

Gefle, Nov. 2, 1910

My Dear Loving Wife,

Since I last wrote to you which was a week ago I have received another of your welcome missives and have perused it with great pleasure and interest.

The photo of our sweet darling daughter Melba and her cousin Verdell came to hand the same day, for which accept many thanks. I was never so surprised as when I saw what a great change Melba has taken. I would not have known her if it wasn't for the likeness of her mother's face which is so indelibly sealed upon the dear little soul. I used to think she resembled me somewhat, but now since her womanly features are commencing to develop she looks quite Youngishfied so I suppose I will have to give you all the honor for her beauty, and call her mamma's girl. She certainly is beautiful and I want to tell you that I feel proud of her. [Don't have this photo.]

I can never tire looking at her photo. She stand there with her dear mother's expression on her face, looking off into space, reading the wonderful things of the world, comparing them with the heavenly conditions of her pre-existence, and seems to be solving the question: "For what wise and glorious purpose hast thou placed me here on earth?" She is the picture of innocence, and I imagine that I can see lying concealed in that pure tabernacle those faculties of love, charity and chastity, which when developed through the experiences of this terrestrial world, will make her one of the noble daughters and mothers if Israel. God grant that so be, and that she may always pursue a course which will not only lead her to salvation and exaltation in the celestial kingdom of God, but will at the same time add joy and blessings to her parents. This is possible and I hope probable, but I realize that proper training is essential for high morals, therefore may that we, a united pair of God's children, live such a life that will have great influence upon those whom God may give us to teach.

Verdell must not be unnoticed. He too has made a great change since I received his first photo and time will tell what star he was born under. He has grown to a nice little boy and from all appearances he will follow the footsteps of his honorable father.

I have shown the photo to quite a number of saints here and of course they can't help but admire it and tell me I have something to be proud over. Well I suppose we better lay the photo to the side now for a moment and bring our minds on something else.

I notice that you have left the big city and in company with your father and your posterity gone down into the Land of Abraham. Hope that while there you will enjoy yourself. I suppose it seems quite a change to be there since being in Salt Lake City for a while, but having the privilege of returning to your childhood home, for a while at least, ought to be quite pleasant. Probably many found recollections will come to your mind and you will feel like you have been dreaming and just woke up finding yourself in the old homestead or nearby.

It was too bad that you couldn't pay my folks a visit before going south but probably it will not be so very long before you go to P.G. again so they will have a chance to see

little Melba. It is also too bad that you didn't see Mrs. Lavin while at S.L.C. but probably you will meet me at S.L.C., then we can both call on her if we wish to.

You say that your father would like me to buy a farm in that part of the country. Well that may be OK but I am afraid I won't be able to buy a setting hen when I get home. I should like very much to take a trip to that place at last, to see what kind of prospects are there. It would be nice to pay your father a visit and perhaps continue on to Mayfield to see the Sanpeters, but there is time to think of these things when I come home and then besides I just wrote that I would be unable to buy a setting hen. Building air castles is about as profitable as owning a half interest in a rainbow or as nourishing as a dinner of twelve courses, eaten in a dream, so probably I better not lay too many plans before I get there.

I am feeling well in my labors and realizing great blessings connected with missionary work. I feel like the time is far spent and there is little remaining even if I do stay here until spring. The chilly autumn is at hand and the signs look very much like winter will soon set in. We appreciate the fire already.

Elder Nilson likes this place first class. He too has been in Luleå so he appreciated the change. I think we will spend a pleasant winter together. Hope you may spend just as pleasant and in the spring be glad to meet your dear husband. Extend my best regards to your folks and accept the same from my partner, Elder Nilson. Niels Fugal.

Monroe, Utah, November 13, 1910 [Sent to Gefle, forward to Lörstrand.]

Dear Brethren Fugal and Nielson:

You may feel assured that your epistles were received and that I enjoyed reading them. It is pure joy for me to know that I have won your love and confidence. I hope it will be in my daily walk that I remember it and prove worthy of the same. If either of you can see wherein I tried to magnify my calling while there, give God the honor and glory and remember that it is my aim to please God.

It was sad for me to hear of Sister Hanna and I thank God that you are free from anything that would put a blotch on your character. I suppose you are thankful that you have been protected. Poor girl, notwithstanding, she has no love for me. I can assure you that I think of her as my own dear sister and would like to see her repent and live above it. I love those who by chance make a misstep in life and will do all they can to show fruits of repentance, and I hope I will always be ready to lend a helping hand to those who are down.

