

Pl. Grove, Jan. 14/11

Dear Brother.

I now take pleasure in writing you a few lines, it is so long since I wrote you I don't know when it was. You will pardon me for not doing more writing to you. I am feeling about the house as usual. I am taking treatment from Dr. Vance. I am a little better. I have to empty my stomach every morning and put a teaspoonful of soda in every qt. of water, and then I take some medicine after every meal and a pill every night to regulate the bowels. I will have to get well as I am seeing Miss Richardson once in awhile. I am going to Benjamin in the morning to see her. I tell you she is a fine girl. I gave her a nice watch for New Years. We are going to have a Scandinavian character ball here Wed. night. I guess she will come to that. She likes the old time dances. I took her last spring and we quit but I am not going to let go of her quite so easy this time. If I can help it.

I took mother over to Uncle Jake's today. She seemed to enjoy the trip. Uncle Jake is building Ben an addition on his house. Ma asked him to look up some of her relatives address in Sweden, he said he would and he said he is going to write to you. So you can look for a letter from him in the near future. Uncle Isaac said he was going to write you, perhaps he has already done so. I gave him your address the other day. I was pleased to note you have had a fine Xmas and that you got such a nice present. I hope you will have gained an experience on your trip that will be worth a great deal to you.

Everything is moving slow here now but in the spring I guess it will open up a little again. Of course we are never out of a job, we have the collecting for the water works to do and Jens has house plumbing to do all the time. We are thinking about ordering a 1/2 car of buggies and a 1/2 car of machinery. We are afraid to order too much as money seems to be tight all over.

While you are over there preach once for me. I can't think of any more to write now. So I will close with best wishes From your Brother C. A. Fugal.

Pleasant Grove, Utah, Jan. 14th 1911

Dear Bro. –

Your most welcome letter of Dec. 28th came to hand yesterday and must say that we were very glad to hear from you. Glad you are well and that you spent such an enjoyable Christmas, it is certainly pleasing to hear such good reports.

The people that you are laboring among seem to think you are OK and how can they help but think that? It makes us all glad to know that you have friends and are treated well by them. We spent quite an enjoyable Christmas also.

Now the holidays are over and people are down to biz again. The boys have been busy collecting for the water rates, they no sooner get through than they have to commence again. Today mother and Chris went to American Fork to see Uncle Jacob. Mother has not been anywhere since she came home from Sanpete. She is feeling alright now. Uncle

Jacob said he would try and find some of the addresses of mother's relatives if he could. He said he did not think there were many relatives in Sweden as he believes most of them have immigrated to America.

We have had quite a mild winter excepting for a week or so. The snow is melting fast. I have had one sleigh ride and that was while I was in Provo. We rode out to John's new home on the Bench and back to Provo again. Sundberg has not been doing any work on John's house for a long time. It is a very nice home, it will be very convenient when finished.

Mother said that Uncle Jacob was helping Bennie put an addition to his house. He had two rooms and is building two more. It is a frame house situated about a block south of Uncle Jacob's. By the way they have a daughter too born sometime last summer. Henson and his wife are living in Bingham, Lando is home from Idaho on a visit. Lydia is working in Bingham and the other kids are home. Now I have given you the history of Uncle Jacob's family and I know you are glad to hear it.

It is now 10:40 p.m. I have been to Sunday school, teachers local board meeting tonight, but I thought that I would finish my letter before going to bed. The meeting was well attended, Sunday school goes pretty good now Lawrence Monson is the theological teacher. Melvin Nelson is married, he married a girl from American Fork. Jens was out to see Mrs. Gustaveson about a week ago, she is feeling about the same as usual.

You will find a draft for fifteen dollars enclosed in this letter, \$5.00 from Mrs. Gustaveson, \$5.00 from your mother and \$5.00 from me. Have you your new suit yet? Chris is taking that Benjamin girl quite steady, I expect they will step off the earth during the year 1911. She seems to be a nice girl. I think he will put the wedding off until you come home.

