

Agricultural College, Mich.

May 20 1888

My Dear Deane: You ask for something of my plans in reference to my proposed European trip. It is yet too early to say definitely just what I shall do. I had not intended to go until next year, and to take wife and child, but I have now about decided to go alone for a shorter period. I have come to this decision mostly through my wife's influence. She thinks that I need the rest, and she does not care to go when I go first. You see I took no vacation last winter, when our vacation

2

Agricultural College, Mich.

188

occurred, and I am now working hard while Cornell will have its vacation. Thus two years will come together without any vacation. Mrs. B. wants to spend the fall with her mother in Lansing. I really feel much in need of a rest, and will feel more so by the middle of August. Our summer term is a hard one for me. In a few days I am to give a public lecture before faculty and students. June 6 I give an address to a large convention at So. Haven, my birthplace, — a farewell to my old home and my native state — and immediately there-

Agricultural College, Mich.

3

188

after I speak at the Summer meeting of the State Hort. Socy. Other engagements, which I cannot well escape, are coming on. June 11th. I go in company with Dr Beal and C. F. Wheeler (of the Mich. Catalogue) for that 200-miles trip across the wild pine woods of upper Michigan, from Lake to Lake. It is a singular country, much of it almost unknown. No botanist has ever laid eyes on it! Look on your map and find Alcona Co., on L. Huron. We botanize along the lake at Harrisville, and then plunge into the woods across to Frankfort, in Benzie Co., on L. Michigan! Have I

Agricultural College, Mich.

4

188

long to be off, to be "near to nature's heart," in the deep, lonely woods and the wild stretches of sandy plains! **How happy** a man is the botanist, who lives near to nature always!

The summer will pass with an endless chain of duties, and soon will come the Alumni Reunion of my alma mater, a triennial festival of corpulent dimensions. That will scarcely have passed away when I sail from Quebec on the 24th, on the good ship *Circassian*, for Londonderry, on the N. Coast of Ireland. Then I make a tour of the

Agricultural College, Mich.

5-

188

Emerald Isle, Scotland, Eng-
 land, Wales, France, Belgium,
 Holland, Denmark, Germany,
 Switzerland, Austria (Vienna),
 Italy, and then a fortnight's
 Cruise in the Adriatic, the
 Shores of Greece, and then
 a westward course to Boston.
 Thus do I plan to close a
 year which began in wan-
 dering and which seems des-
 tined to be a broken and
 checkered link in my
 life. I am not going to Eur-
 ope to "see sights", nor yet
 to study. I am going to see
 gardens, gardeners, herbariums,
 botanists. I shall pass rap-
 idly, as I must to compass

Agricultural College, Mich.

6

188

my design in four months. Incidentally, I hope to see the originals of all perplexing American carices. I shall take with me a satchel detective camera, with paper negatives, and shall take pictures by the score.

Now I have tired you all out, and I will stop.

I know Mrs. Britton also. He is very bright.

Yours as ever,

L. H. Bailey

Thanks for Dr. Gray's portrait.



Bailey, L. H. 1888. "Bailey, Liberty Hyde May 20, 1888." *Walter Deane correspondence*

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