When I read that some of the Saints that you guilty I felt that I would like to tell them a thing or two. I tell you my blood came to that pitch that I believe I could have made them understand what I meant. I am glad that conditions have been better in Gefle since Sister Johansson left. Well Brother Beckstrom may think she is OK but I hope he is wise or that woman will cause him some serious trouble. She tried her best to make it appear as if she was coming to America for my sake and told some things in a different meaning than she ought to, but I got wind of it and if anyone was ever treated cold she was one. I

never want to have anything to do with her again if I can help it.

I feel good every way. I am working hard every day on a farm for a man by the name of Magleby. I will no doubt go out on the "desert" with sheep this winter. I get Fifty Dollars a month and all expenses paid for. I hope to stay with it a couple of years and than I can look the world in the face in everything. Everyone is so good and kind to me. I feel that they all want to help me all they can.

I am sorry that you did not call on the good nurse at Sundsvall. You know I love her for her nobleness and purity. Be sure and call on her next spring, will you not?

Brother Nielson, I am glad that you called at the Standberg family. They are good people. I received a letter from them a short time ago, also the old folk's photo. They were always good and kind to me.

I sometimes knew you boys that I was a odd old stick and strict. I was perhaps, but I always had a good motive in view and no doubt you can recognize it now and know that I loved the missionaries and wanted to see them accomplish the most good and the best. I wish I could labor here in just the same way as we do in the mission field. We need missionaries here at home as much as any place. Good bless you both with such things as you need and that you may prove worth of them. Your Brother, David. W. Woodard.

Give my love to all – none mentioned – none forgotten.

Pleasant Grove, Utah, Nov. 14th 1910
[Mailed Dec. 6, forwarded from Gefle to Lörstrand.]

Our Dear Friend, Neighbor and Brother:

Some time ago I wrote you a letter for mother but it seems that one thing and another have kept us from mailing it so I will attempt it again and make an endeavor to mail it. From your folks we hear that you are well and are certainly glad to know that in the noble work in which you are engaged in that the Lord is blessing you with good health and we do hope He will continue to pour down his blessings upon you and indeed all who are away from their houses in the same cause.

We are all enjoying good health but Rulon met with an awful accident over to the Lehi sugar factory this fall, little over a month ago, being scalded badly on different parts of his body, but is getting around again although not able to work yet.

I was very much impressed with the description that you wrote of that beautiful and far off country and of its lovely scenery. I would certainly love to see some of the beautiful scenery of the world besides Utah although I certainly love my birthplace and would not like to leave dear old Utah never to come back again.

Arthur is working to Lehi but his mail comes to Pleasant Grove and I know he would appreciate very much a letter from you. Jesse Oler is now on a mission in Colorado, has been gone a month. I had the privilege of hearing 3 recently returned missionaries

yesterday over to Lehi to Union meeting, one was Dr. Christensen of American Fork, and the other 2 were brothers from Alpine. I do enjoy listening to a missionary just fresh from his field of labor as they seem to speak of the work of the Lord as being that which is uppermost on their minds and would rather talk of that than anything they know of.

As you have been gone two years now I guess you are beginning to look forward to the time of meeting with those you left behind when you left to proclaim the ever lasting Gospel which has been bestowed upon the earth in our time of living which I think all of the Latter day Saints are very thankful for.

We are indeed having some beautiful fall weather having no storm at all as yet this fall. Hensen and Lerena are still living at Mammoth although times are not as flourishing there as they have been in the past. I believe all fall work is done here unless it is a few beets that are not up but most of them are up I think. Joe has gone out to the sheep for the winter, out in the Strawberry country. I do not know of any news to tell you in contact with the goings on which are about the same as when you were here. Some marriages and some deaths occasionally. Janie Lund and that Armitstead boy were married about two weeks ago. I suppose you knew that Katie Frampton Crookston was dead, she left a husband and baby besides her many relatives and friends to mourn her loss. She seemed to have the esteem of all who knew her as she had such a sweet disposition.

Thanksgiving day will soon be here again, a holiday which I presume you do not celebrate across the waters, and then Christmas, the holiday kept all over the civilized world.

Mother is about the same as she was when you left but some thinner and cannot stand quite as much work as she used to. Father is looking older too and sometimes I wonder at them getting old, forgetting that their children are getting along in years, and their children's children growing to man and womanhood. Glen being the oldest of all and as tall as his mother, but then maybe you think he doesn't need to be very tall to be that tall. Nevertheless he seems quite large to us for he has most of the responsibility of things done around our place as his Papa is away most of the time. He has just joined the school orchestra which Mr. Paxman the music teacher is organizing, and is taking lessons on a cornet. All of our children are going to school this year, Maude being the last to start and a beginner this year.

