hope to run on some Sunday soon and spend the day with them. Sid made them a short visit and says they have an awfully comfortable cozy place. Am going up to Cleveland Thursday to take in a small "stag" party at which the Mayor and some other local "big bugs" will be present.



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It is being given by a customer who does a good deal of work for the road and is a good deal of a character. In years gone by he used to be a hack driver and delights in telling all about it.

Well it is pretty late and I must say good night. Best wishes for a Happy New Year to you and Margaret.

Your affectionate son

Will

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