

[From Andrew Lee]

Eau Claire 19 July 1895

Dear brother!

I will now again write you some lines even though I do not exactly remember when I last received a letter from you. So now then, I hope you will bear me in mind with some lines when you have time.

It [the summer] is so far along that the 4th of July or America's independence day is over as across the entire country the celebration is on quite a magnificent scale.

I, Elling, Karl, and Jørgen Hagen traveled down to Purce [sic] county and made a big visit. As you know, Elling Moan, O. Eskildsen, the Reitan people, Wangstad and many others live there, also Jakob Olsen. We went by way of Red Wing [sic], Minnesota which is quite a fine city, where in the last year they built a bridge over the Mississippi River at a cost of \$70,000 and which is so high that the steamboats can easily go under it.

Elling Moan met us there in Red Wing with transport. They live about ten miles from town. Here is the finest and best farming land I have yet seen and the growth is so good that I have hardly seen it better.

Elling and Ole's farms lie next to each other whereas Reitans and Wangstads lie about 3-4 miles from there. They all appear to be doing well.

Here in Eau Claire everything goes its usual way. The sawmills clatter and groan every single day.

Moreover, times are gradually becoming a little better now. Over the whole country the year's forecast appears to be promising.

Now finally I want to give you an exhortation. Write immediately when you receive this letter and tell me some news.

With that a greeting from me.

Andrew Lee  
725 Water str  
Eau Claire  
Vis