This is quite a rambling letter as I'm not used to writing to missionaries and do not know what to write that would interest them most but hope there will at least be a few things in it that will interest you.

There is quite a change in Plt. Grove since you left, that of the ward being divided in 3 as of course you are aware of long before this. It seems to of made many more active workers in different organizations, some of who never before did anything toward the upbuilding and improving of our Church in its different branches.

Dec. 5. Well Niels once more I will take my pen and endeavor to complete my letter and get it off. I do not know how it is that I cannot get this letter off, it certainly isn't because I do not write or send any mail for I write about 3 letters a week, sometimes more, so

guess I will hurry and write and send it down after school or you will not get it until you come home, will you.

Last night in MIA conjoint we had the privilege of hearing Bro. Olsen speak. He went on his mission the same time that you did but has arrived home some sooner. He certainly spoke nice.

Thanksgiving is past and turkey's all gone, but Christmas will soon be here but it doesn't seem that late in the season for the weather is certainly beautiful. I will close my letter now wishing the Blessings of the Lord to continue to be with you in that far off land as well on your return home. I am as ever your friend and neighbor, Liza Jacobson and Mrs. Lim. Write if you find time. All wish to be remembered. Goodbye.

Abraham, Utah, Nov. 16, 1910 [Letter forwarded to Lörstrand from Gefle.]

My Darling Husband:

I guess you think it is about time I was writing to you again. I haven't any excuse for not writing sooner so won't try to make one but you know it is so easy to put it off till tomorrow. I have received two letters from you since I wrote last and was very glad to get them both. I was glad to hear that you are enjoying your labors and having such a good time.

I am having a good time since I came down here. We went to Hinckley to a theater on the 3rd. It was a Home Dramatic Co. but it was just fine. I went to the dance on election night and had a good time. We are going to have the thresher next week and after we get thru with that I am going to Hinckley and stay for a few days.

I dreamed you were home last night and you and I were riding in an automobile. I guess it will be some time before that dream comes true. Don't you think so? What time in May do you think you will be released? And after you are released how long will it take you to come home? I wish you would tell me this the next time you write so I will know about when to look for you. I wish it was you that was coming home this winter instead of Mart. I know that you are having a good time and I guess I'm selfish when I wish that you were home but I just can't help it. It seems like you have been gone a hundred years now and from now till spring seems twice as long as all the rest of the time you have been gone. I have got so used to traveling around now that I won't be contented to stay any place. I'll just have to travel around the rest of my life.

I guess Melba has had the chicken pox but she is alright now. She is getting so big. It's too bad you didn't get to see her when she was so little and cute. She will be half grown before you see her but I don't suppose you care.

I washed yesterday and my wrist gave out so I can't write a bit decent today. I was helping Halley house clean last week. [Halley is Allen's wife; Allen is Viola's oldest sibling.] Pa and Allen have gone to the canyon for poles. They won't be back before Sat. or Sun. Aunt Hanner said to tell you she got your letter and will answer it soon. I guess this is all for this time, I am as ever, Viola Fugal.

Gefle, Nov. 21, 1910

My Dear Wife;

I will now try to write you a few lines as it is over a week since I have wrote to you and I know that you think a week is plenty far between my letters. I know that I always appreciate one from you every week, but it isn't every week that I receive one. I intended to write you last Friday (today is Monday) but we were quite busy then preparing for a meeting that we held in the evening.

On Thursday I received a card from Elder G. W. Tendt, who is working at Stockholm, stating that he would pay us a visit Friday and remain with us until Saturday afternoon when he would continue on to Borlänge, a place where three elders are laboring. Of course we desired to have an extra meeting being as he was coming so we gave out notice to that effect at our Thursday evening meeting and on Friday chased about somewhat inviting saints and friends. We had a good attendance at the meeting and Elder Tendt gave a very interesting talk.

Elder Tendt came on a mission the same time as I did and he don't know when he is going home. He has his wife with him so he hasn't that great attraction to make him anxious to go home but still he claims that he would like to leave some time this winter. His wife does most of the writing in the Swedish Star so they cannot let her go very well until they get some one to take her place. This is Elder Tendt's second mission. The first time he was here he labored here at Gefle for a while. That was one reason why he desired to visit this place, for there is a family of saints here now who where here then. When he was on his first mission he had not been married long and his only child was born while he was here in Sweden. He said that he knows just how I feel for he has passed through the same experience. That was ten years ago and now he is only thirty-two years old. I wonder if you and I will go on a mission together in ten years from now? I think it would be nice if we could, but probably circumstances will not be so we can. If not we will have to take things as they come, always trying to bear in mind that we have a great mission to perform at home.

