

**Alaska State Library
Historical Collections**

Sutherling, Charles A. and Anna (Karlsson)

Charles A. and Anna (Karlsson) Sutherling Correspondence, 1902-1904

MS 301

INTRODUCTION

These 36 letters from 1902 to 1904 were written in Swedish, between Swedish immigrants Anna Carlston and Charles Sutherling (Anna Karlsson and Carl Adolf Söderling in Sweden) before they were married on July 12, 1904.

The letters were written while Charles Sutherling (called Charly in Annie's letters), was in Nome Alaska, during the Nome Gold Rush. Charles Sutherling called Annie in his letters. She was either in Seattle, Bothell, Washington or The Dalles, Oregon, working as a domestic servant or au pair.

These letters are from a time unlike today. A letter signified that the writer was still alive. If letters did not arrive, worry set in. This happened once for Annie and Charly as you will read in the letters. Another concern was over health. Nearly every letter begins with *Må gott!* or *Be Well!*

Love Letters between Annie Carlston and Charly Sutherling

Written by:

<u>Letter</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Annie</u>	<u>Charly</u>	<u>Annie's Address</u>	<u>Charly's Address</u>
	6/7/02		1	1223 Warren Ave. Seattle	S.S. Ohio
	7/3/02		2	1223 Warren Ave. Seattle	Snow Gulch AK
	7/25/02		3		Snow Gulch AK
	8/11/02		4	1223 Warren Ave. Seattle	Snow Gulch AK
	8/31/02		5	1223 Warren Ave. Seattle	Snow Gulch AK
	10/9/02	1		Bothell, WA	1711 Howard Ave Seattle
	6/7/03		6	1331 Minor Ave. Seattle	S.S. Ohio
	6/14/03	2		1331 Minor Ave. Seattle	Snow Gulch AK
	6/14/03		7	1331 Minor Ave. Seattle	S.S. Ohio
	6/21/03	3		1331 Minor Ave. Seattle	Snow Gulch AK
	6/28/03	4		1331 Minor Ave. Seattle	Snow Gulch AK
	7/7/03	5		1331 Minor Ave. Seattle	Snow Gulch AK
	7/24/03	6		1331 Minor Ave. Seattle	Snow Gulch AK
	7/26/03		8	1331 Minor Ave. Seattle	Glacier Creek
	7/28/03	7		1331 Minor Ave. Seattle	Snow Gulch AK
	7/31/03	8		Seattle	Nome, AK
	8/6/03	9		1331 Minor Ave. Seattle	Nome, AK
	8/7/03		9	1331 Minor Ave. Seattle	Nome, AK
	8/14/03		10	1331 Minor Ave. Seattle	Nome, AK
	8/12/03		11	1331 Minor Ave. Seattle	Nome, AK
	8/18/13	10		1331 Minor Ave. Seattle	Nome, AK
	8/29/03		12	1331 Minor Ave. Seattle	Nome, AK
	8/31/03	11		Seattle	Snow Gulch AK
	9/3/03		13	1331 Minor Ave. Seattle	Nome, AK
	9/13/03		14	1331 Minor Ave. Seattle	Nome, AK
	9/14/03	12		1331 Minor Ave. Seattle	Nome, AK
	9/20/03	13		1331 Minor Ave. Seattle	Nome, AK
	3/4/04	14		1331 Minor Ave. Seattle	1025 Pike Street, Seattle
	3/10/04	15		423 Fulton Street The Dalles, OR	1025 Pike Street, Seattle
	3/12/04		15	423 Fulton Street The Dalles, OR	1025 Pike Street, Seattle
	3/14/04	16		423 Fulton Street The Dalles, OR	1025 Pike Street, Seattle
	3/14/04		16	423 Fulton Street The Dalles, OR	1025 Pike Street, Seattle
	3/16/04		17	423 Fulton Street The Dalles, OR	1025 Pike Street, Seattle
	3/18/04	17		423 Fulton Street The Dalles, OR	1025 Pike Street, Seattle
	3/20/04	18		423 Fulton Street The Dalles, OR	1025 Pike Street Seattle
	3/20/04		18	423 Fulton Street The Dalles, OR	1025 Pike Street Seattle

FLOWER INSIDE

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MARRIED 7/12/04 SEATTLE

S.S. Ohio

June 7, 1902

Loved friend Anna

Be well!

We are now four days travel from the well-remembered Seattle. And mostly recent hours have thoughts traveling over the blue waves been on the visit to the exhibit outside the church. I myself wish I could personally be there, but it is good that we be among our Christian creation receiving The Word (literally The Thought) which may remain among loved friends. I hope you have had pleasant this Saturday evening. Our conversation becomes only by pen. Likewise gladdening is to be living in the hope that given good health we may again meet here on earth.

Our time together was only a short time. But it was completely satisfying from my side. From the answers and promises which you gave me make me respect and think highly of you. It shows your smart and sensible considerations not hastily made. And may you harvest the fruit in the future on life's field therefore, however you choose your way in the direction I pointed out or the other way around.

As you of your own good heart so best can decide. But what I for my side uttered to you I stand fast with. I felt particularly content when you said you believe and are confident in me. If it had not been likewise, I would not have mentioned it. Oral language says:

An open thought giver

Very seldom fails

Therefore I felt best that we understood each other. When you do not end a relationship, nothing has been chosen, as you said. So I could not be the cause to any heart's hurt, which in any possibility should be avoided. Therefore I felt we have both come to that point in life that in broad respect for the future's welfare. It could be well if our acquaintance from your side became satisfying. Though there is yet good time, perhaps for the best which we ought to calculate with possible adversity.

The trip thus far with lovely weather has been pleasant. We are so many known which makes the time as enjoyable as possible. We had today a fire on board which caused little chaos but was soon put out.

My idea is if we come into Dutch Harbor to send my promised letter so much faster. Otherwise it will be sent from Nome. It is a little hard to write while the ship is underway, but much goes only when the desire is good. You promised to answer but do not write such a long letter as I have done. You may write as short and little as wished and simply. It is heartfelt welcomed in any form. You do not need to fear asking questions or write whatever. The thought continues.

With the most heartfelt and cordial greetings

Drawing in all humbleness a close and trusting friend

CA Sutherling

Nome Alaska

Answer!

God bless until we meet again.

Snow Gulch

July 3, 1902

Dear Friend Anna,

Be well.

Suppose you have received the letter which I wrote during the trip. Today it is exactly one month since I left Seattle and why I hurried after quitting work, and found myself inclined to send you some few words.

The trip went excellent with 7.5 days in lovely weather. Began working the day after arrival, so my time has been taken up. And it is pretty bad to be able to write. Stacking packing crates on top of each other creates a writing surface. Chairs are not found outside our house. But likewise I call our home comfortably nice. We are two Swedes and a Frenchman who live together out in a tent. Here are many known from Seattle who work at this place. Here has it until now been the most delightful summer weather. Hope you have it nice during the summer. I remember often you, your friendliness and good treatment which you showed me, during the short time we were together. It created in me an impression which cannot be easily forgotten and caused me to open my thoughts which I stand by for my side. You must be surprised therefore that I so hastily expressed myself, but my Alaska trip stood before me. And moreover I could not otherwise disclose my thoughts to you to decide afterwards what you think are best. Under all circumstances are you remembered by me. And it will be so gratifying to see you again. I have had friendships before but none which made me think of the future. But every person's life path seems to be charted. Shall one have a helper throughout life, so may one when the right one comes along. The one who guides everything (God) sees also to it, if not everything is viewed to go after our likes ought we be content so long as our health stays. A young man got his leg broken here a short time ago. When the accident happened, a person has cause to complain. Hope that nothing such as that happens to us.

It would be nice to have visited Seattle during the summer and being out with your friendship I am convinced I should have enjoyed it with the greatest pleasure. But the time will reveal everything to our best. I well remember your sincere promise namely that you shall think on my question (asking Anna to marry him) until coming fall, and you may have as long a time as needed so you do not hasten with such a question. I have not seen your brother. He is traveling out in the Arctic I have heard. The hour of rest approaches. With work requires rest. Hope to hear from you. How few lines in a letter are welcomed. Wish you luck and everything good.

Drawing a humble friend,

CA Sutherling, Nome Alaska

July 25, 1902

Friend and beloved Annie,

Be well!

Your expected and so heartfelt welcomed letter dated the 29th of June I received yesterday morning. I thought to answer your letter yesterday evening, but it was the time to prepare for the wash day. We get to do our own laundry and other small household chores here.

I have noted the letter's contents are quite noteworthy. It was with the greatest joy and interest I read the well-chosen meanings inside your letter. You gave me great joy through the sacrifice of your time to write to me. Dear Annie I have cast my thoughts for your memory.

You have painted for my eyes a painting of a level headed and grounded woman. You must not think that I superficially flatter you; no! What I write is my full opinion and thoughts. We know that among the world's population is there no one without fallacies. I am not among those with the fewest. But I believe when we live so to not have a bad conscience, it becomes a burden we can avoid.

Your promise to be faithful until we meet can I not appreciate enough, for it was my heart's desire. I am just as faithful as you are to me.

Another thing, you must not think that I am being frightful and forceful or from another way trying to bind you. No. Should there be cause or something wrong with me that prevents you from our future relationship, you are not in the least bit of danger of any unpleasantness from my side; only an end to the friendship would be all, if you say so. Love and be loved, should be said in this land, so there would not be so many sad marriages in our time. Appearances and riches should be placed less in question. The persons' competence should be regarded by both sides.

The face pales over the years but a good heart does not hurt when love sets in

I remember often an old man and woman from England who were along on my return trip from Sweden (Did he work in England?). It was interesting to observe their relationship. Those two looked so happy as the best possible engaged people. It looked like love despite the ages were silver colored. They were both a support and help for each other with life's tribulations.

Well dear Annie you do not need to worry that anyone will see the letters you write to me. For more certainty after I have answered your letter I burn it because many can go through what one has when one is working.

