

[1896.]

Hesperidam Ranch
Tolton.
Santa Cruz Mts

Dear Andrew -

The girls were all in delightfully high spirits coming down on the train Emma said her joints ached from talking - though she hates babies - she diverted and worried over a sick baby who fretted from Santa Clara down to Tolton. The air is delightful and you perceive the change the moment you leave the ~~state~~ cars. The Constable of Tolton drove Elsie and Grand Sutton to Tolton to buy our supplies. We waited at the station until their return. The Constable (Mr Drew) drove us over in a four seated wagon - with our baggage - he was a good driver and "he needed to be" for its a good two miles over a rough road - Tell Pam it is too far for him to think of coming in one day

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and returning - the road is either
so rough or sandy it would not
be good wheeling - The shanties
are in a wood - It is very quiet
and wild - The families are ex-
pected in a few days for two
of the other shanties - The houses
are these unpainted weather-
beaten board "shacks" we see
used by wood-choppers -
all through the woods all
the rooms open into each
other - Things were very dirty
we all got to work and
cleaned up - Expecting to have
to get dinner - the meat cart
called the calls three times
a week. The grocer brought over
the groceries and a young lady
who visited us all over to tell
to a dance - said, they were
very nice dances - have them
every night - Our girls said
they had not come for
years - as Emma were a

pellucid all day. I was not
 surprised that she did not
 force her. This evening just as
 one of the Sullons put the last
 Potato into the oven - a shout!
 went up, and we all rushed
 out to see Sam - in a buggy
 with a man who had driven
 him over from Yellon. He said
 he got to the train this morning
 just five minutes late. So he
 came on the afternoon train.
 He looks very good natured.
 I do not like his sleeping in
 the kitchen - but Elsie will
 have it so - The room off the
 porch is very small - but outside
 the house, ^{from the porch} (can be looked out, Elsie
 looks that and there is no
 place for Sam - as the doors
 are very slight and anyone

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Can step in the window and
the lock on the kitchen door is
very slight - I'd feel much
safer for the girls if I am
slept out - I shall put the
table across the kitchen door
on the dining room side after
Elsie is asleep - It's real
camping - but the shanty is
better than tents, and the girls
are very happy - they are now
singing "Sweet Home", there is
a dancing platform outside
about the size of a room
with seats around, and they
are all out there singing
after the Ball - 2 little girls in
line to - they have renamed
themselves - I am Mrs Camilla
Fisher is Elsie, Carry is Emma,
Sally is Maud, Myronette is
Alice, Lily flower is Beatrice,
Rose's, Ruth - who is also Susan,
she is a beauty! very like Ethel.

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Thip Anderson is very like Sadie
Nandy before she put on style -
The dishes are very few and
campish but we have lots of
style in silver - with love
to all -

your loving
Mama

June 3d

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June 4th

I wrote this up to page five (5) last night - when the "Gins" came in to bed, as the candle was in the dining room and lighted all the others - I had to go to bed. This morning we hurried to Sutton there and back is 25 miles - I thought Emma had this letter to mail there - but she had left it on the bed - So I bought a Postal Card and writ on it to Pa so he'd know we were all right - Sam is doing very well - the meals are good - he is very pleasant - the Gins are very happy - If living out doors all day will cure nerves I ought to get well - If you could come down Friday night (in the after noon train - and stay over Sunday - you'd like it - try to come - and if you do will meet you - A carpenter who is doing repairs here on the other cabin is going to ride horseback to Santa Cruz and will take this - or if

he dont the Consulate is going to
bring over some Family for the
other cabin and will take it
If you dont get letters its because
its so far to the Post Office

Yours
E.M.W.

3.30 P.M. June 4th