

Salt Lake City, Ut., Sep. 2\_, 1910

My Darling Husband:

It is with great pleasure that I now take the time to write a few lines to you. It will soon be a week since I received your last letter and I hope it won't be as long until I get another as it was between your last two letters. There was over two weeks between them and I was beginning to think you had forgotten me entirely. I know that you often have to wait that long for my letters but you can't imagine how long it seems when you don't write every week. It wouldn't be any too often if I got a letter every day.

In your last letter you talked like you didn't think you would be released until spring. I don't know what I will do all winter. I don't know where to go or what to do. I was in hopes you would be home by Xmas. I guess I will manage somehow but Oh Nels it's such a long time till spring. I think I will stay here till after conference and then I don't know where to go but I guess I'll go to Pleasant Grove for awhile. I wish I could do something to make some money but you know I have to take care of the baby and Oh I am so thankful I have her. I don't know what I'd do without her now.

Did you hear about Rhoda and Will Stagg losing their baby? She was just two months older than Melba and she died just a few days ago. Isn't that too bad dear? She came to see me when Melba was born and she had it with her then.

I guess you will think I am a discontented old thing when you read this but I do try to be contented. Of course I know you can't come until you are released but it does seem such a long time and you just can't imagine how it is to be wandering around with no place to call home.

Esther and Ike have moved down here on 9<sup>th</sup> East now. They have a nice little house here with three rooms and a closet and bathroom, they are fixed as cozy as can be. They pay ten dollars a month rent. Their address now is 2420 South 9<sup>th</sup> E., Forest Dale, Salt Lake City. We moved down here a week ago and are not entirely straightened up yet.

You know that Mrs. Lavin has been to Sweden. She wrote me a card just before she left Sweden. When I came up here Esther had the phone and I was looking in the book and saw Mrs. Lavin's name and so I called her up. She invited me to come and see her and wanted me to come the next day but I couldn't go then and so I haven't been yet and don't know whether I will or not. I imagined by hearing her talk that she thinks she is quite smart and I guess that is why I haven't been to see her. Tell me what you thought about her.

Esther and Ike have gone down town tonight. They wanted me to go too but it was about eight o'clock when they got ready to go and so I thot I would sooner stay home and write to you. Melba is in bed asleep and Clinton is in the other room reading and I am sitting here writing and as soon as I get thru I will get in bed with little Melba. I have been dreaming quite a bit about you lately and I guess it's because I have been thinking you were soon coming home. I dreamed the other night that I was to a dance in Hinckley and I just sat down and a man came up and stood in front of me and when I looked up it was

you. I didn't know you was released or anything and I was so surprised that I couldn't say a word for a few minutes and then I said, "Is it really you Nels?" Then you put out your hand to shake hands and I woke up. I was just half sitting up in bed and my heart was beating so fast I couldn't go back to sleep for quite awhile. You must be sure and tell me as soon as you are released.

I haven't been feeling twice as good for a day or two but will be all right soon. Melba is well and is trying to talk. I hope that you are well. I was pleased to note that you met with such good success while you were away from Gefle and hope that you will have much success in all your efforts.

I don't remember if I told you before to tell Mart that I got that letter he wrote when he was up there with you and appreciated it very much. I did think I would write him a letter but I haven't got at it yet. You might give him my regards when you write. I was glad to hear that Aunt Hanna had written you a letter and sent you a dollar for you know every little bit helps doesn't it dear?

I got a letter from Stena the other day. She says Allie is home and he and Perlinda are living in part of John Newman's old place. You know John Newman has moved down town.

Well dear please don't let this letter bother you. If there's anything in it you don't like, forget it. And if you're not released till spring that will be alright too, we will be alright. Sometimes I get the Blues but it doesn't amount to anything. Now dearest I have written you a big long letter and I want you to write me a long one. We are as ever yours with bushels of love forever and ever, Viola and Melba.