Your brother I have not seen only heard that he is up at Candle Creek in the Arctic. Hope that nothing terrible has happened to him as you wrote. I have not heard anything similar here.

I wrote a letter to you some time ago that I suppose you have received since you wrote.

To meet and to be separated is life's way.

To be separated and meet is hope's song.

Heartfelt greetings and also best wishes from your faithful friend,

CA Sutherling Nome Alaska

Hope to soon hear from you if time allows.

Snow Gulch August 11, 1902

Dear Friend Annie,

Your welcomed letter dated July 20th I received today. Gladness and interest, when put away out in a corner of the world as this, is to receive letters from a friend in the civilized world. Heartfelt thanks for the enclosed flowers. They smelled so heavenly when I opened the letter. They reminded me of the beautiful summer which makes its mark with the flowers. This is now the third summer that I have been living away from Seattle. But that can be exchanged for Alaska's earnings. However I am deprived of this summer and your company. I remember often the pleasantness which I experienced in your company the few times I was at your home on visits. It therefore makes me so happy to read your notes. And I hope to receive several.

In any case I would like to be offered a good position here over the winter, as it would be financially worthwhile to stay over the winter. So you may take your promise back. You gave me the promise of faithfulness until I came back, that was until this coming autumn. To ask it until I stay another fall, you certainly cannot promise me that. I am afraid that it is asking too much of you. I do not however believe I am going to stay as it looks now. But one does not know what can happen. Earnings is what one is after. I wish from the heart to soon see you again, if the future is good. So should we both profit from my earnings. I would however rather come to Seattle this winter. So far I do not see good earnings to stay here. I promised you faithfulness if I should stay over the winter. Could you do the same? I perhaps ask too many questions. If so, please forgive me.

You mentioned if I had been by your side when you wrote, you would have treated me with ice cream, which would have tasted too delicious. But this time I have to be satisfied by the words alone. I had the joy of tasting peaches today-it was rather new. I hope you have it nice during the summer months. Here one works Sunday and all other days so one does not know what a day of rest is. The young men from Seattle I know have moved to another place, so I do not have their company. But I am getting along pretty good despite the desolation thrown my way. I am glad to have a friend as you to count on. Happiness is especially to have a friend to exchange thoughts with, orally or through letters that can be comfortably shared. Whether you feel that way, I do not know, but I speak from my own feelings. Likewise I have from you received the impression that you think before you speak, and do not rush to speak. Dear Annie I value you therefore, you have therefore increased confidence within me. Redundancy as with a record player means less to me in a relationship. The time has gone fast. Soon it is autumn here again. Hope that good health remains for us both and that we may again see each other. The time is now 10 PM so I must end with greetings and a heartfelt farewell.

Your sincere friend,

CA Sutherling

Nome Alaska

I would be grateful for a reply with the earliest opportunity.

Snow Gulch August 31, 1902

Dear Friend Annie,

Be well!

I write you a few hasty lines as heartfelt recognition and thanks for your letter which came to me on August 28th. I have read through your letters with great interest. Good to hear that some simple lines from me may be a companion to you after tiring work, in quiet loneliness. We must admit that there is comfort from a genuine friendship in calmness with the haste one experiences. Whatever our future is. It is soon three months since I wished you goodbye. Often during past times you have been the subject of my thoughts. And I always long for your letters.

I have not decided yet to stay inside here this winter. Will not stay unless I have work. But I hope that we can meet in about two months. It is going to be nice to see you again. I was thinking the other day that you had a day of rest that is different from the other days. But here it is the same every day, so one ought to go down to civilization (Seattle) over the winter. Here we have already seen snow, and it is pretty cold sometimes. But it is pretty nice in our home, even if built out of tent cloth. The stove is our best company after we quit working. It is always good when health and so on are good. If I stay here over the winter as I mentioned in my last letter, then you should certainly abandon me. I wish to be so placed so that if you so wish to enjoy a relationship when possibilities come in the future, whatever is best for you is what it should be. But you will not be forgotten dear Annie, however fate changes its course. Hope you have it as pleasant as possible out in Seattle with your new job. We get such uninterrupted conversation by letter, for I know that no one knows that we are exchanging letters. It is a secret from the world's phonographs and gossiping country folk. Other work takes the pen from me, therefore many dear greetings from a rushed and a faithful friend.

CA Sutherling

Nome, Alaska

If you have time

I am grateful for a reply.

Bothell Washington October 9, 1902

Beloved and always remembered friend,

In answer to your last letter, I would like to send you a few lines. It makes me so glad to receive your letters, when you after hard work after a busy day forsake a little time to sleep to think about a simple/humble friend in Seattle.

I feel happy and grateful to you therefore.

I am out in the country and try to entertain myself in such loneliness. I go out and weed and till the potatoes some times during some days to pass the time. Last Saturday night August Johnson got married. I with several other of the young adults had the honor to attend the wedding, in his new home which is now their new home. The groom looked so happy with his Ellen at his side.

Dear friend you are often in my thoughts. I wonder so often if I will be seeing you in Seattle this fall. If you have decided to stay over the winter, this is likely the last letter you will get this fall. I am afraid that this letter is going to be too late for the last boat, but I am trying anyway. I wrote a letter a while ago that I thought was the last, but I have heard that the last boat is not going to leave before October 12th.

My hand is not really good yet, but is getting better. I hope that I can go to town soon and look for a position.

Dear friend, if you stay over the winter or come down this fall, I will in any event you can be assured, I will be true to you. That is my sincere wish.

I am invited to a wedding in two weeks from now. If I do not see you this fall, I hope we will both be in good health until we see each other again.

My best greetings from a simple/humble faithful friend,

Annie

This letter's address is 1223 Warren Avenue Seattle

Hope to hear from you by the last boat's mail if you are staying over the winter.

S.S. Ohio Sunday June 7, 1903

Highly loved and dearly betrothed friend Annie

Be well!

It has been a long time since I could only through the pen exchange words and thoughts with my friend who has feminine worthiness and who has fallen victim to my heart's full love. You are always in my thoughts. My wish and my goal is to be able to obtain a home as reward for all the love and kindness you have so faithfully shown me during our friendship and still short betrothal. And my hope is that the Lord during our remaining lives' days as betrothed and then through the actual union as faithful husband and wife, our earthly journey will be blessed. I realize more and more as health and strength remains in me, the importance of a home with these possessions for us who rightfully love each other with fine security and rest.

This longing comes often.

I am not sure if my thoughts are clearly written.

John Carlson came by and completely suddenly disturbed me is why I made the smudge. He understood completely what my goal for these lines is and requested me to greet everyone at home. The longing comes often when I experience how long each day that I am separated from my best friend on earth.

The trip has so far gone good. Stormy it certainly was the first two days with many seasick men but we have made it pretty fast towards our destination. However several agree that it would be better if we turn in the opposite direction. Hope those who truly love each other do not have to go away from each other.

S.S. Ohio Tuesday June 9, 1903

It is now a week since I said farewell at Minor Ave. in Seattle, but where we are it is only 9 in the morning. I have just awakened from some hours rest, when the thoughts move over the blue sea to the loved one.

We went through the strait that connects the Bering Sea with the Pacific Ocean, and now expect to find ice at any time. Hope no big obstacles we find. So we shall soon be in our summer cabins. We have had it pleasant so far. Our food supply have given us many pleasant times. Genuine Swedish boiled coffee, cooked by a single man we have had every afternoon, but none have gotten up in the morning and have coffee in bed. However when the man shall cook, it is hard for him to always be alone, for he needs someone who can salt, pepper, and season the food. Yes Annie I can plainly see that I need you for none of my acquaintances could I get love from, for Philip destroys the eggs, John has eaten up all the white cheese, Erikson does not divide up correctly the fruit when we have such for dessert, Gust he grumbles, Person he begs. But all come in agreement that the others eat too much and then they do not get enough. But our group and family life on the Ohio despite housekeeping that does not happen soon, and is forgotten, for one and all have been glad. We were separated into two groups-3 betrothed and 3 married. Yes, the others do not know what they miss!

S.S. Ohio Wednesday June 10, 1903

I am thinking of you as I wrote these lines. Often the boat's rolling makes writing more difficult so may you please understand. My most heartfelt thanks and respect to you for all the goodness you sent with me. I was a little tired when I left Seattle and therefore rested in the voyage's beginning, and made the time pleasant from the lunch you sent with me between the sleeping hours. You have certainly learned my favorite foods that I long for. Well my dear Annie you have shown me in many ways your heart's goodness, where upon my love is grounded. I do not know if I can make everything good. But one thing I know nothing makes me as glad as when I can in some way make you happy and content. And nothing can more wound me or hurt me more than when I through misunderstanding wound you and your heart. But then I am again glad that you do not carry melancholy and express the pain, and we then in friendship can agree on the previous transgressions and then form a yet better behavior between us. And the betrothed union is stronger formed, until the true union is retained when we shall unite, God willing that we one or the other shall not feel deceived.

My joy is that in one way or another to spend time with my beloved friend, hard to be separated, again now. But I must with the heartfelt wish that your guardian angel protects you and the love goddess takes care of you, until I see you again. I write, your betrothed and future support from the heart, faithful friend

CA Sutherling

Nome Alaska

PS Greet Esther, David Carlsons, your brother and cousin Åkerlunds, Oskar Petersons and other friends and acquaintances.

CS

Seattle June 14, 1903

(The italicized words are Annie's writing in English word for word):

My own love Charly,

I hope you feel well. A long time seems to have gone since you left, yet it is only a week and a half since I said farewell to you. Besides it has been a little slow. I have felt exceptionally well since I saw you last. Well my dear, how did your trip go? I hope you had it nice with many acquaintances on board. I believe that one lifts up the other one if anyone is downhearted.

I was down to Esther's yesterday, Wednesday evening. She seemed so home sick for Preston. I tried to comfort her as well as I could. I said to her that you soon are coming back again, if that was why she sad. But I think Esther's thoughts are mostly on the tailor and San Francisco.

