

North Shore  
March 9<sup>th</sup> 181

Do the folks  
still pray for  
us or are we  
forgotten now?  
We never needed  
it more.

My darling Lucy,

We have moved  
our lodgings from Mrs Williams  
to a Mrs Adams. the change is not  
an improvement - certainly but  
we <sup>have</sup> obliged to leave. Mrs Williams'  
lodgings are so much out after  
that she had let our rooms as I had  
told her we were leaving for Kinross-  
Street - but as Uncle Robert is hoping  
to get his holidays this week we (or  
rather I) thought we had better  
remain where we are. We are quite  
close to the house Aunt Emma is  
living in which is convenient and  
when Uncle is over we shall be out

a great-deal more. I wish I could say  
that-Father is better than when I wrote  
last. He is about the same. It is  
much harder work for me than it  
was a few weeks ago. He is so restless  
and sometimes very very trying  
but I think I must need a great-  
deal of chastening to make me  
patient & submissive to His will  
who is our loving Father. I read of  
people who can rejoice in the midst  
of sorrow like mine but that is not  
my experience. I can thank the  
Lord many times during one day  
for help & wisdom given when in  
need of it. He interposes his hand  
so often to calm our dear one when  
excited but my life is more like  
a continual prayer for help &  
guidance than a rejoicing. I  
cannot say I have any joy. Really  
sometimes my heart feels hard

when I hear our dear one ask me as  
he does very often "What does this  
mean? I used to rest happily on  
God's word but now I can't try as I  
may." He seems almost to have  
given up believing the word. I think  
somehow he feels as if he had cried  
with all his heart to God and got no  
help. It is a deep mystery. but we  
shall know all bye & bye. In  
the meantime we must just trust  
however hard it is to do so. We have  
had much to be thankful for in the  
midst of all our sorrow. Dear Arthur  
has indeed been one of our greatest  
blessings. I sometimes think I could  
not have borne it all as I have done if  
you girls had had to live with Uncle  
Tom. I should have felt it very much  
for I fear you would have been made  
to feel it. I am so sorry there are  
no letters this week from any of you.

I cannot understand it. I hope there  
is nothing the matter. I do not get  
my letters very regularly now I am  
on the North Shore. It is possible I may  
have one yet. I am afraid this will  
be too late to go with the Frisco mail  
which came in about two or three  
hours ago. but I will try and see if  
I can get it posted. Aunt Emma  
and Ada have gone over to a tea meeting  
at Mr. Robertson's church tonight.  
Grandpapa enjoyed his visit to the  
Waimate very much. They were  
all so good to him and petted him  
up very much. He has come back  
much better for the change. I meant  
to write quite a long letter but can't.  
Special love to all our dear ones  
Arthur, Emma, Fred & Susie not  
forgetting your dear old self  
from Father & your loving  
Old Mother.