

Oct 30. 1913.

RANDOLPH HALL,
CAMBRIDGE.

Dear Laura:—

Your very nice letter has gone unanswered for a very long time I know, but I have had all my time taken up. I have had a great deal of work to do and besides, the death of my cousin a week or two ago has made my aunt and uncle depend a great deal upon me. I was almost an adopted son in that family and many things devolved upon me which otherwise would have gone to

someone else. They have done so much for me in so many ways that it is good to feel that I can at last be of some use to them in trouble by helping them in little things. This must explain my seeming negligence of you.

I was more or less prepared for Dot's engagement when I saw her just before I came East. She was very cheerful and talked a good deal about Wilmer. That gave me a hint, and when she spoke of him as only a good friend my suspicion became a certainty. There is no need to tell you how I feel. The pain has more or less worn away

giving place to a feeling of happiness that she should have found what she has so longed for in the past. That I should have been the means of keeping this happiness away for a time is the only thing I regret. But that too will, I hope, go in time.

There are no words to express to you, Laura dear, my thanks for your help past and present. It has meant more to me to have you with me than I can say, and I only hope that I will some day be able to do something to help you and in that way show my appreciation for all you have done for me.

Work is going along smoothly but is very tiring as it means long hours - longer than any former year. Next year I am going into the architectural school in all probability and then into my uncle's office. It's taken me some time to decide this, because I have always had a hankering fondness for the law, but I realize now that I have not the type of mind that is fitted to the law and so I gave it up.

Always your friend.
Alan.