Gefle, Sept. 25, 1910

My Dear Viola:

Will now endeavor to write you a few lines. As you see by the heading I am now back to Gefle. We left Gefle last Friday, Sept. 23, at 1:55 p.m. and arrived at Sundsvall at midnight. We found our way to the elders' home and there found all the elders of the conference very busily engaged in sleep. After shaking hands with them all we soon had our bed made on the floor and were numbered with the snoozers. Saturday at 11 a.m. Pres. Sundwall and his successor Andreas Petterson arrived in Sundsvall and were numbered with us, making a total of 12. In the evening of the same day we had our first meeting. There were not many people present, but we had quite a nice time anyway. Short speeches were delivered by Gustave Olson, Niels Fugal, Wilford Mortenson, Pres. Fredrick Anderson, Pres. Andreas Petterson and Pres. Peter Sundwall.

Sunday the following day at 11 a.m. we commenced our second meeting. There were not many present at this meeting either. Reports from the various branches were heard by Amos Nilson, Hyrum Hanson, Niels Fugal. A report of the conference was given by Pres. Anderson. Pres. Sundwall then delivered a sermon, after which he appointed the elders to the various branches as follows – Fredrick Anderson as conference president and presiding elder in the Sundsvall Branch with Hyrum E. Hanson, Arthur Davidson and

Harold Bederlund as helpers. Niels Fugal as presiding elder over the Gelfe Branch with Amos C. Nilson as partner. Gustave Olson, as presiding elder, and John I. Benson for the Östersund Branch. Willford Mortenson as presiding elder and Gustave Larson as helper in the Härnösand Branch. There will be none sent to Luleå this winter unless there comes more elders. I received just the partner that I wanted and was sent to the best branch so I feel well satisfied and thankful.

Elder Nilson is about 6 ft. 2 in. tall so I have to look up to him even if I am the boss. He has a pretty good ear for music so I believe he will soon be able to chord on the organ when we sing in the meetings. He has been on a mission nine months so he is getting so he can speak a little. He has been in Luleå the last three months so we will no doubt have some fun talking about that wonderful place in the far north. Well I better give an account of the remainder of the conference.

In the afternoon at 3 o'clock we had saints meeting where all had a chance to bear testimony. In the evening at 8 o'clock we had another meeting with a rather small attendance where Pres. Petterson and Pres. Sundwall took up the time in delivering some good sermons. It is too bad that there were not more to our meetings for Pres. Petterson is certainly a fine speaker. He has performed three missions and now he has come to preside over the Swedish Mission and to release Peter Sundwall who has had that position for two and a half years.

Monday at 10 a.m. we held our priesthood meeting where we all bore our testimony and related some of our experiences, and where we received many timely instructions from our presidents which will give us courage to put forth our best efforts in the work. In the evening we had a nice program and the good sisters gave us a feast. It was so popular that I had to help sing two songs and then sing a solo alone. The solo was The Star Spangled Banner interpreted to Swedish. I want to tell you that I received many good comps on my singing, but it doesn't make my hat too small. Pres. Sundwall said I was getting pretty good in the Swedish language and that I was doing fine in learning to speak so I feel quite encouraged and have some hope.

Tuesday morning at 5:20 in company with Pres. Sundwall and Petterson I left Sundsvall for Gefle. I had telephoned to one of the brethren here in Gefle to hire a hall and put an announcement in the paper stating that we were to hold a meeting and be favored with the presence of these two men who would speak to us. We enjoyed a nice trip to Gefle and in the evening held a very nice meeting. We had a larger attendance than was at our conference so we felt quite encouraged. I felt it quite an honor to have the Presidents come with me to the Gefle Branch and give us a nice meeting and stay with me overnight. Elder Amos Nilson remained in Sundsvall and won't come to Gefle until Friday. Today is Wednesday. I will have to hold mutual alone tomorrow night but that will go all right I suppose.

Can say I am well and enjoying my labors OK and hope the present finds you in a good condition. I don't know when I will be released but I believe they intend to keep me until spring. If such should be the case I hope you will put up with it dear wife and not feel like it is too much of a sacrifice. I should like to come home for Xmas but I know I won't be home then. I feel like the winter will pass rapidly and that I can do a good work while

it is going and then when spring comes, it will be with a heart full of satisfaction that I return to my loved ones.