My dear friend I have taken in the photographs that were on the roll which was in the Kodak which you left them. They developed well. Except there is one we took down by the boat. I am sending you a couple. I am very grateful to you that you left the Kodak so I shall take portraits of my summer hat several times and send them to you. You likely wonder how I like my new summer hat. Well I do not think I would like to change it for that one I had last winter. The nurse left last Tuesday, so now every moment of my time is taken up with the baby after my work is done, but I get experiences that I would not have done before if you can think what I did today. Yes the Mrs. was sick and asked if I had bathed the baby, which I had never in my life done before, but it went excellently.

Well my dear true lover i wish i had you wiht me to day so i did not haf to write. it is a lovley sunde afternoon. Last Sunday afternoon i went out to the cemetare tock too pichters af my Brohters graf then i took the car went down town had some ice crème soda from ther i went home I the evening i went to church last week I was out to evenings Monday night I was down to my brother and Wedneste i went doen to se Esther I mett miss Larson thear she sad she had not heard from hear swithart for a month and she sad she had one latter every week before she felt cinde of bad she sad he is coming to seatlle in oktober. And you my dear swithart is comminig in november are you not almost now comen to count the days when I can met you agan. Well my dear I shall not more to day I hop to hear from you soon Dear Charley take god care of your self and don't work to hard

Yes, now I have written in English for the first time. I am afraid that you cannot read it. I had a letter from my home in Sweden this week, with the news that my youngest brother intends to come here. Don't know if it is decided now.

My best greetings to you. May I soon hear from you. Pray always yours,

Annie

S. S. Ohio June 14, 1903

(Website links for information on the S.S. Ohio©

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SS_Ohio_\(1872\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SS_Ohio_(1872))

<http://old.seattletimes.com/pacificnw/2004/0829/nowthen.html>

(Italicized words were written in English)

My little friend and faithful Annie,

Be well!

I ended my writing some days ago as the views from the ship showed we soon would arrive.

But since then we have become imprisoned among cold ice on the desolate sea's white field. Therefore I wish to satisfy my wish to visit you by the pen. Time is again on our shoulders, another Sunday. Our engagement time has been extended, but lifetime shortened. Yet the same confident love remains unblemished under all these toils. How glad and satisfied one may also be with the thought during an airy voyage toward the hope as unseen harbors, to guiltlessly visit his worthy friend.

Well Dear Annie let us now during the summer's race realize the importance of mutual help under all life's relations that the promises which we gave each other, may lead the way to a faithful marriage, if my health and strength in the future may be. That is my hope and prayer. I remember your words when I for the first time I believe hurt your heart (Sunday morning church service). *It would be pretty hard for us to get along without each other. **My wish is that it always be so.*** These your words were for me of great value and satisfaction about the little cloud which for a short moment shaded the happiness sun on our engagement's path. Dear Annie over everything that comes before my eyes are short comings which must darken your thoughts. I shall as much as possible make good on them as long as I can.

Philip sits directly by my side and sleeps, he of course has written to his beloved Hulda. How often when he prepares himself for the night's rest, he takes out his notebook where Hulda is kept in the form of a photo, *and with her spend a few minutes.* But in sorrow he goes to bed or if in sleep longs for her in a big way. I do not know if we could with difficulty keep him awake the first time while he got a little food. Yes, everybody has their dear faults. We were stuck fast in the ice for two days, and it did not look good. But yesterday evening we broke loose, and moved gently forward and stopped off and on. However ice stretches as far as the eye can see. The priest was here this evening, otherwise Sunday is not different from the other days. Now I taking a walk, as one walks to rest. *Good night. You will hear from me in the morning.* CAS

Monday Evening June 15, 1903

We have after great difficulty broken through the ice, and are again in free water, and hope to arrive tomorrow. May now see if this is my last voyage in this direction. I am glad that there has been happiness with us so far and now may my good health remain. I forgot to give you the writing which I spoke about. However if an accident should snatch me away, you shall have five hundred \$500.00, after my expenses are paid, as acknowledgment of all the

friendship and faithfulness you have shown me. Otherwise remaining funds go to my father and sister. Hope during the summer you have good health and it is nice. I love you just as much far away, as if I was with you. With the most heartfelt greetings must I end with the best wishes for good luck. You for always faithful and betrothed, CA Sutherling

Greet Mr. & Mrs. D. Carlson, Ester, your brother and other acquaintances you see, my greeting I wished you to present.

Now the 16th of June and we have arrived. *Good by Dear*

Seattle June 21, 1903

My own beloved Charly,

It has been today Sunday a week since I wrote you a letter. Wish today to send you some lines. I feel excellent as possible. I can send you greetings from Ester. I was down to see her yesterday afternoon and found her packing her suitcase. She is going home to Preston tomorrow, Monday. She could not get work where she was, as they did not have any work. I saw her last Wednesday evening and she very depressed to not know what she should do. I said she should try work with a family. She thought first to try it but her mother came down on Friday and thought it better she go home for a while. I was sad I could not see Mrs. Johnson, but she only stayed over the day. And we were having guests for dinner, so my time was taken up.

Ester and I were down to David Carlsons Wednesday evening and had it pretty nice. Albin and I were down in the city yesterday evening a while and had ice cream and soda. Wednesday evening I went and planted flowers on my beloved brother's grave. Tonight I am going with Ester to the Baptist Church. We will have dinner at 5 and be done in time to go. Well my dear friend I seek so much to hear from you how you are feeling.

I am sending you some newspapers now with the letter. We have had excellent weather here. We had an unusual thunderstorm Monday night. They said it was the worse that had ever been in Seattle.

My love, you are in my thoughts during the day and at night in my dreams. I long for the day when I can welcome you home " *and get a sweet kiss from your dear lipps*".

I must now stop. Intend to take my letter together with a letter for the Mrs. down to the post office before noon. Do not know if there is a boat going which will take my letter.

The best greetings from your faithful Annie

Do not think that I do not write often. You know you are the only subject of my thoughts here on earth.

Seattle June 28, 1903

My own deeply beloved,

Be well!

It made me very happy when yesterday I received two letters from you, my love.

Am glad that the trip went well and nothing has harmed you.

I feel great in all ways. One day rolls by another, until the day I get to see my dear friend again, which I long and hope for.

I am glad to hear that you all had it pleasant during the trip. Hulda telephoned in the morning today. Among other things she asked what you did with Mr. Sutherling before he went to Alaska. She said Philip slept five days after they had left Seattle. I thought it must have well been some infection since you said Philip was so sleepy. So you and Philip both caught the same infection.

We stood and looked out at you as long as we could see you as you went towards Alaska. But when the boat turned and looked like a speck, said the Carlson girls that you could not see us in this direction toward the city. Philip would certainly not have looked any more after not being able to see his Hulda.

But my beloved friend I wish to now bring forth my great thanks to you for the gift you promised me if anything should happen to you. But dear friend my hope is that you with God's help shall be protected until I see you again. You say in your letter you wish that we during the summer may perceive the need of a home and each other. Yes that is also my wish. My thoughts are so often taken up with how our dear little home shall be when we through holy matrimony be bound together with each other. I believe it will be for us a joy to do everything as nice as possible for each other.

I thought that during the summer evenings in my free time would make some small handworks for our contemplated home. But my plans were so wrong as long as I am a nanny, with all my time taken up. The Mrs. says she is going to hire another nanny, but I do not know how that is going. Ester left Seattle on Monday and I received a letter from her Thursday evening. She wished that I would send the Kodak (spelled *kådäcken*) to her. She wished to have it Sunday but my time is very busy, with no opportunity to go to the post office.

They held a strawberry festival in the Lutheran church on Friday evening. I did not have the opportunity to go however. The Mrs. did not want to be home alone, so I had to stay at home. Yesterday evening Albin and I were invited to a party at Mrs. Andrew Nelson's, but it was likely Charly Johnson who held the party but we did not go and instead went out for a walk down to the city.

Mr. Högberg has moved in with Albin, so they are roommates. I was at their home one evening a while ago when Högberg said they cannot get anyone to hold your place, because so many want it. Högberg still works at the same place.

Today is Sunday and I have been up to my dear brother's grave with flowers. Intend to go to church this evening. I have sent two letters and a newspaper to you already. Hope that you have received them.

My Dear Charly you are the only object for my love, so when we are long apart it seems we are still by each other's side. My promised friend, do not work too hard during the summer but take good care of yourself. I wish now to end my simple letter with the best greetings enclosed from your promised and always faithful friend.

Annie

Greet the boys if they are in your proximity, especially Philip and tell him that I am taking good care of his Hulda during the summer.

Seattle July 7, 1903

My friend whom I am deeply promised to, Charly,

Again it has been a few days have gone by since I sent you some lines. How are you feeling my beloved? Good I hope. We have now celebrated the Fourth of July. We had rain and chill as usual. Rained the whole day. There was a picnic planned by the church youth group, the Sunday school children and the whole congregation on the other side of Lake Washington. But it was cancelled however due to the rain.

I went and visited the Åkerlunds in Ballard. When I knocked on the door little Esther came and opened the door and said where is he? I said who? Where is Mr. Sutherling? She certainly thought that it did not look as it should with Mr. Sutherling not there. Mr. and Mrs. Åkerlund together with Esther all send you greetings. Mrs. Åkerlund had received a letter from the old country. Your acquaintances there had sent their greetings to you and she wanted me to let you know. She did not say any names, but you certainly know who they are. The Åkerlunds had not been out the whole day. They understood that if I had had a home, no one would have seen me out that day.

Mrs. Dunn went to The Dalles Oregon yesterday evening, and you cannot believe how glad I have been to lose my summer boy a week or more.

Miss Helen's wedding is going to be a week from Saturday in her home I have heard.

Have not heard anything from Ester for over a week.

