

Haines Falls, N.Y.

29 Nov. 07

Dear Anna,

Notwithstanding our arrangement about writing, I take the liberty of writing before the receipt of yours, just to say that I am still here, and altho' our letters will probably cross, yet I will answer yours soon after the receipt of it. As soon as the train was out of sight, we drove off & went to an old Dutch farmer's house, where we stopped for dinner. Jack Hummel was his name & the supper was served in genuine Dutch style, salt pork, honey, apple sauce, pickles & strong cheese, the latter so strong that it tired out my tongue & almost got the best of my stomach, but after a few mouthful (or mouthfuls) I got used to it & finally quite enjoyed it. However we left there at 6:30 & reached Dedrick's Hotel at Palenville about 9 o'clock & there we fed the horse again & emptied the cider barrel. And I tell you the cider was good, not so

good as we drank there some eight hours before, but yet very good. We drank to your memory & about 10 started up the mountain. Jack was so "leg-weary" that we walked all the way home except where we went on a level, & you may know that was only a small share of the journey. On the way up the wind began to blow & the rains descended, but when we got home at 11.30 we were not much wet, but only sleepy. It took about 10 minutes to rouse the folks up & when Pete came in, Mrs. H. gave him his midnight lecture for saying he would be home at 9.

I didn't wait for the final scene, but sneaked out & went to bed. I didn't see Venus this morning, for it was after seven when I was rudely awakened by the dulcet-toned bell & I couldn't have seen her, even if I had been awake for it was storming & now at noon the ground is covered with hail & snow & it is snowing hard.

I'm glad you went yesterday, that is for your own convenience, for it will be

"Bummo mucky, Mr. Candy, says Kate, as at last she found the asking word —"

pretty tough going down the clove today. Just after breakfast, we lassoed the omnivorous porker & much against his will, too, but it was no use to object, & now he is hanging in the barn & is "the prettiest hog you ever did see". Now, when you come up again at Xmas, you can have some fine salt pork, for he is a dandy. Mrs. H. says she feels lonesome, & if she feels lonesome, what do you suppose my condition is? But Kate has given me the baby to rock so I presume I shall have something to occupy my mind with.

Your last letter is unanswered, so I'll read it over & see what there is to answer — Yes, I think you can get over to the afternoon train on Sunday, that is if Pete is agreeable, if not well walk. If your "Dayles" are as handsome as the last ones I saw, they must be very handsome. I have secured the front seats on the stage, for you & I am sure you will find the driver a very fine, agreeable fellow, & attentive to business, I

of this sheet of paper, but I'll save the rest for
with time, so affecting your dear Anna
Believe me,
Sincerely yours
Hiram Crosby

don't see any other questions to answer, so if
Isabel will quit bawling for a few min-
utes, I will try to go off on my own account.

The enclosed, I found in your room. They
were the only things I found except lots of pleas-
ant memories, but I shall retain these for my
own use. I came near spelling "use"
with a "y." I'm going to stop now, for I

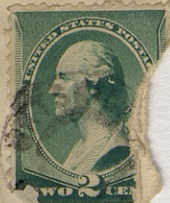
haven't the "inspiration" necessary for writing,
& will only bore you with trash, but "some-
day it will happen" that I shall feel more
lithesome & gay & then I shall spoil some
Irish linen to better advantage. But since

your departure, there is an aching void, some-
where about me & I haven't the ambition to
go to work. So today I'm "keeping Sunday" & am
going to loaf. Oh! why did you give that

horn to Johnny? He has blown it so much
this morning that there is nothing left but
a tin whistle.

Big rooster fight this
morning! I saw the crowd over at Charlie's,
but was busy & couldn't get away. But if

you come up on Texas, I'll get up another
one for your benefit, & I'll also guarantee
you a sleigh ride. Oh! dear, here I am to the end



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