

Letters to Nora
from Gray Handy

Bellevue Idaho 27.

Dec 11th 84

Miss Nora Crockett
Dear lady

you will think it presumptuous
in me to thus address you
considering our limited
acquaintance but as you will
have other things to attend
in this letter probably you
will also excuse this when
I tell you that looking back
over my past of life the
brightest ~~and~~ spot I find
there in is the few hours
I spent in your presence on
a journey from Salt Lake
to Logan last spring
perhaps it has escaped your
memory but I want you to

under stand that it has not
escaped mine I never think of
that occasion but what it
through a ray of sunshine
across my path I dont think you
will take offence at any thing
I have said or will say unless
you have lost that generous and
forgiving disposition which I know
you must possess and which is
so much admired by your
Truly I cannot undertake to
explain at this time the cause
of my being so dilatory in
writing to you I do not allow
my self to hope that you
expected any message from
me if you have any doubt
about my having remembered
you this will be sufficient
proof to the contrary circumstances
will not permit me to come
to Utah this winter as I

as I expected to do hence
this letter I want you to
believe ~~at~~ that I feel what
I say excuse my using this
the first person so often
in this letter yet I hope
if you should ever answer
this letter you will do the
same feeling that I have
trespassed on your time
and patience already
more than is consistent
I will close yours Truly
Wm. Handy.

Butte, Idaho. 27

P.S.
New Year's Greetings
to all kindred
Regards

our efforts do not lead
to success it will be
some consolation to know
that we have done our
duty there is no use for
us to look forward to
the holidays with any
anticipations of pleasure
because our day is about
the same as another year
letter I was what I
expected from you.

wishing you a merry Christmas
and a prosperous New Year
and take care of the
children

I am yours truly
S. H.

Bellevue Idaho

Dec 24th 84

Miss Nora Crockett

I received
yours of the 14th inst-
yesterday the reason it
is so late coming to hand
it has been storming
for a week the snow is
four feet deep and is
still falling at intervals
snow shoveling is fine. The
gentleman whom you
were so kind to inquire
is Mr. J. W. Merrill and he
is here with me. The
promise I made you I have
kept too the letter if you
have any doubt I will

get an affidavit from
Joe and send it to you.
we are living a bout four
miles from Quersaw and
cannot get there only on
snow shoes. we are working and get them. I am
a mine here with varied
success so far we have
our winter supplies all
in and it is little we
care how deep the snow
falls. we only work a
bout eight hours per
day therefore you will
be that I will have
plenty of time to read
long letters it is ~~still~~
gratifying to me to know
that you are still discharging
your duties with cheerfulness
it is needless to say that
I expected any thing less
of you & sympathize with

you in your long walks
whether they are solitary
or not I would like to
love you in snow shoes
if you would come up
and get them. I am
sorry to say that my time
out of work is not used
to such good purpose
as yours is. playing whist
and reading novels is the
order of the day if you
can suggest any thing
better in ~~this~~ for me
to do in this god-forsaken
country I will adopt the
suggestion with pleasure
this is a healthy country
but it is not conducive
to high spirits. Consider
just now it is Christmas
times it is rather a hard
life we live here but if