My Dear Charly it has now been over a month since you left Seattle and me. The time tumbles pretty fast forward. Soon we will have fall here, when I may again see my deeply promised one.

Albin and I were out Sunday evening. First we were up to the cemetery. Then we took the traverse up to Queen Anne Hill. Were up at the water tower which looks over all of Seattle. From there we went and saw my old Mrs. (whom Annie worked for). She was glad to see me. They are going to have another nanny again.

From there we went down the hill and walked by 7th Ave. North and Prospect, where there are quite a few small fruits on the trees. Both pear and apples. The trees which I thought were cherries were plums. I was mistaken.

But my own beloved and faithful friend, do not work too hard this summer and take good care of yourself.

I must go now and set the table for dinner. Wish to continue my letter after dinner is over. Yes, now I am free for the day, but the day is soon over. The time is 8 PM and I long to hear from you soon again. Had two letters a little over a week ago. Wish to send you greetings from Mr. and Mrs. David Carlson, my cousin and brother. But you my friend will be remembered always.

Your faithful and promised--Annie

Seattle, July 24, 1903

My dear fiancé Charly,

Be well.

Again some days have flown by since I last wrote to you. Have not yet received any letters since the first two you wrote during the trip. I long to hear from you so much. Albin (Annie's brother) and I were up at Hulda's yesterday evening. She had just received letters from Philip. She seemed to be so happy and glad as she had received a letter last week. She said that Philip had written that you had not received any letters from me. It seems strange because I have written several letters and sent some newspapers. I have written my address on the outside, so I know that no one else has taken them. They must come back to me again and I know my love that you have not completely forgotten me, rather have written some letters to me. When the postman came and did not have any letters for me, I became a little downtrodden, but will wait until another boat comes down. I sent also some portraits in one of the letters.

My dear friend I hope that nothing restricts this spring's letter exchange time. It seems a long time yet and the only thing from a dear friend such a long distance away.

Dear one, you may not think that I have forgotten you when no letters come. You are always in my thoughts.

I had a letter from Esther yesterday. She is still at home. They all wish to send you their greetings.

Charly, I have taken a month's interest from Mr. D.C. (Chilberg?) I wrote to you if you thought it was worthwhile to deposit it in the bank. I mean it is such a short time until you are coming down, so it is much interest.

I hope that good health can be with both you and me this summer until we may be together again. Hope that we do not have to be separated such a long time any more, don't you agree?

I said to my Mrs.(house matriarch) last Sunday that I do not wish to work for little pay any more, rather she can find another girl. She then said she was willing to pay 10 dollars more if I stay. So I now receive 30 dollars. My little summer boy is so nice, and likes me I think. He is pretty good at night. Last Friday night at 10:30 PM I was so sleepy, and had to go to bed. Wanted to complete my letter the next night.

Yes my dear friend the long sought Saturday evening has come. I say it however it is Sunday tomorrow, when one comes to get a little rest after the week's toil and tribulations.

I went with Mrs. Emil Johnson to the cemetery Wednesday afternoon. The flowers you planted Decoration Day are growing and blooming so beautifully.

I am sending you a pair of portraits. It is such a pleasant joy for me to take portraits. I am so glad that you left your camera with me.

I had much to write, but since I am uncertain if you get my letters, I am afraid of writing too much. Have had letters from my dear home (Sweden) a couple of days ago. They are feeling pretty good and asked to send you their greetings.

Albin (Annie's brother) and I are going to West Seattle tomorrow afternoon. Hope to get a nice boat ride.

I had thought to register your letter but it could be that you would have to go to Nome to get it yourself.

Hope that this letter comes to you all right. My dearly beloved fiancé, I must now quit writing my letter.

I love you with the same pure love as in times past although you are separated from me a long way away. Through letters encouragement comes writes your fiancé for all times. Annie

Seattle, July 24, 1903

My dear fiancé Charly,

Be well.

Again some days have flown by since I last wrote to you. Have not yet received any letters since the first two you wrote during the trip. I long to hear from you so much. Albin (Annie's brother) and I were up at Hulda's yesterday evening. She had just received letters from Philip. She seemed to be so happy and glad as she had received a letter last week. She said that Philip had written that you had not received any letters from me. It seems strange because I have written several letters and sent some newspapers. I have written my address on the outside, so I know that no one else has taken them. They must come back to me again and I know my love that you have not completely forgotten me, rather have written some letters to me. When the postman came and did not have any letters for me, I became a little downtrodden, but will wait until another boat comes down. I sent also some portraits in one of the letters.

My dear friend I hope that nothing restricts this spring's letter exchange time. It seems a long time yet and the only thing from a dear friend such a long distance away.

Dear one, you may not think that I have forgotten you when no letters come. You are always in my thoughts.

I had a letter from Esther yesterday. She is still at home. They all wish to send you their greetings.

Charly, I have taken a month's interest from Mr. D.C.(Chilberg?) I wrote to you if you thought it was worthwhile to deposit it in the bank. I mean it is such a short time until you are coming down, so it is much interest.

I hope that good health can be with both you and me this summer until we may be together again. Hope that we do not have to be separated such a long time any more, don't you agree?

I said to my Mrs.(house matriarch) last Sunday that I do not wish to work for little pay any more, rather she can find another girl. She then said she was willing to pay 10 dollars more if I stay. So I now receive 30 dollars. My little summer boy is so nice, and likes me I think. He is pretty good at night. Last Friday night at 10:30 PM I was so sleepy, and had to go to bed. Wanted to complete my letter the next night.

Yes my dear friend the long sought Saturday evening has come. I say it however it is Sunday tomorrow, when one comes to get a little rest after the week's toil and tribulations.

I went with Mrs. Emil Johnson to the cemetery Wednesday afternoon. The flowers you planted decoration day are growing and blooming so beautifully.

I am sending you a pair of portraits. It is such a pleasant joy for me to take portraits. I am so glad that you left your camera with me.

I had much to write, but since I am uncertain if you get my letters, I am afraid of writing too much. Have had letters from my dear home (Sweden) a couple of days ago. They are feeling pretty good and asked to send you their greetings. Albin (Annie's brother) and I are going to West Seattle tomorrow afternoon. Hope to get a nice boat ride.

I had thought to register your letter but it could be that you would have to go to Nome to get it yourself.

Hope that this letter comes to you all right. My dearly beloved fiancé, I must now quit writing my letter.

I love you with the same pure love as in times past although you are separated from me a long way away. Through letters encouragement comes writes your fiancé for all times.

Annie

Glacier Creek July 26, 1903

Highly loved friend and maiden (mö-a complimentary term),

Sending as fast as possible a few words after ending work just now. Have often worked overtime since coming to Nome the 16th of June and beginning to work the 19th June. I met in Nome your brother (Albin). The time goes pretty fast and soon we can count two months since I left. I have eagerly awaited letters from my tender fiancé' friend, but in vain until today when I found out the trouble, which you can see with the enclosed letter from the postmaster. I therefore understand the solution by writing so you do not unnecessarily wait. My joy was to discover the problem was unfortunately that my mail has gone back to Seattle, as one in this land is grateful for news which is sent from the states. My hope and greatest wish is that you are blessed with good health and have it nice; here nicety is longed for.

I had hard work when I began but it has slowed down the last week. Best that Albin did not come here for there is few offering work with many people are here and unemployed. Pay is beginning to be less so Alaska is beginning to get worse. In spite of the wages becoming less, one will be happy in the states. And may one there find himself settled in a happy home, with the same love and feelings as before, even if your letters have gone astray the entire summer. But I hope they do not.

You have received some lines of writing from me when I have had the time up to now. To write is not an easy task in this barren desert. I will be glad to see you again. I can likewise stand the time until that comes, but with health and strength one cannot complain. I remember often that the past winter was one of the most pleasant I have experienced and hope that many such times will meet us through life. It is much more comfortable to correspond with you if I may, if it does take too many free hours.

End with greetings to Ester, Albin and other friends. Some flowers picked outside our tent are enclosed, as a dear greeting from you friend and fiancé'.

CA Sutherling

Nome

Use the same address always.

Send me the count of the number of letters you have written, so I can know if I have received them all.

Nov-7/25/03

C. A. Sutherland

Dear Sir,

Your name
appears on M.D. Co's
list as C. A. Sutherland.
Consequently all
mail for C. A. Sutherland,
(being uncalled for) was
forwarded to
1711 Howard Ave

Seattle
as per your order
of last Fall.

Respectfully

J. W. Swanton P.M.
JWS

Seattle July 28, 1903

My deeply promised Charly,

To my great surprise I received tonight three letters I had sent to you. I cannot understand why you did not receive them. I sent them back to you. You then may see which address they were sent to. They were not opened. I opened them to see if there was anything taken out, but everything was as when I sent them. I became very sad when I received the letters. I know you have waited to receive letters from me. I have written one after the other. I have also waited for letters from you. Have not received any more than both those you wrote during the trip. My deepest friend you must not think ill of me that you have not received any letters. I cannot help it. I am addressing this letter to John Carlson. You can tell John why the letters are addressed to him because I worry that otherwise the letters would not arrive.

My love how are you feeling? You cannot think how empty it is to not hear from you. I am afraid that your letters go awry as mine. Wish to find out what the reason is for this mess. My own beloved Charly I love you with the same pure love as before with the long separation now between us and not having heard from you by letter. But my love stands undisturbed until I see you again.

Must now end. Really your promised and always faithful Annie.

Seattle July 31, 1903

My dear fiancé beloved

I wish to again send you some lines. How are you feeling my dear friend? I am very sad to have not heard anything from you. Do you not have the time to write or do the letters not arrive here?

Certainly I think that you take the time sometimes. I have written many letters but I am afraid you have not received them since they come back to me. It seems strange that someone has taken the letters in Nome and written the address to 1711 Howard over your address.