I read your last letter with interest only when you stated that Melba was not well, that she was all broke out. Hope she is well now and that she has only had a case of chicken pox. According to her photo she looks so fat and well that there isn't much danger of her getting sick. I am pleased to note that you seem to be enjoying yourself much better now and that your friends are so kind to you and are anxious to have you visit them. I hope you will soon feel to home and discard the thought that the winter will never pass. The winter won't be so very long after Xmas and Xmas will be here almost before we are aware of it.

I don't think you have had much winter yet in Utah. We have had a little here. They have been out with sleighs but at present the ground is bare and it has rained considerably during the last two weeks. It has been quite cold a few days and quite a layer of ice was formed on the river but at present the boats are going in full force. The days are shortening rapidly, it gets dark about 3:30 p.m. and isn't daylight until 8 a.m. But after

Xmas they will lengthen quite rapidly and about the time that perpetual daylight comes again I will be apt to move from this wonderful land of the north and journey to the place we all love so well.

At present I feel as well as ever in my labors. We do some tracting in the city now and are meeting some who will listen to us. Our Sunday meetings are pretty well attended so if we don't meet with some success it will be our own faults. We are trying to do our best, but we feel weak in presenting the gospel principles so they might be thoroughly understood. Elder Nilson is doing nicely; he can play a few chords upon the organ so it makes the songs sound much better. We are going to try to hold choir practice once a week now so we can improve on our singing, for I notice the singing has a great affect on those who attend the meetings.

Will now draw to a close. We are going to take a good long walk now into another town to deliver some Stars. Will close with best of love and regards to all, Your loving husband, Niels Fugal.

Pleasant Grove, Utah, Nov. 28th, 1910

Dear Brother,

Your most welcome letter of 9th inst. came to hand yesterday and it was read with pleasure. We are indeed pleased to hear from you as often as you can find time to write. We stand around, all attention, whenever one of your letters come to hand.

You stated in your letter that you did not have any news to write about and you were afraid your letters were not interesting. You must get that idea out of your head right now! We always remark about what good interesting letters you write every time we read them.

I know that I have not been as punctual in writing this fall as I should be and I do feel ashamed. It is so easy to put off writing one day after another and the only way to do is to just sit right down and write today before I forget. I know that you always like to hear from home and now that Viola does not live in P.G. you do not hear much about the P.G. news. I will try and write a little oftener in the future.

I stated in my last letter that mother had been to Mayfield and that she did not feel very well when she came home. She is not well yet but she feels a little better than she did. She is not in bed but she cannot get around very well. Her back and hip still bothers her. I think it is rheumatism. She thinks she will be alright in a few days, she says it has to take its time to get better.

How did you spend Thanksgiving? John and Carrie went to Midway to spend Thanksgiving, our brother Chris had an invitation from his old girl Miss Lila Richardson to come to Benjamin to spend Thanksgiving and he went to be sure. He came back Friday and said he had had a very nice time. I have been teasing him ever since he came home but he stands it like a brick. He says she is a nice girl and all her folks are nice too.

Mother, Ernest and I had our Thanksgiving to Lavina's, we had a very good dinner and a nice time too. The Sunday Schools of the three wards gave a dance in the afternoon for the children. Each ward received \$2.15 after expenses. The musicians played free, it was good of them to do it.

Jens is still busy with his plumbing and he is doing some electrical work also. Chris is busy in the shop, he has had lots of plows to fix, the farmers are busy doing their fall plowing. Chris is busy too collecting and so is Jens. But there is nothing quite so big a blessing as having something to do and health so they can perform their work. Chris does not enjoy very good health but is feeling pretty good at present, for him.

Lew is still working here, he will have the plowing done in three or four days if the weather keeps fine. We have certainly had lovely weather this fall, most of the necessary work will get done. Lew was under the weather today and did not work but he said he would work tomorrow.

It is now Monday evening. I did not get my letter finished this afternoon. Jens and Chris have gone to Priesthood meeting. Ernest has gone to bed and mother is here by the table reading, she has read two books since she came home from Mayfield. I do not know what she would do if she could not read. She has commenced to read another. You stated in your letter that you would send mother a book entitled "Added Upon." It is a very good book to read, Mrs. Lim has the book and she has loaned it to mother so you will not need to send yours. Thank you just the same. If you know of any other books that would be nice for her to read just write and let us know. It is mostly novels that she has read so far.

I received a letter from Viola last night, she said that they were all well and that Melba was growing very fast. She is such a sweet little thing. I know that Viola was disappointed to learn that you were not coming home for Christmas but I believe she is reconciled to have you stay until spring now. She had planned to have you home for this Christmas but another six months will pass in six months anyway and you can accomplish much good by staying this winter. You will be able to do more than you have before as you know the language and are able to preach too.