Well dear wife I will now close with the best of wishes and love hoping that you are enjoying yourself wherever you may be. I must now go down town and pay for the hall we had that evening and then come home and go to bed for I am tired and sleepy. Your loving husband. Niels Fugal.

Salt Lake City, Ut., Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> 1910

My Dear Nels

I rec'd another of your welcome letters a few days ago and so I suppose it is time I was writing to you again. We are well and are still in the City. I am going to stay here till after Conference now and then I am going to Pleasant Grove. I have been up here six weeks now and it will be a little over a week until I go back so I think that is a pretty good visit, don't you? I have had quite a nice time since I have been here.

When I get back I will stay in Pleasant Grove awhile and then go to Provo for awhile and then I don't know what I will do. I wish it wasn't so far down to Abraham and I would go down there and stay awhile. Maybe I will go anyhow. I have been hoping all the time that you would be home by Xmas anyway but you talk like you don't think you will come home till spring. That seems such a long time but I guess it will go the same as the rest of the time has gone. If Melba just keeps well I guess I can get along somehow.

I have weaned her now so we haven't got any baby now, she is a regular little lady. I hated to wean her, she enjoyed it so, but she had to be weaned sometime, she is getting so big. She was just as sweet and good about it as could be. She cried a little the first night and I was wishing you were here to get her to sleep. Esther has weaned her baby too and when he cried at night she could just give him to Ike, but I got along alright anyhow. She doesn't bother at all now and it as Wednesday when I started to wean her.

It is quite cold here today, I can hardly keep warm. It rained quite hard last night. I believe I told you in my last letter that Esther and Ike have moved. They have such a cute little house down here and it is fixed up so nice. You can see it when you come home, I think they will be living here, they have paid the rent for seven months. Don't you think you will be home by then. I wish you and I had a place like this and fixed as comfortable as this.

Stena said in her last letter that Allie Radmall is home and he and Perlinda are living in part of John Newman's old place. Did you hear that Charlie Magnus' wife is dead? Stena told me about it in her last letter. She had a miscarriage. I believe they only had one child, a little boy 4 years old. I feel sorry for the little boy.

Esther's baby is just learning to walk. He is almost as tall as Melba but he isn't nearly as heavy. Melba weighs 23-1/2 lbs. and he weighs 18 lbs. I haven't been to see Mrs. Lavin but maybe I will before I go back. I don't know of any more news. I guess you have been to conference. I hope that if you wasn't sent back to Gefle that you are in a place just as

good or better. Write soon and tell me all about it. Melba sends kisses to papa. We are as ever Yours with love, Viola and Melba. Joe's address: Ashton, Idaho.

Abraham, Utah, Oct. 12, 1910

My Darling Husband:

The last time I wrote to you which was about a week ago I was in Salt Lake City and now I am way down here in Abraham. We left Salt Lake Monday night at 11:50 and arrived in Oasis at 5:50 the next morning. [Oasis is just below Delta.] Allen came over to the Depot to meet us and we got here about ten o'clock. The wind has been blowing hard ever since I came.

I didn't intend to come down here for awhile and I had written to Stena and told her I was coming down there Sunday but Pa came up to Conference and Valeria, who had been down here on a visit, went as far as Salt Lake with Pa on her way to Idaho. She got a Conference ticket to Salt Lake so Pa wanted me to go back on it. I didn't hardly want to come down here because I had made up my mind to go to P.G. but Pa wanted me to so I got ready and came with him.

Annie came up to Conference too so I phoned to her to stop off at P.G. and get some things for me. She said that your mother said I just had to come down there so she could see Melba before I came down here but it would have cost me \$2.25 to go down there and then I could only stay one day so I thot it would be better not to go but I wanted to awfully bad. I know they will be disappointed because they didn't get to see the baby. She is just as sweet as sugar. I am sending you the picture of her and Verdell together, let me know as soon as you get it.

