

North Head, Land Manau, A. B.

Aug. 6, 1924.

Dear Walter & Ned,

I have been very remiss in writing
to you & the only excuses I have to offer
~~are~~ that not having gone to any new
place I have not any adventures of
discovery to relate, and also because
Mrs Townsend has been so poorly & I
have devoted a good deal of time to
her & have not felt much like
writing. However, she is I think,
beginning to improve so that my
mind is more at rest. Now
this letter will have to do for you
both and as I am sending it
in order of serenity please, Walter
send it off to Ned when you
have read it.

As had already known I spent
most of May & June at Petushan
& enjoyed that splendid forest
very much with its bits of
Canadian flora & fauna. There

were Myrtle & Magnolia umbellata,
Black-Strawberry Blue, Black-burnian
& Canadian Umbellata inside several
other northern birds. I never

saw such a display of flowering
trees & shrubs - The Red bushes &
later the wild red cherries & hobble bushes.
The pink azaleas were particularly
fine & abundant & very late the
Mountain laurels -

I had an interesting time with
a family of Pileated Woodpeckers,
splendid great birds

2

The Harvard forest comprises
some 1700 acres & there are splendid
woods of white pine. I saw
something of Richard Foster who
is in charge, but he was
busy with his students most
of the time.

I went up to Boston for
my class dinner & Commencement
both of which I enjoyed very
much & I spent a night
in Belmont with my really
Uncle Sam Grandson John
Sutherland.

I also had
a very pleasant time at the
New Clear House in Hampscot
one evening where I was invited

by the Mass. Library Club to give a
talk on Labrador & found them a
very appreciative audience. After
this there was story-telling and
games and an amusing &
pleasant time was had by all.
The next morning I went to Iqrook
& spent several days with my
really remarkable granddaughter
Frances Taber.

Here at Grand Manan I
have seen nothing very remarkable
among the birds & have added only
two to my last summer list. We
have had very pleasant weather &
it has been exceedingly dry as
everywhere so that a fire in the
woods near the village caused
much alarm. It was fortunately
near the sea & forming a line
of about 35 men, we passed rubbers

3
buckets of salt-water up through
a rocky gorge & the ground was
soaked, but it took a long time
to put out the fire which was
burning underground. It was a
picturesque sight.

Everybody talks herring here.
One weir caught 45 hogheads of
them this morning - quite a fortune -
but they are picky fish & keep away
most of the time. However,
there is no telling when they may
appear. Hundreds of dollars
were lost last Sunday as herring
entered some of the weirs, but
the law does not allow them
to be seized on that day. So
after a while they took themselves off.

The law is at last being enforced
here against Eggins & great is
the indignation of the people who
have taken Gulls Eggs as their
natural right for generations. I
am working up a paper on it and
am much interested. Robie Lufts,
Chief Migratory Bird Officer for the
Maritime Provinces was here the
other day & dined with me, but
he made but a short stay.

When Mrs. Townsend is better I
hope to go out to the Gull Islands
to stay with the Life Savings men
for a few days.

I am trying to learn something
about ferns and have succeeded

in identifying about fifteen here, but I
suppose there are lots more. The
long beech fern is abundant & very
pretty and I know of a few places
where the little oak fern grows.
I have been puzzled by some of the
ferns & have sent them off to
Hensley for identification & hope
to hear from him soon. Tomorrow
I am planning to go to an Entomologist
by near a pond where I hope
to find something interesting botanically
as well as entomologically.

I hope you are both well &
flourishing & I am looking forward
to hearing from you both.
Yours as ever,
Charles W. Townsend.



Townsend, Charles Wendell. 1924. "Townsend, Charles Wendell Aug. 6, 1924."
Walter Deane correspondence

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