

Warm Springs Agency Oregon June 27 1896

Dear Maria

Your card and letter of the 24th are at hand. I cannot but feel thankful on some accounts that Ma is at rest. It is better for her, though hard for us. The Lord does not come with such crushing force as it would had she died unexpectedly. Still I know it will cloud all your future life, but it is yet our more cord to draw you and all of us heavenward. The sorrow though deep will not be unavailing. It will be as far as calling her back, but there can be no regrets on your part: that you have not fondly loved and cherished her during many long years. You have all been dutiful girls, almost wonderfully so, hence this thought will always be a balm to the stricken hearts. May our Saviors dear presence ever be so near that you can taste his hand in seeming and bravely go forward. I am sorry I cannot be there to mingle my tears with yours.

Yesterday and today have been hot. Yesterday it was 100°. A thunder shower came up, but most of it passed to the west, only a few drops here. We will likely get a shower yet - in a day or two. It is sultry and some what cloudy today.

Tell Clifford that hill of ants is still in the square. Most of the
trees are living and make a nice shade. Those in front of the
drug store are the finest. There are two hammocks swung there
Mrs Richards & I played several games of Croquet last evening
against Mr R and Godwin. I was no player and told them
so but they only beat us by two wickets, each game of the three.
I have been looking over the property returns today and find that
nearly all the property remaining charged, was condemned by
a board of survey in the fall of 1890. Much of it was on hand several
years before Leskey took charge. I shall make this point in
my answers. It was never dropped after being condemned,
for some reason. I will hunt up all the wagons harness plows
that I can. Am on track of most of the harness, and
one or two of the three wagons. The main trouble is going
to be to finish up the affidavits, owing to the agents
being too particular and also out of health. He is at the
office but little. Should we all go to Badger Creek I hope
to "make hay" there. We will likely go next Thursday.
I wish you were here to rest awhile and camp out.
I am getting the rest that you need now. Tell Pa that
I remember him and ask God to give him help in his
great trial. With love for you all, and kisses for the dearest
ones I remain
Affectingly your husband
C. H. Walker

P.S. We sat some time last evening about and after dark
in front of our first home at the Ashey. I told Godwin
a great many memories came rushing in. Mr & Mrs Richards
Nelson Godwin & I were there. C. H. W.