I am going to send all of them to you and you may see that I thought to put them all together in one letter and write John Carlson's address on the envelope. But I asked the postmaster and he said he would send them. So he sealed and sent them to you. He wished to find a solution.. I am heartbroken. I know you are waiting for letters from me, and none of my letters come to you. I write so poorly since I have received yours. Please do not think ill of me that you have not received my letters. I cannot help it. I love you as before.

An eye on the baby and one on the letter dear friend. I put this in Hulda's letter. If you have the time to send me some lines, put it in Philip's letter one time.

I wish you could find out who wrote the address on my letters and sent them back before you go home.

My dear Charly how hard it is to be so long apart and not be able to hear anything from you. I am as before you intended.

Annie

Seattle July 31, 1903

My dear fiancé

I wish to again send you some lines. How are you feeling my dear friend? I am very sad to have not heard anything from you. Do you not have the time to write or do the letters not arrive here?

Certainly I think that you take the time to write sometimes. I have written many letters but I am afraid you have not received them since they come back to me. It seems strange that someone has taken the letters in Nome and written the address to 1711 Howard over your address.

I am going to send all of them to you and may you see that I thought to put them all together in one letter and write John Carlson's address on the envelope. But I asked the postmaster and he said he would send them. So he sealed and sent them to you. He wished to find an easy solution, Charly. I am heartbroken. I know you are waiting for letters from me, and none of my letters come to you. I write so poorly since I have received yours. Please do not think ill of me that you have not received my letters. I cannot help it. I love you as before.

An eye on the baby and one on writing this letter dear friend. I put this letter in Hulda's letter. If you have the time to send me some lines, put it in Philip's letter one time.

I wish you could find out who wrote the address on my letters and sent them back before you go home.

My dear Charly how hard it is to be so long apart and not be able to hear anything from you. I am as before you intended.

Annie

Seattle August 6, 1903

My deeply beloved,

To my great surprise and joy I received a letter from you yesterday evening. I had completely given up hope to hear from you more until you come down in autumn.

I am glad to see that you have your health. I feel excellent for the most part, though the time seems a little long sometimes. My Dear Charly I hope you are lenient with me on the ongoing letters. I could not know what could be the reason that my letters came back. I thought that someone out of spite had sent them back to Seattle. Therefore I opened them to see if everything was in them as when I wrote them to you before. I sent yesterday four letters to you that had gone to Nome and had come back. One I had written, the others I do not where from they were from.

I am very glad that you were able to find out the reason you did not receive my letters. I have been very sad however. I know you have wondered why I have not written. I have also longed to hear from you, but I understand from this letter written July 26 is the first you have written since you arrived in Nome the 16th of June.

I am sad to hear that you have to work so hard. Do you not remember what I said to you when you were home, but one cannot always obey. I know you said to me many times that I should not work too hard when one sees the work for itself; not to stand and just look at it. My work is very strenuous now that I have the baby. I do not have five minutes that I can sit down and rest during the whole day, but I cannot demand thirty dollars for nothing.

You say you wish I would keep count of how many letters I write you this summer. I am afraid I have written so many already that I have forgotten the number. I believe it is seven or eight. You know my dear what I said when you went to Alaska that you should not think it bad if I write often so I have sat down and written some lines as often as I can. Hope that nothing now prevents our letters from reaching each other.

(In English) *Well my dear friend, I sit here at home alone this evening. Nelly is upstairs and sleeping in our quarters and our masters are out for a boat ride in the beautiful moon beam. Mr. Dunn has gotten a gasoline boat. I was out in it one day and we went over to Placent bitch (Pleasant Beach-Bainbridge Island). But when we went home it blew so hard that the Mrs. became sick and the baby was sick and I felt very bad so I did not think it was very fun. So yesterday I was invited to go over to Bremmerton(Bremerton)but I said I ought to stay home with the baby which I also did last Sunday. I was the babysitter the whole day the people were out in the boat. They did not come home until after eight. I had so wanted to go down to the missionary church for a wedding. The married couple were missionaries. His name I do not remember, but her name was Miss Hedman. He is 39 years old and she 21. Nelly was there. She said they stood up and both preached for a while after they were married. They could have been nervous. Miss Helen is also married and lives directly across the street in the new house on Pike St..*

Many thanks my love for the flowers you send me. They have advanced the promise you gave me when we came home from Tacoma, if you remember. They have now a big event with the carnival in Seattle. I have not gone down there to see it anytime.

Charly you have not said if you have received any newspapers from me. I sent some initially, but when the letters came back, I do not send any.

It is now over two months since you left me and yet we have three months until I may see you again. Again wish that day was tomorrow. You say it was good Albin did not go up to Alaska. I am glad to hear that. He still works at the same place and has it pretty good.

Had a letter from Esther last week. She is still at home. they pray for your good health. Greetings to you, a pure love greeting from your promised and always faithful Annie

Nome Alaska August 7, 1903

Loved and faithful friend Annie

Live well!

During this beautiful and peaceful summer evening I find it good to send from our home in the far north my thoughts as company to 1331 Minor Ave. Seattle.

I feel good. Health and strength with daily work makes the time hurry by. John Carlson and Philip Olson together with me myself live together in our tent. Dear thanks for the greetings in Hulda's letter to Philip. Wonderful to hear that you are healthy and feel good was the best news. I became happy and contented yesterday evening when Philip came down to the shop, where I with a brow's sweat stood with a horse's foot on my knee, as there often is during my overtime. Such a place has a better use but is best for this work. But I come to something else that I should speak of, Philip. He would not let the greetings from you become old, rather brought them directly after he received Hulda's letter. He received hearty thanks for his effort. And I wish to myself through a letter show my appreciation for hearing from you one way or another. You are so often the object of my thoughts. I have not yet received any letters from you, but I know the cause which either I or you can help with. Best and most valued of all then I know and am certain that the conditions between us is as good as it has always been. Also my wish is that it will always continue to be so. Wish that we do not need to use the pen and paper in the future as experiences have been to now. The time may seem slow for you know that it is neither for your harm or sadness as why I am away. For there is more joy in returning than in leaving. It is as Philip said we have someone to come to when we again steer to Seattle, who is longed for. I hope you do not have a hard work place so that you do not have to strain yourself one way or another, but take good care of your self, if you have it for hard do not stay for such conditions and have so pleasant as possible during your free times. You do not need to go without anything for my sake. I certainly do not wish that you shall feel encumbered-----

Yes my dear beloved friend Annie, my mind is made up. The dark now shades the road for my pen. Philip sits by the stove and writes so that the letter will be warmer for his Hulda, John and Philip send greetings to your brother. My greetings to him and Ester and a few others. But so that they do not forget me.

And thanks that you did not say no. With my friendliest and dearest greeting may I draw/sign yours for eternity.

Friend and promised one,

CA Sutherling

Nome Alaska

Nome August 12, 1903

My betrothed and loved Annie,

Thanks for the past!

Again with light for my longing thoughts, morning has dawned. I received some hours ago your dear letter of July 24, with enclosed portraits of the place where you work. They were excellent. You have good luck with the camera.

That was the first letter I have received from you. See that you have written several letters and also sent newspapers, which returned to Seattle. But dearly loved friend it now seems the barrier is broken, and we may send to each other encouraging words.

Firm and sincere friend, fed during life's work and tribulations, I was secure in your heart's love as I have received letters from you, but what I was afraid of was that your health had been hurt, so you could not write. Certainly the most important is that we are both protected and preserved until we meet again.

A firm and faithful love is the only compensation which I can give you for your firm belief in me and by the grant of God we from our proposed association may meet a bright future as possible. And I hope as you wrote we will no longer have to be apart as long. Life is short and the friendship that united us ought not to place us in different places, rather in each others community.

The friendship with you has given me much comfort. Always happiness and contentment await me whenever we meet. And today it is four months since we were out in the forest under a fir tree and securely bound our love as pure. It is much to value and great joy to have a secure friend in this phony world. Support and security among other things seem to sometimes disappoint.

See that you intend to stay at your work, but if it becomes too hard and troublesome that you must strain, let that work go and take good care of yourself. I myself should take better care of myself but here one cannot do so given the living conditions. So often I want to sit at Annie's table, with just enough room for two. The money you get from D.C. hold until I return, if you do not need to use it. It does not pay to put in the bank, for one does not get interest for such a short time. Anyway I am going into Nome this month and perhaps will send down money for you to keep safe for me. I have not been in to Nome yet but perhaps will go in one time this summer.

Philp is writing to his Hulda, John is sleeping. Greet your brothers, as well as D.C. and other acquaintances.

With a sincere heartfelt greeting I am compelled to again seek white table cloths and evening conversations with my loved. Must end. So I am your promised and eternal friend.

CA Sutherling

Nome Alaska

If you get any of your letters returned that I have received, please save them for me until fall. I wish to have them all.

My friendliest greetings to your dear mother and various siblings. When you write them thank them for the greetings from them.

Nome Alaska August 14, 1903

Deeply loved and faithful friend Annie

The clock is now 9 PM when I am now free from this day's work. Have worked an hour overtime, and there am late to the writing stand. I have to do the home chores, bring in the water and wood and make the fire at night, not morning.

I wrote to you two days ago and meant to write yesterday evening but it became too late. It was a very nice evening to receive 5 letters from you, 3 which had been to Seattle and back, one you wrote when you sent the others with Philip's letters. Heartfelt thanks that you so truly remember me. To love and be loved is something that cannot be described with the pen.

I knew you had written with all certainty and waited the duration until I decided to find out for good what happened to my letters which I finally found out. But you see that it does not go fast to arrange things of that kind when one is out in the wilderness. No newspapers I have received. Fun to receive these photos which are excellent. I value highly to have a friend to live for, who fills my heart's desire, with red fire. When I strike repeatedly the hammer and the steel sounds, throughout this day, I dare say not ten minutes pass that you are not in my thoughts.

I have read your letters several times, all of which show mean that a tender and faithful heart, as you sound to accompany my humble personality. Mother left me in my young years, which meant she could not accompany her son a long time on life's path. But dear Annie you are filling her place in a better way at this point of my life. Mother we cannot always be with, but the dear true loved one, whom I have chosen I expect to be with as long as God our lives shall spare.

