

Hightstown, NJ
Feb 20-21

My Dear Granddaughter and family

I received your letter quite some time ago was glad to hear that you were all well and well prepared for the winter as we are too at present we are all well as to myself I am greatly improved I seem to be about free from anything it if doesn't return. I think it will not unless I should get a bad cold I haven't had any this winter and mean to be careful and not get any now. I have done nothing this winter not one day's work. Dr. said I should be careful and not get bad cold and by spring he thought I would be alright it seems not that I will. If so I will be very thankful until after I was 71 years old I never was not one day I could not work to think that after that I should go bad. Not being used to being sick it was a tough experience for me I was not really sick but short of breath under slight-exertion when quiet I would feel quite good only at night most of the time I could not lie down sit in chair at night now I can sleep good walk as fast as I used to. I'll assure I feel good over that. On Jan 29th my birthday that night the boys gave me a surprise I never knew about it until they all walked in had a good time all together. However had an increase in his salary of \$300-- per year making his salary \$3,300--per year. John has returned from France went to Washington D.C. and taken examination for consular service is now in New York to work until he hears from the examination which will sometime yet. If he passed he will be sent to some foreign country as a representation of United States we have had a remarkable mild winter. But last night it began to snow. It snowed all night and all day to day and is still snowing from the north at noon there was six inches on the level probably will reach eight inches still it is not to say cold. Times here are dull all over. Except where men have ready jobs other are idle most of the time and I can see little better prospect for the future at least for some time. As Europe is poor owing the United States \$14,000,000,000 together with their low exchange and having to pay here for what they buy in gold which they they do not possess. Renders them unable to buy our surplus without europene trade our factories must be idle a good part of the time thus I can not see much sine of near future improvement in business here or elsewhere however I hope I am mistaken. There is prise cutting everywhere but if people have no money nor work how can they buy. Joseph has everyday work inside ab \$35.00 per week with Saturdany afternoon off. Most all of this time is occupied by people who have machines to be repaired by him then. Hoping when you receive this then you are all well and happy and excuse me for not writing sooner
All send there love and best wishes to you all. We remain

Affect your grand parents
James & Mary Ewart