

Hightstown, N.J. 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 to. at present we are all well
as to myself I am greatly improved
I seem to be about free from
asthma if it doesent return
I think it will not unless I should
get a bad cold I havent had any
this winter and mean to be careful
and not get any now. I have done
nothing this winter not one days work.
Dr. said I should be careful and not
get bad cold and by spring he thought
I would be alright. It seems now 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 sit good walk as
fast as I used to. Ill assure I feel
good over that. on Jan 29th my birth
day that night the boys gave me a
surprise I never knew about it
until they all walked in had a good
time all together. Howard had
an increase in his salary of \$700-
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

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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 2 1/2 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 others 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 don't
possess. renders them unable to
buy our surplus. without european
trade our factories must be idle
a good part of the time. thus I can
not see much sign of near future.

improvement in business
 here here or elsewhere. However
 I hope I am mistaken. There is price
 cutting everywhere. but if people have
 no money nor work how can they buy.
 Joseph has every day work inside
 at \$35.00 per week with Saturday
 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 that
 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