

because of overweights.

Be careful about the weight of your letters. I have repeatedly had to pay eighteen cents postage on a letter

Rockledge, Sept. 18, 1873.

My dear Fanny:

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On Thursday, 5th inst., Frank and I purchased excursion tickets to North Conway, intending to remain there during our absence; William following us in a subsequent train. I had not been there for thirty years, when my travelling companion was the late N. P. Rogers. It is a charming location, and the views in every direction of a grandly mountainous nature. As neither William nor Frank had been to the summit of Mount Washington, we concluded to push on to the Glen House, whence the ascent is made on a good road evincing marvellous engineering skill, in a carriage drawn by six horses. We were fortunate in having a genial day, and in getting some very clear views in every direction. We found that the little shanty, called "The Tip-Top House," had been superseded by a first-class hotel, furnished very handsomely, and offering such inducement to tourists to remain over night that sometimes more than two hundred

had been accommodated at once. Think of sumptuously feeding such a throng at such an altitude! We remained up two or three hours, and came down in less than half the time it took to make the ascent. Next, we concluded to go to the Gorham House, where William was to leave us by rail for Portland, on business. He urged us so strongly to go to Jefferson, and afterward to the Franconia Notch, that we changed our programme accordingly, but only to change it again almost immediately - substituting Montreal, Lake Champlain and Lake George, a trip that Frank and I had long been projecting. Montreal fully met our expectations as a beautifully located, handsomely built, and well laid out city; and hiring a carriage, we saw much of it in a short time, enjoying the drive around the mountains greatly. We dined with our friends Philip Carpenter and his wife, who gave us an enthusiastic reception. He is educating more than twenty young lads, to whom I was particularly recommended by their teachers, and whom I addressed in a few words by request.

Leaving Montreal by rail, and crossing the majestic St. Lawrence on the wonderful Victoria bridge, we rode to Rouse's Point, where we took the steamer and sailed down the noble Lake Champlain to Ticouderoga, where we took stage for Lake George, and were soon gliding along upon its placid surface to our destined stopping-place at the other end - a distance of 36 miles. Frank (as well as many another tourist) had raised my expectations to a high pitch as to the beauty of the Lake and the grandeur of the scenery, but they were more than realizable. On every hand the mountains hold the lovely Lake in their colossal embrace, coming down to the water's edge; and though they will not compare in height and grandeur with those that encircle Lucerne, they are nevertheless exceedingly fine. I do not remember whether Harry went over the route I have mentioned; but if he did, I think he will admit that Lake George may favorably compare with Lake Como, or any other of a similar size. We were gone nine days, at an expense of \$160. for the two - much greater than a similar excursion would have cost us abroad. But

we did not begrudge the money, as we were amply repaid. My only drawback was a cold, of the influenza type, caught on the Lake, which still clings to me, though improving. Frank gained three or four pounds in weight, fattening fast.

You have sent us some very descriptive accounts of your mountain ascents, reaching a height much beyond that of Mount Washington; but we feel that you will be lucky indeed if no permanent injury to your system follow. You ought not to be persuaded to undertake on foot excursions so exhaustive and perilous; for, remember, when you once fairly break down, a long time will be required for your recovery. That Harry can endure so much fatigue is surprising, and still more gratifying. O that the noises in his ^{head} might be quickly exercised!

Preparations are going on for George's and Annie's wedding, and handsome presents are multiplying. There will be a large company present—among them Wendell and Lucy, of course. The event is to come off October 1st. — Your mother is much improved in health. Love and kisses for the dear ones. Your loving Father.