With our relationship the writer would have a good basis for an excellent novel. Novels are often fantasy. But between us there is a reality I often admire since the beginning of our friendship.

Your summer vacation you said you could not detach yourself from thinking of me. The poor little boy (whom she took care of)-he cannot express his heart's thoughts. Is it not always fun to have such a little boy's company? Don't you get tired and think it difficult? Yes, it cannot be bad to know beforehand what can happen in a marriage. Many changes in this world. Yes, let us rather consider what we can know and understand. Marriage is the most important change in our lives, something which I did not ponder before your friendship, which has changed my contemplations. But I would not have made the grade without your help. It must be said that if you had said no, so would have everything gone undone, as you wrote last summer. You wished to be certain, to be loved in return. You, I have not weighted down with roses; your choice has been freely made. And my hope is that you have chosen to your complete contentment. You are longed for by your one and faithful and engaged friend.

CA Sutherling

The boys are sleeping but I take the liberty to greet Albin & Mrs. Faulkner and other acquaintances. And Ester whom you say has left Seattle. Greet my relatives if you have time.

Seattle August 18, 1903

My beloved Charly,

Be well.

I wish to send you again some words. Hope you are healthy and in good spirits when this letter reaches you. I do not feel well for the most part. Have a headache which is likely only a cold, I think. Today it is so warm that one sweats while one sits in the forest and does nothing.

Last Sunday a few young adults were invited to David Carlsons. There was Mr. Erickson and Miss Hansen, Selma Alida and Hannah Carlson, Mrs. Erickson, Hulda Nilsson and another Miss Erickson. Miss Blomberg, Miss Jenni Nelson, together with Annie Carlston. It was quite nice. I thought so much about you, and longed that you were with us. We were teased a little Hulda and me. If we hold together, we can well defend ourselves from the teasing. But deep in my heart I long that the day when I will see you again.

Hope that you pardon that I am writing in pencil. But I am sitting out in the garden with the baby and cannot therefore have ink with me.

Have not heard from Esther for a while, but imagine that she is at home still. I was up to the graveyard last Friday. The flowers you planted are still blooming so beautifully. I have thought tomorrow to go see Mrs. Petterson. Have not been there since you left.

Well my dear Charly I hope you are not working too hard. I long so much to hear from you again. There were two ships that came down on Saturday, so Hulda and I said on Sunday that tomorrow we would get some mail, but neither one of us received any letters. She telephoned me and wanted to know if I had received any letters. When I said that I had not, she thought it was good I felt the same disappointment as she.

My dear friend I love you as much if the letters do not come so often. I know you work hard and do not have much time to yourself. Will finish this letter after supper. Must go and put the baby to bed. You see I have more than Marta's problems, for I have much responsibility.

Now supper is over and the Mrs. and Mr. are on the way out with another Mrs., and Nelly to a surprise party. As the boy lay and slept entirely in peace and quiet. I sat and was going to finish this letter. So came Mrs. Dunn's sister home with another girl, both around 18 years old. They are both wild and could not keep their mouths quiet five minutes. They sang so loud when they came in that they startled the baby, who started to scream loudly. I had to work on him an hour to make him sleep again. You can imagine what I thought about it. Now one of them has a boyfriend. Between the three of them, they can blow roofs off the town.

Yesterday evening the Dunns went out to the theater. I had to stay up with the baby until 11 PM. Well my dear that is something that does not interest me. Wish to therefore finish my letter for this time. Greetings to you from your promised and always faithful Annie.

Albin sends you his greetings.

I include a couple of articles that I clipped from a newspaper, so you may see how the people are living in Seattle.

Nome August 29, 1903

Valued friend and engaged (fiancé),

Be well

For about 6 days ago I received five newspapers you had sent me in June, the day after I received four letters which you sent back together with one you wrote at the same time.

See that you received my letter, which I know makes you as happy as I in looking forward to your love filled writings. Thank you for the picture of you and the one you have your arm around. That mister turns his little face towards you, but you look like you do not understand his meaning. As the expression says when the cat is away, the rat runs on the table.

I have been alone in our tent since J&P have been at Anvil Creek, John has come back and Philip comes back tomorrow. So then our house will be full again. I have been busy awhile, worked every day and some nights. But what has been broken is now repaired. So I have been free two evenings. Then the one loved comes out in thoughts all closer and is longed for when the day's work ends, but left is the love if the longing is not felt. Over half the time here is now over and soon comes the travel again to a better land, where on the beach the one loved is. I realize that it feels slow for you during the summer time. But this is how it works in our world. I myself wish to see a summer in Seattle, as it now has been four summers out in Alaska. And now I am glad to see the ground begin to take color, which means fall is approaching, and I view it as spring. And loved is the meeting with you again when I wish to again stand as a mound in Seattle. There one at least gets the Sundays free. I often wonder if this will be my last summer in Alaska. We may confer on this.

August 30, 1903

Just had the joy of a letter from you dated August 18th. Now our mail goes all right. Sad that you do not feel really good. Hope you are fully recovered now. I myself am healthy and hearty. Hope to continue to be so. I am sad that you must be so tied down, and I cannot do anything to create free hours for you in the evening time. Thank you for the card and the news. Certainly it will appear as elegant in our home, as exhibited between these two women, before I should die as an old bachelor. You wrote that there was fruit on my trees in one of your letters. If the fruit is good, and your cousin wishes to have them, feel free to pick as much as you like. The doctor who lives in the big house should look

after it, if he still lived there. But it is not good for anyone to go there when I am not with. Otherwise it is the first three rows of trees, do not remember if the fourth row is on my lot. I would really like to take care of my things in Seattle, but the time soon dawns to be there. Here it is terrible and cold. Well my loved friend, remember that I in all fates imaginable love you. If it feels slow and laborious, you are not forgotten by me. Take good care of your health as possible, avoid cold air or other like over exertions. You probably do not believe that I am more afraid about you than myself. I therefore value you as the goal for all my toil as my strong heart bends for you. And we ought to get satisfaction from the same loving relationship in the future as to up to now and even better be our choice. Now comes in the hours of rest and I shall end for this time my few comments with greetings to your brother and cousin. The boys all feel good given the circumstances. Longer is the time since we were separated and shorter is the time until we meet. Your hearts soreness shall soon be healed when I hope soon to meet you, and we may as before meet often.

Your engaged (fiancé),

CAS

August 30, 1903

My dearly loved and engaged friend Charly

Be well!

To my great joy and surprise I received three letters from you on Wednesday. Today Sunday after supper when I usually write, I had not thought to have to wait so long to reply. I had started two times but had to put aside my writing to do something else. We have had a very hard this past week. We had 6 guests from Portland, so the whole family was 11 people. One left last night, so now we are 11 and another one will go this week, so we hope it will get better I had thought to say something last week. The missus is very nice. Hard to find to find someone like her, but she as the others like to be out doing fun things to entertain them. They have been out in the boat nearly every day and out this week also during the nights but the baby have they not taken with. Poor little one—he has had to sit on the floor while I have done other work out of the way. Poor little Arthur wants to be near me than his own mother. He is a little sweet baby. Nelly said I pass as a better mother than Mrs. Dunn.

I have good health this summer so better than last year and whatever work comes my way is easy.

I send you greetings from Esther. She came to Seattle Friday morning and saw me in the afternoon. She went with me and the baby to Madison Park. We had a nice cable car ride together. She said her father has quit his work in Preston, and has been out looking for other work. Her brother Josef has gone to San Francisco.

Charly you said it was not profitable to set some of your money in the bank. Well I thought the same thing, but as we all are out sometimes and the house is empty, it is no problem to take it down to the bank. I put down for three months besides 5 dollars which Carlson had not received. But Charly if you have sent down some to guard, you do not need to be uncomfortable for I will guard it until you come home.

I was out and saw Mrs. O. Peterson. They feel good and to send greetings to you.

My dearest I am glad that my letters have come through to you now. It must have been awful the whole time for you to wait for letters. I wrote a letter nearly every week at first. But when the letters came back I did not know what to do until when I received your letter and saw what was wrong. It gave me courage to again write to you again.

My dearest betrothed, how lovely to sit in stillness this Sunday evening with only this pen's speech to have a conversation with a tender, familiar and sincere friend whom I have given my hearts pure and sincere love to. Who will be my only support and object on this earth. My dearest betrothed I hope God gives me health and strength continuously so that I can in some months can compensate you for what you have given me this summer. It made me feel good when I re-read your letters and found the same love as before as the basis of your letters, which indicate a pure love.

You say you have admired our acquaintance's beginning. Now when I sit here in stillness looking back since that time, it fills my heart with gladness. Also comes gratitude that I can now share my heart's thoughts and share the air with my days on earth and that life becomes easier when two help each other bear distress and anxiety, after they have become one through holy matrimony.

Awful that you do not have it well for food. Well my dear it is not going to last forever (written in English). Hope you become more content when you cook your own food. Three months have flown by since I said good bye to you. The time runs pretty fast. Looking forward in two months I will certainly begin to wait the day I may greet you and wish you welcome home.

Please write and tell me when you plan to leave Nome. Everything goes as usual in Seattle. People shoot each other and themselves. Something happens nearly every day.

Nelly is out at Green Lake this afternoon. They are having a picnic like they did last week. Albin was by today. Hogberg has been very sick. The doctor was afraid it was becoming life threatening, but was only a bad cold, and is better again.

Charly, you cannot imagine how much I value the flowers you sent to me. I do not understand how you can press them so beautifully. Albin sends you and the boys greetings. The D Carlsons and Esther the same.

So dearly loved, I as before send my love.

Always engaged,

Annie

Do not have any other news to send you this time.

Nome Sept 3 1903

Beloved Annie,

Some days ago I put together a few words to you so that you can quickly hear from me. I came to think back to a year ago that your birthday is coming up soon. I did not ask you the date, but you wrote that I did not remember last year that your birthday is September 13th, yet I also wrote heartfelt words.

