

Home, March 12th / 91

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Rallas Texas.

My Dear Mother: - Your
dear letter came to hand a day or two
since, and I take advantage of this
the first opportunity I have had to re-
ply. If sympathy will do you any good,
my dear boy, be assured of con loads
of it. You were blue indeed, but I am
equally so. I presume you have heard
from the home folks that the board
have dropped me from the faculty of
Addams University. They try to ease
my wounded feelings by saying it is
only to curtail expense and not be-
cause of any objection to me or my
work. Small comfort in this. I will
keep asking "Why should my department
be dropped rather than some other? Is
it of less importance to the school? I
cannot think so since more than two-
thirds of the entire collegiate pupils
have had lessons with me during
the past five years, and today I
have more names on my roll
book than any other teacher in
school. But why need I question,
since there is no one to answer

my questions? I am afraid Addie
dear, that this move will interfere
with our western trip, and I regret
that, for I had my heart set on being
with you all summer and sharing
with you the joys of the life we both
love so much. Of course now I shall
have to spend the summer hunting
a new place for work. I do not wish
to teach if I can help it but more
than likely I shall have to content
myself with a small school some-
where in the backwoods. Not a very de-
lightful prospect, eh? Ah well there!
Let it go. Throw all care to the wind.
It aches me to worry, and I do not
want to grow old, of all things.

Suppose I suggest a line of life
work for you? Oh, no, my boy, and don't
you be in any hurry to choose. There
is plenty of time. Whatever you do, do
not enter upon anything as a life
work without abundance ^{of interest} and enthus-
iasm. Especially let it be so with
preaching. As you know, my dear,
that is just the reason I did not
continue a preacher: You know I
began, but it was in a listless
half-hearted way, and I said, "I will

not do anything so im- [redacted] unless
I can put my back to [redacted] and
my highest interest [redacted] enthusiasm
into it. So I quit, and that was worse
than never to have begun. Profit by
my experience and be very careful.
Horn along for yet awhile, and by
and by your life work will present it-
self and you will be so anxious to begin
it that you will not pause a moment
to consult with anyone as to the pro-
prietty of it. I thank you for your in-
vitation to visit you, and sometime
next month when the days grow warm
and it is ~~almost~~ impossible to stay
in doors I shall accept, and come for
a day or two. Speaking of warm days
though leads me to remember that today
old Borras Bluster has been cutting
up the most outrageous promises. Threats
of a heavy sleet & snow storm on
the 12th of March, when flowers
should be blooming, birds singing
and dame Nature arraying herself
in her gayest gown of Spring green.
I suppose we must make up our
minds to go another year without fruit,
as those who ought to know about
such things declare that it is surely

"done for." Yes, I got the photo, and
could have had myself for nothing
acknowledging its receipt and thanking
you for it in my last letter. Please do not
think, "son" that it was for lack of
appreciation that I did not. Nothing
I have received for many days has
given me so much pleasure. My
mind was so full of the western
trip, when I wrote last that every
thing else was or the more likely
forgotten. Aunt Alice admired the
little scene cards you sent that she
took them from me at once, and
says she means to keep them. Mrs.
Florence Davis is quite sick at her home
at Caspiano, and Alice thinks of going
over there next week. You know she
just came home three weeks ago from
a month's visit to Galveston, McKinney,
and other places and I shall be sorry
to have her go away again so soon, but
of course under the circumstances
she ought to go. Now Addie I have
scribbled enough. Pardon pencil
writing, and write to me real soon.
Lovingly,
Uncle Tommie