Mrs. Benson has been quite sick for three weeks but has commenced to improve a little now. Ben and his wife and Ren are taking care of her. There is not much going on now, the town is somewhat quiet, but I suppose that is the way it is all over. You asked in one of your letters some time ago "whom Joe Radmall married." He married Sam Radmall's wife's sister, the one that got divorced from old man Peck. She married Joe soon after getting her divorce from Peck. They got married the last of September. They are well matched.

Will close wishing you a happy and prosperous new year. Your Loving Sister Stena Clayton.

In reading over my letter I find it is somewhat chopped up but I guess you can make her out alright. Oh yes! your cousin Emma Young Carter has another baby. Mother sends her love to you.

Gefle, Jan. 16th 1911

My Dear Darling Wife;

Your letter of Dec. 27th containing one from Annie and one from your father, came to hand and was read with pleasure. Many thanks for same. Please extend my thanks to your father and when you write to Annie tell her that I am in receipt of her letter and thank her for same. I wrote Annie a letter about ten days before I received hers but I sent it to the address which you gave me some time ago, and now I notice she gave me a new address. Please write a note to Annie and tell her that I sent the letter to 144 N. 3rd East Provo. Hope she gets the letter.

Well dear wife, I notice by your letter that you seemed to enjoy yourself OK on Xmas and that Annie and Esther were with you to help share a good time. I'll bet Melba was tickled over the nice presents she received. I wish I had a photo of her sitting on her little red chair with her dollie on her lap, singing it to sleep. It would no doubt be a fair illustration of how my darling wife looked about twenty years ago. I suppose she thinks Santa Claus is Alright, doesn't she? Just think! next Xmas I can be Santa Claus. Won't that be nice Viola? Probably I will place something in your stocking if you will be good.

It is very kind of Joe to send you \$3 for a Xmas present. It shows that he wants to be good to the missionaries' wives. It certainly would have been nice to be with you at the Home Dramatic Theatre which you attended. I haven't been to a theatre since I was in P.G. so I am quite anxious to see a good one. Will probably take in a Swedish one before I leave here. A dance with my little wife would also be a great pleasure, but I suppose I have almost forgotten how to dance, so I will get you to give me a few lessons when I come home. We have had many good times at the dances and I hope we have some good times coming.

It is just twenty seven months today since I kissed you goodbye at the S.L.C. depot. Do you think you will ever forget that time. I know I won't, for it left an impression upon me that can never wear away. In one way it doesn't seem so very long since that time, but when I call to mind what has happened during the time of our separation, it certainly seems quite a long time. I don't blame you for saying it seems a hundred years, but I do hope the few months that I have left in the mission field will pass swiftly and pleasantly for you. Just think how much joy and happiness will penetrate our souls in a couple of months, when we will know that we will soon be permitted to see each other again and pour out our love to each other. They will be happy days and I hope they will never wither away, but that we may so live that our love and affection will increase, that our happiness may not relinquish. I have been absent from you a longer time than I was acquainted with you before our marriage but I can truthfully and happily say, that during my absence my love for you has increased and I have learned to appreciate what a noble little wife I have. You have so far, fought the fight bravely and have won the confidence of your husband.

Well the holidays are all over now here in Sweden and we elders have had a very nice time. The saints have been kind to us, by inviting us to help them eat their good Xmas meals. Since I last wrote to you I have been to Lörstrand where I met Pres. Fredrick Anderson and Elder Hyrum E. Hanson from the Sundsvall Branch. We held three public meetings and two private meetings. The meetings were well attended with people who seem to have a great interest in what we have to offer them. We have made many friends there in spite of all opposition and I am looking for a good harvest in the spring. One man

told me that he thought he would have to become a Mormon because he could understand that it was the truth which we have presented him. He invited us home to dinner and his big fat woman certainly gave us a good meal. The people in Lörstrand wish us to come back soon so I suppose I will go there again in about six weeks.

