

Lida Lyman to daughter, Cecile

Apr 28, 1912

Dear Children, Just dark and trying to rain, thunder in the distance and has been all day. Ed over working for Pa today he will work for us as often as we need him. He hasn't forgotten how to work on a Michigan farm. Has his phone on our line so we can talk anytime, it's lots of company for us. I was sorry that Edgar took theirs out. Edgar working by the day among the farmers around them. Grace hasn't been home in some time, no way to come. A very poor house they live in now, but they will fix it some. Poor girl I am afraid she will have to move all her life, but she doesn't complain. Everyone is well here, don't know of any sickness in this section. Ed's folks and us go to Ganges together on Decoration Day. A crowd turns out there just as they used to do. Can buy our dinner, Ladies Aid sell it I am getting so I hate to cook to carry away from home, not because I am getting stingy but I don't like to fuss with it as I once did, and now days more chance to buy dinners. How I wish you all could go with us. Mr Swank gave us a very good sermon last Sunday on Memorial Day, house was full. Park Falls is not old enough to take in such days. One must be born to those things. It seems so nice to hear Ed's voice as I go to and fro out talking to his father. Since Ed has come it seems as tho the rest of you must surely come too. I wonder if Cecile has moved. I am afraid they, Cecile and Lauren will never come back in our day. But I will change the subject. It will soon be bedtime and I can't go to sleep if those things are too strong in my mind, I will change the subject, went to South Haven yesterday to buy a new hat, did not buy one last summer. I had to pay four dollars for it, but it is quite nice. The milliner I buy from is a Leslie girl, Miss Hocking is her name. She knows all my tribe there they live next neighbour to Bell Young Lombard. I look forward to seeing the Leslie folks this summer as the Regimental Reunion is in Jackson in JULY and if well we will surely go perhaps we can get May and Ed to come and keep house for us for several days, if we all keep well. It doesn't matter if things fail one can enjoy thinking about them. Guy will be 70 years old the 23 of June and will draw 25 dollars a month Uncle Sam is good to his soldiers. While I think of it, Etta you write to Maggie Styles she thinks so much of a letter and I know it will please her very much. Her address is Rives Junction, MI R2. I hope Rankin is well again. A good thing for children to have measles when young they are sure to come some time in most people's lives. Very little sickness here that I know of at present. Did I write you Earl Weed married one of the Fowler girls I think her name is Bessie but not sure. I don't know her at all they live in the

house across and south of Elmer Carters, Earl works with his father. Old lady Weed alive and not changed any, I haven't seen her in over a year. I am glad you are in Ed's house I can see you moving around the looks of the house is clear to me. I liked Miss Walters, she is good company. I would like to have a boarder like her. I thought her mother such a nice looking woman. I only saw her once. It is after nine, time always flies when I write often. We want to go to town and see Nina before Strawberry time but may not get there she has so much milk to take care of she cant get away to come home. Dont look for her this summer. Mrs. Ireys might take care of the milk for Nina to come home a few days but dont think she and her husband have gone somewhere else to live now. I may add a little in the morning haven't much to do tomorrow, that is I have the bread making and ironing done so feel quite free, now bed.

morning:

Quite rainy, hope it wont rain tomorrow. I see by looking at the first of my letter that I have written the same thing twice but let it go it dont make any difference. I write so much that it is a wonder I write any thing right. I think Ed misses Roy very much, he speaks of him often. Pa just gone to Hawkhead to have a horse shod. I thought I would go as far as edd's until he came back but it rains some and I gave it up. Etta, I have two quilt tps finished for you and will commence another this afternoon, and that wont finish up the pieces. I think they look quite nice they will help you remember the goods you sewed when you were first married, but if you live to 43 years married as we are it will seem only a short time after all. But it seems queer to think Cecile will be 42 her next birthday. We let our coal stove go out last night and it is cold this morning but will put up our summer stove this afternoon perhaps. We dont like to be cold in the evening. Of course you will send this to Cecile. I found this envelope in the desk, to bad to waste it, so will send my letter in it. Time to pare potatoes for dinner. Wish I could see Rankin coming down the line from Bardens for dinner. Now I must close. The same letter will do for both families. Roy take writing as easy as you can but dont give it up while I live. I will not stop as long as my hand will hold a pen.

with ;ove, Mother