

My dearest Elaine,

Thanksgiving day with so much to be thankful for - job, health, freedom, and a knowledge of the Gospel, along with peace.

There is 4 of us staying in this shack now - Marvin, Wendell ~~and~~ ~~John~~ ~~Stovans~~ + his wife, and me. It is pretty crowded but it is about the best that can be done because housing is very scarce out in this lonely dot on the map. We took the doors off the space under the bed and put a mattress lengthwise with the trailer until the night is over, ~~then~~ ^{then} we roll the mattress under the bed in the daytime.

We have to be on the job at 7:00. Work until 11:00 have an hour lunch then work until 4:00. Since Sunday there has been a nice hot meal waiting to be eaten when we come

in at noon and night. She is an ~~old~~
Austrian who ~~is~~ understands how
to season the food with garlic &
onions, ~~so~~ so you can guess how
we smell.

I suppose there is all kinds
of snow up there but there is never
over 1 or 2 inches at a time out here.
Soon as the cold north East wind
stops blowing the weather reminds
one of spring.

Mawin has 3 or 4 letters out
here all ready but he lays around
writing while there is wood to be
chopped or water to be carried or
something else to be done, If I don't
do them they won't get done. That
might be a good trait but for
me I don't figure that way.

Edwin dear when you look on
the ~~the~~ map you will be able to
understand ~~why~~ why I will be un-
nable to see you in Japan this week
end. we didnt work today, maby we will
get two days some of these first
weeks & that is too many to stay
around here. One day is enough to
drive an ordinary man to drinking.

Wallin is sitting on the drain
board with a book in his mug, ~~we~~
Wendall and his wife are playing
Rummy at the table & I am laying
on the bed with a pad of paper
on my legs for a table. There is
a ~~heated~~ electric plant running ~~so~~
continually outside the window, a
cold north East wind has just ~~start~~
started to blow since the sun went
down. ~~My wife that but I have~~

I was cutting ties up to kindling
wood - so as to save on the coal ~~at~~
~~for~~ for about 4 hours today. You were
probably sewing when you were not
cooking or did you go home for this
fine day.

The wages out here are high
but as I told you before the expenses
are much higher unless one
has a set up like we have.
Marwin brought out about \$4.00
worth of groceries when he was in
Toole last time. He didn't get lots
that I would have ~~at~~ and got lots
that I wouldn't have bought but now
that they are out here it is best
to make the best of what we have.

Have you ever seen ground that
will spring back up after a truck
has run over it or will form a

stake (peg) up $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches after they are driven? That is the kind of soil that is out here, it is so sticky that it won't let go of a shovel or your shoes after the awl is broken.

Wendell was broke all but \$50

when he come out a week ago. I let him have \$5.00 Sat. night which he paid back Monday. By the time he settled up for a few more short bills he was broke again. Today he didn't ask me for anything but I knew he was low on funds so I slipped him another five, he will get a five shift check next Monday so my investment is as safe as if it was in the bank & ~~there~~ there is a chance of making another friend may a better one than a lot but

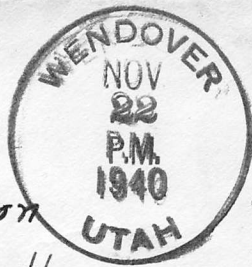
never any better than one I have
in mind always, one who has proven
to be loyal in any kind of weather,
and one ~~who~~ ^{to whom} I owe, more than the
wealth of the nation to repay.

Believe dear I want you to know
that I never hope to see a better
girl than you are, and I admire you
for your ability to keep your chin up
and look at the sunny side of life
at all times. I hope that I will
be good enough for you when I come home.
Thanks for everything dear. Keep up
the good work.

Faithfully yours,
Lovingly yours,
LeGrand

W.L. Whipple
Wendover, Utah

Miss Erlene Atkinson
79 West 4th South
Logan, Utah



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