I am well and enjoying my labors and hope this letter will find you all in the same condition. Extend my best regards to all concerned and accept the same yourself. I am as ever your husband. Niels Fugal.

Abraham, Utah, Jan. 18, 1911

My Darling Husband:

Your letter of Jan. 4th came today and has been read with much pleasure. Yes we did have a nice time while the girls were here and I also wish that you could have been with us too. Oh Nels don't you think they might possibly release you before May? They don't always wait till conference to release them do they?

Dearest I'm sorry I wrote to you the way I did about your letters for they are all so good. I am ashamed to think I could find any fault with them. You must not let that trouble you and please try to forget about it. I don't know what gets the matter with me sometimes. I do so long for your love and I want you to love me too much I guess and then when I get a letter I imagine it is cool and distant and I wrote you a foolish letter. I hope you will have lots of patience with and try to forgive me. If I do say your letters are cold I can hardly wait till they come so you may know I appreciate them some if I do try to find fault sometimes.

In regards to that other matter let us forget all about it. I had almost forgotten about it when I got your letter. I did feel a little hurt when you told me about it but I don't think I would have written the way I did if I had waited a few days before I answered your letter.

Last night Bro. Wm. A. Morton from S.L.C. who is traveling around and holding meetings in the interest of Religion Classes held a meeting out here. Elder Alma Langston who is Stake Supt. of Religion classes was with him and we certainly had a fine meeting. I don't know when I enjoyed a meeting like I did that. I wish you could hear Bro. Morton talk. He certainly is a fine speaker.

We are having beautiful weather here now. It is just like spring. The ground is nearly dry. I hope that you are well and enjoying your labors. Melba hasn't been well but seems to be alright now. Well dear I am so sleepy I can hardly hold my eyes open so will say goodnight dearest and write often to your loving Wife and Baby.

I got a letter from Lavina the other day. She sent Melba a dollar. Your mother sent Melba a pair of stockings and a dollar for Xmas.

Abraham, Utah, Jan. 31, 1911

My Dearest Nels:

After waiting patiently for three or four days, I rec'd your letter and was very much pleased to hear from you again. I have read and re-read your letter and enjoyed it thoroughly. I was pleased to hear that you were treated so well during Christmas time and that you had lots of good things to eat. Won't you feel sorry when you have to leave Sweden. Maybe you will wish you were back there before you have been home very long. Don't you think so?

We have lovely weather here for the last two or three weeks, almost like spring, but now the wind is blowing awfully hard and it looks as tho we might have a storm before morning. Allen and Pa were thinking of going to the cedars this morning but it looked so stormy they backed out.

Little Melba is in bed asleep. Pa has gone to an irrigation meeting. Aunt Hanner is knitting and I am sitting by the table writing to my dear husband which is quite a pleasant occupation but it would be much pleasanter if you was near enough to talk to. The wind is blowing so hard that it rattles the doors and windows and makes me feel so lonely as it whistles around the corners of the house. Oh how nice it would be if you were only here and we two were sitting by the nice warm fire talking while the Baby sleeps. I'm sure I wouldn't care how hard the wind would blow then, it would seem nice to have it blow then.

Just think dear if you don't get home till the middle of June it will be four long months before I see you. I am thinking some of going back up north before very much longer but haven't decided just when I will go. The folks want me to stay here until you come home but I don't think I will do that. I just hate to travel around with a baby and will be so glad when you and I are 'settled down.' I hear that Chris is thinking seriously of getting married so you don't need to be surprised if you have a new sister when you come home. Stena told me in her last letter that Ivy Radmall and Claude Newman were to be married soon.

Next Saturday and Sunday will be Quarterly Conference of the Millard Stake in Hinckley. I would like very much to go if the weather permits and I have a way to go.