I stayed in S.L.C. for Conference but only went to one meeting. I didn't get to see Mrs. Lavin. I was going to call on her one day but couldn't find the place so I didn't bother any more. I am sorry I won't be in P.G. and see Bro. Beckstrom and Sister Johansson but maybe you and I can take a trip down to Lake Shore when you come home. You know my mother's bro. lives there.

Pa wants you to come down here and buy a farm but I don't know whether I would like to live down here or not. He said he thot you would do alright down here, you are such a good worker.

I had a nice time while I was in Salt Lake and it's quite a change to come down here. I guess you have been to conference now, hope you enjoyed it. Annie's children have the chicken pox. She is quite lonesome there in Provo and if you have time I am sure she would like to hear from you. Her address is 144 North 3<sup>rd</sup> East. [If the address is the same, this home still stands.] Pa was wondering why you didn't answer his letter and I told him you was so busy I guess you don't have much time to write.

I don't know of any news so will close for this time. Please address my letters here until I tell you different, and be sure and write lots of them so I won't get too lonesome down here. Melba sends kisses to Papa and also a few from your Loving Wife, Viola.

xxxxxxxxx Write soon.

[Abraham is eight miles northwest of Delta. The site was settled in 1890 and named for Abraham H. Cannon, a Mormon elder and settler in the area.]

Lörstrand, October 18, 1910 [Mailed to Pleasant Grove, forwarded to Salt Lake City.]

My Dear Wife;

Again I will endeavor to write you a few lines. It is just one week ago today since I left Gefle so of course I haven't as yet received a letter from you, but I suppose there is one in Gefle awaiting me.

Since I left Gefle I have had a very nice time intermingled with a few unpleasant experiences. Tuesday evening we arrived in Bollnäs where we remained overnight. Wednesday morning we started out on our journey northward, selling books and distributing tracts. We walked about 15 miles that day meeting with good success in selling books. I gave away 170 tracts and sold 35 books that day. We secured lodgings in a rooming house in a place called Arbrå. The next morning which was Thursday we continued in our journey facing a cold wind. It had rained and snowed during the night. We met with pretty good success this day also. I sold 31 books and gave away 161 tracts. During the day we had some good gospel conversations with a few interested parties. We even had the pleasure of meeting the priest and the pastor of that place. They would not enter into any discussion with us on any doctrine but just tried to scare us by saying we had no right to be in the country and that they forbid us to labor in their district. We showed our American pluck, and in a western style told them that we did not consider them authorized to tell us what to do and what not to do, but that we intended to continue with our labors in this district as well as others and that we were messengers of the only true gospel, always willing to instruct our fellow men concerning the true plan of salvation. When they found that we would not scare, they said they were busy at present and had no time to spare with us, so we bid them goodbye and continued on our journey rejoicing over the little experience we had with them.

The wind kept blowing all day but we kept warm by going from house to house to house. It was dark at 5 p.m. so we jumped the train at 5:36 at a place called Simeå and rode to Lörstrand where we were heartily welcomed by the good saints here. We spent Friday with the Strandh and the Wahlström family. Saturday we went to a place called Myra where we met with good success in canvassing. Sunday we held Sunday School with the saints and friends of this little town. In the evening we held a saints meeting where we partook of the sacrament and where we all bore our testimonies, feeling to rejoice for the pleasant opportunity. The saints are quite musically inclined so we have had some nice music and listened to the nice Swedish songs.

Monday we went to a place called Åsbo where we finished selling all the books we had with us. We left Gefle with each 100 books and now they are all gone so I think we have done fine considering the country we are in, for it is not very easy to sell books in this country.

We have seen many strange sights on this trip. The people are a very dirty set of beings in the country. They live in the same room as they have the cows and I want to tell you that it doesn't smell very good. They cook their meals right close to the cows and eat them in the same perfumed place. They also have their beds in the same room. In some of the places the floor was covered with straw so it would be pleasant to walk on I suppose. It is just in the summer that they live with the cows. In the winter they move into their large house which is next to the cow's house.

