

7-29-1924

## Letter, July 29, 1924, Katharine Wright to Harry [Henry J. Haskell]

Katharine Wright Haskell

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Lambert Island

Pemung, Ontario - July 29, 1924.

Dear Harry;

I was delighted to find the Kansas City postmark on one of my letters when we went to town for our mail last Saturday. Orr doesn't take a bit of interest in his mail; he is always afraid there will be some letters for him! Not so with K. M.

It is so peaceful here until we go to town and get the newspapers. It is comical, how excited I get. I did enjoy your editorial on "Ariel." It was awfully interesting and very learned! The two don't always go together. I enjoyed "Ariel," too, but I must say I couldn't see what there was about Shelley to make such an awful fuss about! I don't get it that he was such an "angel" but I'll admit he was a "poet."

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The book was fascinating but it did not give me as much admiration <sup>liking</sup> for Shelley as I had before. I am inclined to think that the less you know of such irresponsible "geniuses" (what in the world is the plural of "genius"?) the more you are charmed by them.

"Pink's" grinch on the hot weather was one of his very best. I read it out loud to Orr and we roared over it. I think myself Davis would be a more attractive candidate if he weren't so everlastingly good-looking. But have you been having hot weather? We have never had such a cool season here. Yesterday and the day before were hot but it's cool again this evening. We had a little fire. It has always been cool enough to be perfectly comfortable if one sits in the shade and keeps comparatively quiet. But it can be hot here and, when it is,

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it is awful! When it gets good and warm I always get full of energy - not always, but very often. So yesterday I made an extra job of cleaning my room and Orr's, made cottage cheese, got the lunch, so Edwards could help Orr in some work at the dock, and wound up by washing and ironing a blouse - a thing which I find takes more than "good will" to do well.

I made a blueberry pie the other day. The blueberries are very late and are not ripening very well. But we shall have all we can eat. I love them with cream, for breakfast.

I am sure I don't know what all the "buzzing" in the world is about. For one thing, isn't ambition a curious thing? My opinion is that it is responsible for a good share of the unlovely things among people of

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opportunity and ability. I don't take the Atlantic now (I got so tired of so many silly articles) but I noticed the extract from President Eliot's article on Wilson. He certainly had a lot of Wilson's unlively traits sized up - his utter heartlessness with friends when they no longer flattered him or served his purpose - his grabbing other people's ideas and forgetting they were not his and so on and so on. It all goes back to his ambition, I think. Caesar had nothing on Woodrow Wilson when it came to ambition! It seems to me that there is too often an extreme degree of selfishness in people who "go far" and the modern variety is just a little more extreme perhaps than formerly - maybe not - maybe it just seems so because we can see it before our eyes. And what do we all want anyway? I am sure I don't know: all I want now is to be quiet and peaceful and I am that.

Some time you must come here and see him. lovely it is - if you like it! As always Katherine