

rec'd
July 21

Clearview Inn
Grand Pré, N.S.

July 23, 1926

Dear Walter.

We reached here yesterday - "the Land of
Evangeline". As I write, I look from ~~the~~ the
elevation of this simple Nova Scotia home over
thousands of acres of level grass land which make
up "le grand pré" as far as the eye can reach -
It yields heavy crops of grass - heads - red top -
timothy & clover, red & white - and seems to be
counted quite valuable land - though the soil
seems to be rather heavy, ~~clay~~ ^{100%}. I am told that
it has a market value of $\frac{1}{2}$ - 4 and 500 - per
acre - 2 acres recently changed hands at \$500.
per acre. The valley is several miles broad - and
is margined by parallel lines of low hills.

We look back upon our stay at Sandy Cove with
some regret for having left it. We miss its bold
character - its soft but bracing out-to-sea air
its greater freedom from cultivation, its unsophistic-
ation. After Annapolis - We came through a
country of many apple trees - which with strawberries
and perhaps some other fruits & vegetables - are
produced in considerable quantities - notably the first
named - of which many are exported - and here
where we are - we are in the midst of many
orchards - occupying the hillside. Vegetationally -
botanically - the region, since leaving Digby - is too like
our home surroundings to be exciting. We might as
well be in our own home village - so far as novelty
are concerned. Historically & its course different -
and so, interesting. While Longfellow indulged himself

very freely along imaginative lines - he has interested
the region with peculiar interest - and from time to
time we are impressed by the tragedy and pathos
of real events. One of the reminders of those sorry
and deplorable ^{things} ~~events~~ - is the little - quite tiny indeed -
church, standing before me in the meadow - sharp
in its roof - and spire - relatively tall - said to be duplicating
some what closely in general - the early structure of the
Acadians - We have yet to visit it.

We stopped by less than 24 hours in Annapolis Royal
but long enough to gratify in some degree our interest
in the place which perhaps saw the first settlement
of white men north of the ~~bay~~ Spanish settlements.
Well marked evidences of the almost earliest fortifica-
tions are there - the ramparts - bastions - dry moat -
powder house etc - including a ~~very~~ dating from the
early half of the 17th Century - and including a building -
officers' barracks - of the 18th which has been
recovered from its dilapidated condition and occu-
pied by colored families - and is now a repository
of interesting relics of the early years - through the
devoted interest of an enthusiast who, retired from
active service in the government - makes his home
there - Mr. Fortier - himself of French descent, we
had a pleasant visit with him and with him
breakfasted - The settlement dates from 1604-5
and we drove yesterday am. to almost the very spot
where the first fort was established - ~~to~~ to
be vacated soon after for that now marked as
above indicated - by the earthworks etc. still remaining.

Our leaving there yesterday was preceded by a period
of some uncertainty - Our train was due Harris at
12:19 - Before that hour - we heard that there had
been a train wreck - resulting probably in delay to
our train - However - we went to the station - and in
about due time there arrived an engine - with baggage
car - and a combination baggage & smoker - which

which train had been made up a few miles below - this side of the wreck - Though there was some uncertainty as to how far this train would take us - we boarded it - and, as it turned out - were landed at our station - On the train we learned that an ox that had waded onto the track was the cause of the damage - which, tho no one was injured was a serious one in damage to cars and track - causing a delay to trains of some ten hours.

Sunday, July 25 - I was interrupted in my writing which I will now resume. The intervening days have been quiet, restful ones - We have driven about and have walked about some - I am constantly impressed with the absence of novelties - of a botanical nature - We sometimes think that the farther we go from home - the greater will be the change vegetatively - It is not so in this experience - I might as well, almost be walking in an old home field and road. For, with little exception - the open land is cultivated, even the great marshes - being devoted to cultivated crops - almost exclusively hay - of which there are heavy yields. Of course if I got about more I should no doubt find some what different conditions. But forests of red & white spruce and fir - are not very abundant in their undergrowth while the estuaries, right about here - seem to be free from plant life - pretty much - I have almost nothing to report of new botanical finds - send landing in N.S. The most gratifying exception is Rubus Chamnemorus - which, you may remember, I have been wanting to see - but never have - while at Sandy Cove - I spent a day on a bog - some 7 or 8 miles further down Digby Neck - I had read in Fernald's account of his N.S. expedition to N.S. in 1920 - of his finding Lophiola - a species - which seems not to have been reported

between NJ and New Jersey - I knew a bag
in which it had ~~been~~ found - and then I spent
the day - found what is no doubt the plant -
though in bud only - quite immature indeed.
I had thought also to find Schizaea also - there
but did not - That day, I saw, in a house where
I spent a few minutes making inquiries - I saw
some berries which I suspected were the "baked apple" -
the they were spoken of as "Jones berries" -
I made inquiry of another woman whom I
found in the neighborhood - and learned that
"they grow in Charles Heights bog" - I learned
where Char. Height pronounced "hate" - some
two miles away - went there - for the man - and
he took me to his bog - where I found the plants
abundantly dotting the sphagnum-peat bog -
The ~~the~~ berries were conspicuous by their amber
color against the deep greens of the predominant
vegetation - I was immensely pleased of course,
and I enclose one of the plants as a thank offering -
the date - July 16 - I'll have a specimen of *Lophiola* (?)
for you later - as also if I will send you a few
sedges - I did not come prepared to do much
collecting - that - combined with unfavorable -
weather conditions at time - means that it
has not been altogether easy to take care of even
the few things I have taken - But one new thing
I have already sent you a specimen of, you refer
to it in your welcome letter of the 16th - As I write
I do not recall the name and as I have mailed my
plants home, I cannot refer to them - I am glad it is
new to you - I have seen no where except in Digby
where it was very abundant - Probably you have
established its identity before this -
There is much that I might write - but will

again - partly from necessity.

We were glad of your letter - with its report of people and doings - I'm glad you had again the trip to the summit. Loiseleuria is quite new to me - Diapensia. I have found in late season. Should you find you have a bit of the first named - I spare - I would be glad of it.

We plan to leave here Tuesday - the 27th - leave Yarmouth by boat Thursday night - Boston Friday - and I shall be back at 246 on Monday August 2 - to take up again the routine of business. More's the pity!

We look back upon our stay at Sandy Cove with interest - and perhaps not without some regret - of more rugged character - less sophisticated the at-sea-ness of it still impresses us favorably. and we would feel sorry if we could get there again - Botanically - August would be an interesting month there - The season has been late - some weeds perhaps - and plants late in developing. Ponds high water to the marginal bushes - In August - I could go to a "lake" where Fernald reports Schizaea by the acre - I did make the trip from Sandy Cove - some 8 miles - found the place - but careful search failed to reveal the plants - altogether too early - evidently - The bogs generally - would doubtless show many more things, as would the pond shores - which last, would have many things doubtless - to show the inquirer - You will hear from us again

but not until after we reach home -
"home" meaning - 81 Pinckney St - and
our camp bungalow at Highland Lake -

Charlotte joins me in cordial message
to Miss Brown and yourself - and in
the hope that all still goes well with
you both -

As ever -

Rob.

Please find our cordial message
to Gus - and to Lawrence and his
wife -

I think I never saw the Yarrow
of so deep a color - as that I find
here - The enclosed is an illustration -

and July 29



Ware, Robert Allison. 1926. "Ware, Robert Allison Jul. 23, 1926." *Walter Deane correspondence*

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