It is very pleasant to be in the country now when it is fine weather for everything looks nice. The rolling hills are covered with green and yellow and in the low places the farmers are busily engaged plowing the land which has been cleared for the crops. In some places they were thrashing with a small thrasher run by a gasoline engine. It is nice to visit these places for it causes us to appreciate the many blessings and good conditions which are so prevalent in Utah. I think prospects are much brighter in Utah than here and I am glad that it is probable that I will someday be settled down in a pleasant place in that chosen country.

Today is Tuesday. It is our last day in Lörstrand this time. We leave for Gefle tomorrow. We had figured on going to Söderhamn before going to Gefle, but I have now received word from a saint living there, that we cannot secure a hall to hold meetings this week, so we will postpone that engagement until some time in the near future. We will probably hold a meeting here this evening in Brother Wahlström's house. I like to hold meetings for it makes me feel good every time that I try to explain the principles of the gospel.

I hope you are well dear wife and enjoying yourself. I haven't had a letter from anyone in Utah for some time so I don't know where you are. I suppose little Melba is growing fast and is able to chase all over the floor now. Probably I can help you herd her next summer. Will now close with love and best wishes hoping to hear from you soon. Hope you had a nice time on your birthday which was yesterday. I remain as ever your loving  
Niels. xxxooxooxx

Abraham, Utah, Oct. 20, 1910

My Dear Husband:

Your welcome letter was rec'd yesterday and read with pleasure altho I was a little disappointed you spoke of spending the winter in Sweden and I had been hoping that you would spend part of it at home. Of course I had no reason or right to expect you home so soon but I'm afraid I'm a little disappointed anyhow.

I am glad you are so well satisfied and hope that your anticipations will be realized. I am almost afraid you won't want to come home when you are released but then I guess I couldn't blame you much if you didn't.

This is quite a lonesome and deserted place and the wind has been blowing ever since I came. I didn't intend to stay any longer than till Xmas when I came down but from the looks of things now I will spend the rest of my days here. I suppose I ought to be contented no matter where I am but sometimes that's easier said than done. It wasn't so

bad when I thought you were coming home sometime but I have given up all hope now and when spring comes, if it ever does, all I will look for is another letter saying you are going to stay till fall. It wouldn't be so bad if it was summer but Oh the long dreary winter, I know it will never pass.

We went to Hinckley yesterday and I saw a few of my old friends. I am going in to meeting sometime and then I can see some more. I hope you will not think I am too awful mean for anything. I know you can't help it because you are not released and being as you have to stay I am glad you are so well satisfied and I hope they keep you there so long that you will be good and ready to come home when you are released.

I guess this will be all. I am as ever, Viola Fugal, Abraham, Utah.

Pleasant Grove, Utah, Oct. 26, 1910

Dear Brother,

Received your very welcome letter of Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> a few days ago and was very pleased to hear from you. I thought I would answer it right away but it is so easy to let one day pass after another without getting at writing.

I have written a letter today to your wife and sent Ernest to the post office with it, she is visiting with her father now at Abraham as you no doubt know before this. We received a letter for her from you today and I always scratch off a line to her when I send your letter. Your little girl gets cuter every day you can see that by her picture, this last one is sweeter than ever.

I had a few friends and relatives come to see me on my birthday. Mr. and Mrs. Clayton came down from the city last Saturday and went back this morning. They came to my birthday as also did Retta. Carrie came over too. Erval is well again, he started to school again this week, he has been out of school for four weeks. He has had quite a bad time but we're thankful he got alright without an operation. Their house is not completed yet. I think they will spend one more winter in Provo before it will be ready to move into.