I do wish that you could see Melba now, she is getting to be quite a talker. I was trying to get her to say "Papa's on a mission," and she can say Papa as plain as anybody but she says "bishon" for mission. Sometimes she will say, "I love mama," she can say that quite plain and then she puts her little arms around my neck and kisses me. She's just as sweet as she can be.

Well dearest, I must bring my long letter to a close and I do hope that you will write to me just as often as possible. May God Bless and be with you at all times is the prayer of your loving Wife Viola. xxxxxxooooxxx

Pleasant Grove, Ut., Jan. 31st, 1911

Dear Brother,

It is sometime now since I wrote to you and passed time to write again. In your last letter you stated that you had spent an enjoyable Christmas that the Saints had shown you a good time. We were certainly glad to hear that, and also that they had remembered you with a Christmas present. The present is one that will last a lifetime, one you can always remember your Swedish friends by. We are glad that you are enjoying your mission and that you are not homesick and that the time is passing by rapidly, that shows that you are not idle and that you have the right spirit.

The character ball that I wrote you about in my last letter was a grand success. There were quite a number of good characters represented. I will mention a few of them commencing with your big brother. Jens took the part of a typical farmer, had the goatee and all. Lavina and Mrs. Hone represented Norwegian girls, they looked fine. Chris and his girl, Miss Richardson, represented Benj. Franklin and wife, by the way Miss Richardson took the first prize, she looked just fine. I took the part of night [knight?]. Rose Hayes and Letty Houston were old fashioned girls. Annie Rassmuson was a Swede. Lennie Christianson was a cowgirl and two others represented the same. Hans Rassmuson was a White Wing street sweeper, he had a little cart and brush, he took his part well, he received the second prize \$1.50. His wife was the Danish flag. The Swedish and Norwegian flags were also repr. Hans and Ida Williamson were the village blacksmith and daughter. Sern and Phine Merck were pioneers, talk about rags! they had them. Pearl Ellis repr. popcorn and Burly West Pleasant Grove. Oh yes! Colla Anderson was Ole Olson and he acted like what shall I do with Colla. Pete Christianson and Annie Smith were Puritans, they looked fine too. Annie Oler, Olive Nelson, Stella Jenson and Melvin and his wife represented the Dam Family and somebody's little dog. Talk about ancients, they must of gotten their duds from Noah's ark. They acted their part well. I cannot mention all the characters so I might just as well stop. We all had a fine time. The hall was well filled.

Alma Christiansen is a papa now, it is a girl. Tilda and baby are doing fine.

Mart came home Sunday night, he was over to see us yesterday, we chatted about two hours. He looks well and says he feels well, he would have liked to have stayed longer so he could come home with you. He says he has enjoyed his mission very much. Owen is home and has been for a month so he could do the chores but of course Mart did not know that and he had to come when he was sent for. It was nice that he could stay twenty six months.

There isn't much doing right now. Lew is cutting down trees for Fred Newman. We just hire him a day now and then when we need him. The boys make pretty good chore boys. Jens does the milking, Chris is not converted to milking yet. I expect he will learn though. He and Miss Richardson are quite so-so, they correspond regularly. So there may be a wedding when you come home.

Claude Newman and Ivy Radmall are married, bishop Walker married them.

Last Sunday B. H. Roberts was here in the interest of the seventies, he spoke in the afternoon meeting to a crowded house. His talk was simply grand, I never had heard one better. He spoke on the life of the Savior and the prayer of consecration, i.e., the prayer

on the sacrament. He explained everything so thoroughly. The three wards met conjointly that day.

John Christensen has been over here pruning the trees for a few days. He is home now as Carrie does not feel very well, but we think she will soon be alright. She got a little sick yesterday. Joe and Annie Galli have been visiting at Jens' for a week. They are in Provo now at Carrie's.

Mother says when you come home to bring her a pair of silver earrings if you can get them. She had a pair when she left Sweden and would like another pair now.