I wish to now send you heartfelt birthday wishes my friend and engaged one. Not with gifts, not with sweet smelling flowers, but with the dearest memories and respect, although we are far away from each other. May God protect and keep you so that you may experience many glad birthdays. Yes, may they be as many as Metusalas. (*fyi—Metusala in Swedish or Methuselah in English is the man reported to have lived the longest at the age of 969 in the Hebrew Bible*).

How old he was we will have to count out when we meet again.

Here it is terribly rainy and cold, dirty and uncomfortable. We wait for the time to leave. But that time could come whenever. Glad to say that three months ago today I left, but it seems so long until I return. Wish that our health is good when we meet. More to say but it is late at night and I must rest.

My love filled greetings also with glad wishes for your birthday from your engaged,

Carl A Sutherling

Greetings to all. Sorry that the letter is short!

Nome Alaska September 13. 1903

Highly loved friend Annie,

Received yesterday your writing which made me glad. Fun to hear that you have received my letters and best of all that you under all circumstances are in good health. If I am not mistaken, today is your birthday. I wonder how the next birthday shall be if we live. Times axle turns pretty fast, as a year has already rolled past pretty fast and this summer soon lies behind us. Fun that given our good health we again will be able to meet, as the autumn's cold times approach. But love's sun shines high on our relationship's path, so our lives glow. I send you flowers in every letter, as I promised on the Tacoma trip.

You may cast away those which are not worth keeping. I send you both big and small, good and bad, you can better sort them than me. Perhaps Ester would like some if you have too many. I heard you got my rent money. I was ready to go to the city to send down some hundred, but have not had the time, and now I am perhaps too late. So now I may perhaps let it be until I come down myself. I have not been to town the whole summer, working every day since I began. You asked when I intend to leave. Dear Annie that I cannot decide for I do not know when the boats leave here. My intention is to come sometime in October, but that could be wrong. And I could come before. The first boat after I have quit working. Perhaps also I cannot come before November as last year.

But have a kiss ready when I do come. Here it is terrible weather but three cheery boys in our home make the time easy after the work day. Now they are sleeping so it is pretty quiet, however they snore for the worst. Good that everything has gone well for the both of us so far, and that we can be glad to be together again. I have sweaty work that awaits me tomorrow, so I must rest. With many greetings to your brother D. Carlson and Ester besides thoughts to you yourself.

From your true friend,

CA Sutherling

Nome Alaska

Seattle September 14, 1903

Loved friend and betrothed,

Be well.

Again I have had today the joy to receive two letters from you that were written August 29 and the second September 3. Am glad to hear that you are in good health and good humor. Understand that you are working hard still. We have the worse over now.

We have only five from Portland here now, and they plan to go home on Wednesday. Then here will be just our little family left. We have in the afternoon been to Kinerie Park with our children. We are three au pair, so our Mrs. was together with another wife. Tomorrow we are going to Woodland Park if it is nice weather. We had rain and cold last week, but today it has been fine weather again.

Would like to thank you so much for the congratulations on my birthday. They came a little too late for it was in August instead of September, but it was just as well appreciated.

I see in your letter that you have been alone for a while. I suppose you have been lonely but it has given you the opportunity to practice making fires also in the morning in the stove, am I right?

I have no news to tell about. I am out so little, so I know little that is new. I wish to forward you greetings from Esther, Albin and Mrs. Falkner. Hulda sends her greetings to you for good health, and also to the boys.

I may will not write so many letters now for it is much better when I can talk with my love in person. Then can one better express their thoughts. I apologize my dear friend that this letter is short. I will write again another letter in a few days.

Thank you dear for the flowers you send me. I appreciate them so much! My dear Charly I am glad to see them when I open the letters.

I feel the same as you on our good relationship, and so I remain your beloved.

Annie

Seattle September 19, 1903

Deeply loved Charly,

How are you feeling? Good I hope. I wrote a letter some days ago and will again send you some lines.

I feel pretty good. The Mrs. is away and my little one sleeps, so I can use some minutes to write.

I wish to speak about a bit of news for you. You wonder what it is. Yes, everything has gone as thought.

We leave for Portland the first of October, Mr. & Mrs. Dunn, the baby and me. I do not know how long we will stay there, but I hope to come to Seattle again in time to meet you. Should I not come to Seattle before you come back, you must not think badly. I could not refuse when it is hardly for a short time. I do not think it is worth it to write more letters to you when I hope to see you soon.

Here a policeman was shot several days ago. He used to live in my brother's house some years ago. His name was Schaneman. He died right after he was shot. He left behind a wife and a baby behind. How sad. He is going to be buried tomorrow Sunday. The one who shot him is captured and in jail.

Hulda and I were out for a carriage ride to Greenlake Wednesday afternoon. We had a lovely time together. She as I long for our dearest loves to soon come back.

Sunday, September 20, 1903

My dear friend, I did not get the chance to finish my letter yesterday, so I wish to do it now. I went into town yesterday evening and met Esther. Went home with her and slept there last night. She lives near Mrs. Nyqvist. Today it is raining and looks like winter will soon be here. The closer we get to winter, the closer I get to meet my deeply beloved who is the only object here on this earth for my thoughts.

My dear Charly I should have much to write about but I hope however to soon see you and be able to have a long chat with my dearest, so I do not wish to write too much.

I have not had the opportunity to go up to your lot and see how the fruit trees are and therefore have not said anything to Mrs. Faulkner on what you wrote. It was very nice of you to think of her.

Wish to now send greetings from Esther, Hulda, Albin and Mrs. Falkner.

But most of all you must remember that I remain as before and always engaged and beloved to you.

Annie

Hope to soon hear from you again.

If it should happen that we go to Portland and stay longer, I wish to write and send you some lines to Albin's address.

Monday Evening 8 PM March 4 1904

My own beloved friend,

To my great sadness may I inform you that I cannot go out tomorrow evening as we are going to have a big dinner party at 7 PM. Many guests. I do not think we will be finished until 10 or 11 PM. I am very sad that this is happening on the evening I longed to go out. You certainly wonder why I am writing. It is not because I don't want to see you, rather I have so much to do. With the time it can happen that there would be no time to speak to you. So I know you come home tired after the day's work. And instead of getting dressed up and coming up here, you can take a little rest. But my beloved I wish to see you on Wednesday evening. I hope that I can go out then.

My dearest friend I hope that you receive this letter when you come home from work tomorrow.

Truly yours,

Annie

The Dalles Oregon March 10, 1904

My rich friend, feel well.

We are now here in Dalles. We left Seattle Tuesday morning 8:30 AM and came to Portland at 5:30 PM.

Stayed there two hours and then came here 10:20 PM. We were very tired after having been on the train the entire day. I was sick the whole day yesterday, the reason why I really do not know. If I got a cold on the train or if it was something in my food I ate on the train which did not agree with me. In any case I feel better today.

How are you feeling? I hope you are better both for health and spirits (mood). I thought about you the whole trip here.

I should certainly say something about this marvelous town. I have not seen a place like this since I left the old country. Here there is hardly anything but rocks and mountains. It seems as if this place has been rained down upon and set in a cavern. Here a mountain range surrounds the whole town. They are covered with snow. They say that it rains not so much as in Seattle. Today it blows and rains just as hard as sometimes in Seattle.

My own darling, take good care of yourself and your health so you do not become sick until I come back.

My best greetings to you four times over from your always faithful Annie.

Address: 423 Fulton St. The Dalles Oregon

Greet Hulda if you see her.

Let me hear soon from you I pray.

(Italicized when written in English)

Seattle Wash March 12, 1904

Annie, faithful and beloved friend,

Had the joy of receiving your respectful writing two hours ago and it is gratifying to see that you despite circumstances, are fairly well. I became worst on Tuesday when a cold set in, and do not feel good.

I was not able to hear Morgon as I did not feel good after work to leave my room. Yesterday evening I went to the young adult meeting, as it felt so chilly in my room. *This boarding business is a missions, a wife and home cooking shall suit me better you know.* But if our home had been the place for my stay, I would have not come out of the door that evening, for my nose was too troublesome, the bad cold sweats so that I could not get much out of the meeting when the handkerchief suddenly had to be used. However the musical program was pretty good. Several new members were taken in, among them Philip Olson and John Carlson.

It has been mainly stormy weather since you left. This afternoon it snowed and hailed. I had the bad luck to become a little wet again. I have not used any form of medicine for my cold. But I am going to try brandy tonight and stay in bed as tomorrow is Sunday, which I am glad for as I am tired after the week. *My wish of good till we meet again.*

I do not remember if I thanked you for what you did for me Monday evening, but I will say it again. I felt far from good then, and perhaps was not courteous to acknowledge the kindness shown me.

Well beloved Annie if I cannot express with words, it is always my intention to do so. You mentioned you would think about me during the trip. May you still remember that I am glad to have a faithful friend who during such different periods of life, will remember, a humble youth like our other Swedish people who have stumbled on this land's westernmost coast. And live so our remaining future days that I in some way shall compensate you for your sincere and faithful love.

An explosion of dynamite took a nine year old boy's life at 2nd Ave near Denny Way yesterday. Have received a letter from my cousin Johnson. They are inquiring after Ester who for over two weeks ago left home to live in Everett. But she has not written home since she left, they have therefore become anxious. They wonder why they have not heard from her and wonder if I had seen her.

They have no address to write to her. So I say yet I have no use for Millinery. (the San Francisco tailor?)

My dear Annie I love best of all-aint it a wonder-So it then bothers me to make you anxious but I must say the truth, I am not any better, but don't worry about me dear I hope to be well by your time of return, when you come home. I am now going to rest and hope to feel better in the morning.

You will get some nice mountain views now I suppose. Hope you have as good time as you see fit.

So again a hug and a kiss, a heartfelt greeting, peace for my thought when you are gone, the best picture for my eyes is you, my betrothed. I must sign off myself as a faithful friend now with little space left.