We have just received some wedding invitations from Mayfield. Belvereen Voorhees, cousin Hannah's daughter, is going to get married on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of November. She is quite young to get married, I do not think she is more than sixteen years old. I do not think any of us will go up to the wedding. Today Jane Lund and Herbert Armitstead will get married in the Salt Lake City Temple. Katie Frampton Crookston was buried last Monday. She died of the Typhoid fever, and leaves a baby nine months old. It seems too bad when young people like that have to die. But man does not govern these things, it is for a higher being to govern.

We read the piece you contributed to the Citizen with much pleasure, it was very interesting to all who read it. We did not mention it as we thought the paper was sent to you. Lavina called the Editor up the other day and asked him about sending you the paper, he said he did not know why it was discontinued, but he will send it to you again and also some back numbers. We will not send you the Pleasant Grove paper, it is no

good at all, there has not been one item of P.G. news in it for nearly six months. We are not going to keep it any more. James D. Thorne offered to furnish locals for the paper if they would pay him the same as they did the other man, but they wanted the news furnished for nothing hence the way it ended.

Say kid, P.G. is progressing, there are four automobiles owned here. Mr. Alex Thornton has one, L.W. Lund, Dr. Grua, and C. F. Westphal owns the others. The streets are not paved yet though and the street cars are not running in P.G. They do run from Salt Lake City to as far as Sandy.

You stated in your letter that you had been to conference once more and that you were sent back to your old field of labor and that you have a very good companion, just the one you wanted. We are certainly very glad to hear it. Nothing pleases us more than to hear you are enjoying your labors and are contented with your branch wherein you are called to labor. Things are much more pleasant when you have a congenial partner also.

We were in hopes that you would be released by Xmas but it seems that that is not to be. We realize too that you can do much good by staying this winter as you know the language and no doubt you can pound the pulpit too. Would like very much to step in your meeting some Sunday eve and hear you preach. Mother and the boys says if you would like to stay until spring that it will be alright, they will try and furnish the means to keep you there.

Mother has been to Sandy for a week's visit with Ellen, she had a nice time and seemed to enjoy an outing. Mother is busy cutting carpet rags and coloring rags today, she is just more than busy. Uncle Isaac received your letter but you know he is slow to answer letters.

The potatoes are dug, there were not so many bushels as there should be but the crop was pretty fair. Lew is working with the beets, it will be sometime yet before they get them all done.

Everything is about the same as usual only it is close to election and people are busy at night going to rallies. Be good to yourself and write soon to Your Sister Stena. (Give your companion our best regards.)

Abraham, Utah, Oct. 27, 1910

My Dear Husband:

I just rec'd another letter from you but it was so short. You said you were in a hurry so I guess it will be alright this once but you must take time to write long letters and write often. I was glad to get your letter if it was short for it was better than none at all. I want to thank you for the pretty birthday card. I didn't hardly think you would remember my birthday.

You spoke of having a party in honor of your Name's Day and I can't think what that is unless it is the day you were named. Is that right? I was glad to hear you had such a good

time. [Don't have his letter, apparently.]

I went to Hinckley to meeting last Sunday and it did seem good to get back to my Old Home Town and see my old friends and playmates. It had been nearly four years since I was there last so you can imagine how nice it seemed. Everyone seemed glad to see me and that Melba was so sweet. I saw Alma Langston, he hasn't changed much only a little heavier. He said he was glad to see me and acted nice and sociable. His father and mother both insisted that I should come in and stay with them a week but of course I wouldn't do that. You remember of me talking about Laura Walker, she wants me to come and stay with her awhile and nearly everyone invited me to come and see them.

[Hinckley is near Delta, on the other side of the Sevier River.]

Last Wednesday I went to Hinckley again to a funeral. Bro. Wm. A. Reeve had something the matter with his leg and had to have it amputated, he lived about two weeks after the operation. He left a wife and twelve children, the oldest the age of me. The funeral was so sad, I did feel sorry for his poor wife.

I got a letter from Stena today and she said he was going to write to you right away so I guess she will tell you all the P.G. news. Little Melba hasn't been well for the last few days and now she is all broke out. I don't know whether it is small pox, chicken pox or what it is but hope she will soon get well. As ever, Viola Fugal.