

[1884-03-04; letter, no envelope; Seth Sears to father Nathan:]

Quincy. Mass. Mch 4 / 84

My dear Father,

The wheel of time continues to buzz and many more days have elapsed than I intended should before I wrote to you. It is now 9.15. Have been working this eve on tomorrow's program and looking over some examinations which I have prepared for the Supt. Mr. Aldrich has requested all the teachers in town to make out a set of questions for their own grade, from which sets he will select a sufficient number for our final examinations this term. These papers are to be passed in by next Sat. Mine are already for copying [page]

We had a delegation of four teachers from Canton and two from Dedham, visiting us this P.M. One of them was a snow-plow in Canton last winter. It is the first large representation we have had from any town since I have been here. Being a little removed from the depot, we are not as easy to access as some of the other schools in town. Supt. A. came with them.

The town had its annual town meeting last Monday. Faxon succeeded well on "No License" the vote being about 400 Yes's and 1000 No's. Most of the excitement in the caucuses was over the nomination of a lady on the school committee. The [page] town has been very conservative on the subject heretofore. The women came out successful this year and Mrs. Claflin, I understand, was elected.

In this town all the officers are elected on the same ballot, the polls being open all day, as in a state election. There were eight different ballots in circulation, Monday, varying from each other in a few or many officers, or candidates rather.

Faxon has made the town a present of two stone watering troughs, on condition that they be supplied with water from the newly laid water pipes.

The fire department made a test of the hydrants a week or two ago and found the force of the water was very good, - the jet from the hose was sent [page] nearly as far as the engine could force its stream.

The point will be obliged to await warm weather before it can enjoy the luxury of water pipes in action.

School remains in session for this term, three weeks after this.

The thought has come into my mind, that as Henry has been up so recently and Minnie is coming in a week or so, that I might not go home during vacation. Probably I shall however. Have you anything in particular that I can do for you during my week off? If you have, just say the word and I shall be only too glad to do it. Should you desire me to go home for anything whatsoever, I will not consider [page] the proposition that came into my mind, and I may not as it is. Received a letter from Henry last night in which he said that Min was coming up in a week and that Harry had decided that he would remain at home. A place more enjoyable than the city to him, - and to a good many other people also.

Decided not to buy Exp. Co. at present. Bought 3 shs. At. Top. & Santa Fe last sat. at 78½, ½ better than my first lot. Did I write that I had rec'd a div of \$1.50 per share on the first? I had nearly concluded to purchase A.P. stock; but every one, whom I asked, recommended what I finally invested in.

Elsie and I passed Sund. in [page] Camb. E. thinks of going to Bine's this week, ass she has not passed a single Sund. there since she has been in Quincy. I expect to lose Elsie at the end of this term. She complains of not feeling strong, and thinks it is the best policy to give up in time. I am, at present, doing my best to find some strong teacher who will be able to fill her place. She spoke to Mr. A. last Fri. and he could raise no objection to her resigning if her health was poor. She has an open offer of a school in Quincy at any future time. I am pleased that I satisfied Mr. A. in filling the first vacancy that occurred under my jurisdiction, as I shall feel at more liberty to make recommendations in the future. In fact he has left it with me to choose E's successor. [page; remainder in margins]

Have you been in Denver as you planned?

We are having Clear cold weather now. Such a change from a fortnight ago.

Had the "cold abscess" on my neck cut by Dr. Stephens Sund. and my neck is as limber as an eel, comparatively speaking. Am also taking iodide of Iron in the form of pills. Thrice a day, after each meal.

How is the lumber business now? Have bought my 2nd half ton of coal this week. (One ton during the winter is not bad.)

Please write if I can do anything for you in any way.

Love to all, S. S.

Good morning, and good by –



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