The children are all to school, they seem to like it fine. There are a few cases of small pox in town but none are serious. I understand the school has been fumigated so they think there is no danger of getting it at school. The school board is talking of building more school rooms, they had a meeting yesterday to see whether or not the town should be bonded for \$35,000. I expect they will bond the city when the time comes.

On the other side of this paper you will notice a letter fro you from my son. He wrote it last night and hopes it will get across the big ocean alright so you can get it. He was very pleased to write you a letter and hopes you will be able to read it. He goes to school in the forenoon only. He is doing quite well.

Hope you are well and enjoying yourself and your labors. Be good to yourself and let us know in good time when you need more dough. Your Loving Sister, Stena. The folks send their best wishes.

Dear Uncle Niels [cursive],

I thought you would like to hear a few words from me. I am well and go to school and like it fine. My teacher is good. This is the first letter I have ever written out. Rite to me some time. From Ernest Clayton.

Abraham, Utah, Feb. 9, 1911

[Enclosed, Valentine card engraved "To My Dearest Friend," from your loving Wife Viola. Also Valentine card from Aunt Hanna, tightly filled with Swedish words, engraved, "To My Valentine, This bow of Red Is Cupid's choice, I send it to you for better or worse; Oh will't be mine, My Valentine."]

My Dearest Husband

Your letter of Jan. 25 [don't have this letter] was rec'd and read with much pleasure. Pleased to note that you are well but sorry to hear that Bro. Nilson was sick and I hope that he has completely recovered long before this. You asked me if I was going to stay down here until you came home. No dearest I am thinking of going back up north before very much longer. Where would you rather have me stay Nels? Now please don't say wherever I would rather stay, but tell me if it didn't make any difference to me where you would rather have me stay.

Dear Nels, I too am looking eagerly forward to the time when we will be together again. You say you don't want to make me think too much about it. I think about it every hour of the day and then dream about it at night so write just as much as you like about the time when you will be home and we will both be so happy. I like to have you write that way for then I know you think about us sometimes and long to be with me again.

You say you are liable to become quite stuck up over your wife and daughter. I am afraid my dear that you will find us very ordinary people and there will be nothing at all about is to be stuck up over. All I ask is my darling that while drawing your mind pictures of your wife and Baby, you do not draw us so near perfection for you know we are but human and full of faults and failings and whatever happens we don't want you to be disappointed in us when you come home.

You say it will be nice to partake of the meals your wife prepares. Maybe you will find out that I can't cook any better than you can. You know I don't profess to be a good cook but I guess that both together we will manage somehow and Oh Nels when we sit down to our first meal alone together then will I be perfectly happy. Just think dearest it will be four long months before we see each other again. Won't I be happy when I start to count the days instead of the months until you will be home. Shall I go to Salt Lake City to meet you, dearest? Or shall I just stay wherever I happen to be until you come. Sometimes it seems just like a dream that you and I were ever married or that I ever saw you. It has been so long I don't know whether I will know you or not. How I should like to have stepped in and watched you get your breakfast that morning. I am glad you're learning to cook dearest, you may have to put it into practice occasionally after you come home.

Well Nels Melba isn't at all well, she has been sick for a week and I don't know what's the matter with her. She isn't so very bad and plays around some days, she seems alright and then the next day she is worse.

I don't know of any news so will close for this time. Write often to yours forever Viola and Melba.

Pleasant Grove, Utah, Feb. 14th 1911 [Niels and Viola's second child was born 2-14-13.]

[Another Valentine card enclosed, engraved "Forget Me Not," and on the address side: Best Valentine greetings to Niels from Ernest.]

Dear Bro. –

Your most welcome letter was received a few days ago and contents were read with pleasure. We are certainly glad to receive all your letters as they are all good and we can tell that you have the spirit of your mission. It is nice to make the best of the time.

