

From Box 595
Gardiner, Maine.



Mr Arthur T. Gledhill,
Plymouth, Mass.

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Pondina, Minn.

20 Aug - '91 -

My dear Gledhill,

Your letter comes last evening and I was mightily glad to get it, as you may know. If I remember rightly, I wrote to you some time ago and failed to get an answer. That fact however makes no difference; the reason for my not writing is that I have been so miserable and down at the heel generally this summer on account of my saw, which has been going like the devil, and some other things which have not been going at all, that I have had small heart for letter writing or writing of any sort. I am trying to pull myself together now, however, and feel pretty sure that I shall do a fair amount of work. It makes me sick to look back upon the life that I have lived in the past, and almost so to look into the future, that is, sometimes. I have faint

in myself - too much of it, I think,
but I was sent into the woods without
the strength to stand up under my am-
bitions. I drop ^{am} ^{been} "tricked"
when I was a kid met the rest of
the boys and am afraid that I will
always be the cast. I have never been
able to shake myself as near 30
or 35 years old and I am not sure
that I ~~can~~ ^{don't} dare to be more than
that. I have ^{premonitions} ^{and} have
always had them, but I am very glad
to say that they are not all gloomy.
One of them is that the fellows who
know me don't see not going to for-
get me and another is that I am
going to do something before I get
through. There is, I think, nothing
morbid in my condition. My coun-
seller just tells me that there is not
much of me, and never was to last
a good many years. His heart is no
new thing with me and it does not
scare me in the least. I am not

suicidal, nor am I a nihilist. I am not a pessimist, or
anything of the sort. My ^{opinion} ^{was} ^{shame} ^{application} of a
little, if it is a good one, ^{are} ^{what} ^{will} ^{do} ^{me}. I have not
much hope of ^{disappointment} ^{and} ^{am} ^{not} ^{obscure} ^{days}. I shall
never do a prominent citizen ^{and} I don't go for it, but I
shall be something just as far perhaps ^{and} ^{possibly} ^a ^{little}
more prominent.

I regret that your cordial invitation must wait -
I can't get to my next ^{the} ^{summer}, ^{and} ^{will} ^{not}
only be there to go on if I were there. How long will I get
samples out ^{and} ^{just} ^{that} - I can show up ^{very} ^{early}
I will send some. I have a car at ^{just} ^{that} ^{is} ^{long}
and a number of good ^{and} ^a ^{few} ^{of} ^{good} ^{fruit} for the market
and ^{just} ^{will} ^{say} ^{that} ^{is} ^{it} - ^{What} ^{was} ^{don} ^a ^{man} ^{read}? - ^{It}
will ^{be} ^{there}. I can not this morning and must go down ^{to}
after dinner. It made me start up the day when you sent me
this to ^{read} ^{and} ^{thank} ^{you} ^{very} ^{much} - S. A. R.