Bro. Oscarson is on his way home, he left Sweden on the 20th inst. His folks are in hard circumstances so it is right that he should come home. Lavina received a card from Janet Bullock, she seemed to be enjoying her mission just fine, she is laboring in Portland, Oregon. Jesse Oler is in Colorado, they did not send him so far from home. Cora Carlson (Charlie C's dater) was married last Wednesday to Erving Bullock, Wm. Bullock's son. I believe I wrote you that Janie Lund and Herbert Armitstead were married. Ora Galli Shelton is visiting with Lavina, she has a baby girl nearly seven months old, it is quite a cute baby. Berthina and children are visiting at Riverton at present, they are coming to Lavina's Wed. They are not going back to the reservation until spring. George is going to get a job at Park City.

Today our cow Rheumatics died, she was sick for two days, her calf was just two weeks old. We have not much milk at present so Chris sold the calf as luck would have it to Fred Smith for \$5.00, it was not much, but it was good to get that as we could not raise it.

You asked to send you a check in this letter but we sent you one in last letter. We thought you would need some dough. Mother says to get yourself some good clothes and warm shoes so you will not be cold. You must take good care of Nielse. Your clothes must be threadbare not to have had any new ones for two years. Oh yes, Nels! your second mother Britty sent us five dollars for your for Christmas. Isn't she good? We will not send you the money in this letter but you must write her a letter so she can get it for Christmas. She gets so pleased to receive a letter from you. We have not seen her for some time but Jens was out there about three weeks ago and borrowed her horse. You know, Mrs. Gustaveson never drives it and Jens needs a horse every day to fly with.

We have not seen Uncle Isaac and Uncle Jacob yet about our relatives. But will do so when mother feels like visiting. We have not forgotten about it. You must excuse this leaf of paper because my tablet is full this time so I will have to stop.

Hope you are enjoying your mission very much and may you always be blest with health and everything else that you need. Be good to yourself and write soon to your Long-winded and Loving Sis. Stena C. (The folks send their love.)

Abraham, Utah, Dec. 1, 1910

My Darling Husband:

It has been so long since I wrote to you last that I guess you will think that I have forgotten you. I believe I have rec'd two letters since I wrote last. I was glad you liked the picture of little Melba but surprised to hear that you think she has changed so. I can't see it but I guess it's because I am right with her all the time. I don't notice it so much. She is getting so big now she will be almost grown before you see her.

Pa got word yesterday that his brother Eugene was dead so he went up to Salt Lake last night. Uncle Gene was staying at a rooming house there when he took pneumonia and died. **[Eugene was a twin, the youngest of Joseph C. Young and Elizabeth Pugh's 11 children; he never married that we know of and died at age 48.]**

I just got a letter from Stena yesterday, she tells me that Mart's folks expect him home in February and that Oscarson is on his way home now. Bruce Harvey and brothers have bought Alldredge's place for \$1280.

We went to Hinckley yesterday to a funeral, it was Bro. T. B. Allred. It was quite cold going in but pleasant coming back.

Stena said that Chris had a special invitation from Miss Richardson to come down to Benjamin and eat Thanksgiving dinner. So of course he went.

We had quite a nice time here on Thanksgiving. There are only a few people out here so we ate our Thanksgiving dinner together over in the schoolhouse. After dinner we had a nice program and then at night we had a dance.

I hope you are well and enjoying your labors. Melba has a cold but otherwise we are all OK. Grandma sent Melba a dollar for a Xmas present. Annie and Esther are both thinking of coming down here for Xmas and if they do we will have a dandy time. I am quite sure Annie will come but don't know about Esther. We are going to get Allen a Xmas tree when he goes for wood and Halley and I are going to trim it up nice for the kids. I can hardly wait till Xmas comes. I hope you will have as good a time as I expect to.

Everybody that I talked to yesterday in town told me what a sweet baby I had. She always looks so pleasant that people can't help but notice her. Pa carries her around and is as proud of her as I am. On fellow that used to be my schoolteacher was talking to me and he asked me how many I had like her and I said just the one and he said she certainly was a fine baby.

She is cutting teeth again now. Two double teeth just came thru so she has ten now. Esther says Verdell has eleven. I don't know what Pa and Aunt Hanner will do when I take Melba away, they both just about eat her up.

We haven't had the threshing yet and I don't think we will have them for a week or ten days. I don't know of any more news so will say goodbye for this time. Write often to your loving Wife Viola. xxxoo