Well Mart is home and we have all heard him preach. He does well and says he has enjoyed his mission very much. Last Sunday he spoke in Scandinavian meeting. Mother and Chris were there and heard him preach. Mother says he knows the Swedish language

perfectly and speaks well. The Scandinavians hold meeting two Sundays a month. They hold forth in the Josephite Church. As you know it is not used by the Josephites now.

[There are Catholic Josephites, but more likely these are from a 1866 splinter group of Mormons, led by one of the sons of Joseph Smith, who formed the Josephites, later known as the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. There was an RLDS building west of the Old Second Ward, 100 N. and 100 E.]

We have received your books, they are all in good condition and the Articles of Faith will come in handy as will also the Eccl. History, as we are studying the Restoration in Mutual. It is nice to have some good works like those to refer to.

Last Saturday was the day the old folks were entertained, the weather was lovely, all the old folks had a fine time. After the program was finished the old folks went down to the picture show. The north room of Aydelotte's store is fixed up for a picture show. They run three nights every week. The old folks enjoyed the show for an hour and then went to their homes.

In my last letter I stated that Carrie was sick, she is feeling pretty good now, she is up around. I was down there two days last week. And I received a card the other day that she was feeling fine.

Jens said he would write you about the old homestead in Denmark, and give you all the pointers he could. Jim Fugal's wife is down to Thornes visiting at present and the first time I go down town I will get Jim's address and write him, he is out with the sheep. I have not seen Uncle Isaac for a couple of weeks but when I do see him I will stir him up if he has not written you. When I asked him for the addresses of our Swedish relatives he said, "Oh I'll write to Niels right away and send them."

The weather has been just lovely all month but last night it snowed about six inches so it looks like winter again. It is nice to have snow now while it's winter because if we do not we will have it when it is spring.

Lew has been working here off and on lately, he has been chopping wood and trimming the trees on the side walk. The locust trees south of Jens' look like skyscrapers. He has trimmed all the limbs off but a few near the top. Jens went to Salt Lake City yesterday and is coming home tonight.

Chris is still on the warpath of love, he corresponds regularly with Miss Richardson. I guess it will be a sure go this time, Chris seems to think she is OK and she is a nice girl as far as I know. You asked who Hones were. Mrs. Hone is a sister of Miss Richardson. They came from Benjamin about two years ago. They lived in the Alldredge place nearly a year, then they bought the Mumford place where Ned Kirk used to live south of George West's. Mr. Hone is in the bee business, he has helped Jens to extract our honey for the last two years. I understand that Chris is engaged and I hope he does not get disappointed.

In regards to your confidential letter I do not think you could bring anything that would be

nicer than razors for the men. I know that Chris' razor is almost worse than none at all. I believe Jens' is none too good either. I think that Viola will be very pleased with the spoons. As you have teaspoons given to you, some dessert spoons will be fine as you haven't any dessert spoons and they will last so long. And I think too that it would be nice to bring her a pair of black kid gloves. They say they are not so dear over there as they are here. Jens brought Lavina, Carrie and I a pair and they lasted fine. I believe that Viola will take size 6-1/8. Lavina has a good supply of silverware so I think a pair of gloves will be appreciated by her too, size about 7-1/4. I don't know about Carrie but I will find out next time I see her and let you know. As regards mother I wrote you about some earrings, and some teaspoons would be nice for her. Do not get them too expensive for mother, or she will think they are too good to use. And Stena will like any little thing that you bring her. If I find out that there is anything that anyone would like I will let you know next time.

Mart does not shine with Ethel Hilton since he came home. She is engaged to Everett West. Albert Olsen takes Miley Smith's daughter Genave. And Lawrence Monson does not take anyone as I know of. Isn't this interesting.

Be good to yourself and take good care of Niels. I am glad you have written to Mrs. Gustaveson as I know it pleases her very much to be remembered by you. Your Loving Sister Stena.