CAS

The Dalles March 14, 1904

My deeply betrothed friend,

Your letter of the 12th I had the joy to receive this evening. Am sad to hear that you have not got rid of your cold yet. My Dear Charly take good care of yourself. You know colds cause many serious illnesses. Can you not be free until you feel better? You cannot insist upon working and be wet and so on; no more than new medicine is anything but confusing.

I feel excellent for the most part. The baby is not so good. He is very restless during the nights. This evening is only one week since I saw you and it seems to me that it should be more than a month. I was out and could pass the time yesterday evening which was Sunday. Should take in all that is beautiful which The Dalles has to offer, however the most I saw was chickens and their coops, and rocks and hills, so I scarcely could find the way home again. So I soon left and went home again to my little sweetheart. I had the camera with me but did not see anything to take portraits of. One thing I would have liked to have a portrait of was a grave. You cannot imagine how it looked. I have not seen anything like it before. Wish to speak about everything when I come home. So I went to bed at 7:15 PM. I do not sleep but so few hours.

The cook (*spelled kocken*) here is a Chinese and his food tastes pretty good. You asked when we intend to go home. I asked her yesterday if she had decided when we would leave, but she said no she did not know. I suppose the beginning of next week, but if we shall stay awhile in Portland I do not know yet. We have excellent weather here now and the entire time since I last wrote. The sun shines the whole days. Mrs. Dunn went to church yesterday morning. She said when she came home that she was sad for the priest who had to give a sermon to empty walls. There were only 6 people in the church.

Well my dear I wish I could be back in Seattle again and have the joy of seeing you. The time seems long here sometimes without you. But I hope to soon see you again. If you feel good enough when you receive this letter please reply again. Next time I write I believe I will know when we are coming home.

Best greetings from your faithful Annie.

Seattle Wash March 14 - 09

My dear Annie

Sitting lonely in my room this evening many a thought comes to my ~~young~~ brain, And among the many, was that feeling, I ought to start a letter and tell ~~thru~~ you how I am improving Yesterday I was pretty sick I stayed in house all day, most of the time in bed, but Thankfull to say I am a good deal better this evening after a full days work, We had splendid weather here yesterday sunshine and bright But what did it help me.

My wish is That I be all well
By Time ^{you} get back To Seattle
If you see any curious such as
kisses bring me a few To play
with at home when I get too
lonesome, if you should leave
me anywhere, Now when I am
getting better, my aptet improves
as well, And ~~these~~ nice little
things dont hurt a person
at any time for That matter
Yes, now can I sing about my
girl "that left me behind"
To day quiet little snow came
down, Now a week past
since you said farewell, And
 $\frac{1}{2}$ of March nearly gone,
Wedding day gets closer day by day
as our age goes up, Well I must
close my Monday evening scribble
With my best regards and kind
wishes from yours for ever and
sincerely Friend with a hugg & kiss
The same old boy ——— C.H.

Seattle Washington March 16, 1904

Heartfelt loved and promised to (fiance') Annie,

Again this evening I have with great joy recognized a welcomed letter written by my promised to (engaged) friend's hand. How satisfying to await messages from a faithful and forthright lover. Your letters as your conduct indicate always true love. Live always so the ratio between us and as each other promises in our marriage to be one through life's path. And that always we may recognize the advantage of each other's support in large as well as small so to the highest degree so our marriage will be happy and fortunate in the coming years.

Seeing that you long for Seattle which makes me glad. It also indicates that you have me in your thoughts—"Bless you therefore". So simple and insignificant as I am, you however can find value in my only and best true love in return, which I know you will accept. With my wrongs and flaws I hope you will indulge that we all have some. I am glad that you are not so far away that our written conversations can be fairly often. I wrote some lines Monday, but my intent is to not overcome you with letters but to come to know me for each month thereto, such as when you wondered and worried about my nausea. So I thought this would be pretty big news for you. Namely that I was better. Besides the ratio of the writings to you as the small visits which I may do when you are at home. It goes so easy with a satisfaction that cannot be described. You certainly know it well yourself. Concerning my health, I am better but not completely well. A delightful summer day we have had morning to night. It looked really pleasant to behold the summer is approaching. Think what this month has in its womb. We have our calculations as spring wishes to be filled, well thought of, however a constant desire.

Well Annie, observe hills, creeks, rocks and mountains for going to the Dalles you are not going any more. It is something else to have a hubby to be bothered with. But wait your turn which will soon come. Now are the young woman years, which never come again. You may then begin to spell Miss as M-R-S. Of town news I do not know any; only go to and from my work. My cousin (Charles Tublin?) came here yesterday and wondered if he could find a nurse for me. So I count this evening well spent with my dearly loved friend. Have a friendly peace at home with the dearest greetings until I wish you welcome home again with many kisses.

Abiding you dearest,

Yours, CA Sutherling.

March 18, 1904

Greatly loved and always remembered friend,

Feel well.

Your very loved and welcomed letter from Monday I received today. It gave me much joy and encouragement that you are better. The baby and I were out today when the postman came. When I came in I longed for him to also have a letter from my only loved. Yes, when I got the letter, my wish was fulfilled. I wish to thank you for I became so glad to hear that you are restored again.

I began to write a letter to you last night but could not complete it. I was very tired as they had a party here yesterday in the afternoon which I had to also help with. So the baby was so tired and restless that he went to sleep rather late.

Today it was beautiful to see that when we awoke down here there was a little frost but up in the mountains had fallen snow so they were completely white. The sun shone so beautiful, as if a May day. One night last week it rained here, but up in the mountains it snowed.

Yet here in this remote corner of the world, strange things happen. Last Sunday Mrs. Dunn's brother should go and visit his girlfriend who lives in Portland. He should have taken the 5 AM train, but he did not wake until a quarter to six AM. He was so mad at himself, but the China man received the blame for it. He had set the alarm clock to ring but when it did not, he believed the China man had done something to it. The worse was his girl friend had gotten up so early to meet him. But he telephoned her and went in the evening and did not come home until Wednesday. They are going to get married soon.

My dear Carl some hours have flown since I began my letter. I was this afternoon with the baby and met the postman again. To my huge joy and surprise he had a letter from you. Thank you my love that you do not forget me. You must not be afraid that I think you write too many letters. No dear. Your letters are my company in my aloneness in this quiet remote place.

I received a postcard from Esther last Wednesday. She says she likes Everett and also her work. She said she wanted to write home, but just had received a letter from there. She had a visit from a Seattleite the first Sunday she was in Everett. She did not say who it was but she says I could guess who it was because not everyone thinks the same about millinery.

Today I saw in the newspaper and Mr. Dunn had said that you had an earthquake in Seattle, the worst they have had.

Well I do not know anything more about when we shall go home. She said yesterday evening that we should leave here in the beginning of next week. If the baby and I should stay in Portland a day and then I should go home with the baby and remain there I am not certain.

Now again an interruption. I have just been down for dinner. Had chicken and so on. Also ice cream. It tasted pretty good. I miss much goodies from Seattle. Among other things the pocket which always used to have peppermint candy. Away you know that I hunger so for peppermint. Today I took my escort

with me and in town got some candy to curtail my desire. I should not complain, but you know I do not like my roommate very much. She wishes that I should wake up so early sometimes in the morning. She sits up in her bed and calls until I answer. The she wishes I get up first not to make a fire in the stove, but to find her clothes and things.

The baby is just as sweet as he ever was. You spoke in your last letter that our wedding day is soon here. Yes the time goes pretty fast. I heard from home through Albin that my sister plans to soon be a bride. There was talk on my wedding here a day recently. Mrs. Dunn said that it was something that she wished me to be married but not until a long time from now. Her mother then said that if I get married I was welcome to look after the baby half days, for she could not live with Annie. But I thought a completely different thought, but did not give them any satisfaction.

Well my dear, I do not know anything more to write this time. Hope to see you soon and greet your cousin and also Albin if you see him. Have had a letter from him one time.

My best greetings are included along with a sweet kiss. The rest I will take along with me when I come.

Your fiance' and always devoted

Annie

Hope to get an answer to this if you possibly believe that it will come here before we leave, which will not be before Wednesday.

The Dalles Oregon, March 20, 2004

My dearly loved friend Carl,

I wish to again break the quiet between us by sending you some lines. I sit alone here in my room. Mrs. Dunn took the baby out for a while.

I was at church this morning. There were many people there.

I hope this is the last Sunday I must be here in The Dalles. Sunday is the longest day. The other days I have so much to do that takes away being alone. It is like having company here with me when I take the pen in hand and send all my thoughts to Seattle and you.

I sent a letter to you yesterday morning but I forgot to tell you we were out for a ride Tuesday. Mrs. Dunn, her sister, Mrs. Marshall, the baby and me.

I thought they could not find any road that they could drive. But they found a good road that was pretty pleasant.

My dear I hope you are again settled in so you can have it very nice with what Seattle has to offer.

I hope next Sunday to be together with you.

I was out today in the morning and took three different photos of the snowy mountains. Hope they turn out well.

Many different thoughts on this and that spin in my brain during these days. I think I can already see our dear pleasant home with love, household comfort, good health and so on such as having guests and a little dear boy.

Well Dear to end my best greetings together with a kiss from your Annie.

Do not know about the trip home yet.

Seattle Washington March 20, 1904

Annie! My promised (*engaged*) and revered friend

With great happiness I picked up your awaited writing (*letter*) this Sunday morning. I was so convinced that one of your letters was in the mail slot, so I found the time to wait until the morning time from my work when I look forward to what the postman brings me.

Well dear Annie I did not need to go without your heart's thoughts. I found much really drawn out in your welcomed writing, which was a good distraction from Sunday's loneliness. Receive my thanks for your friendly and warm encouragement.

Here it is said among the young men that there is nothing fun away from Seattle. But how glad I think then of myself. That how fun I certainly have it the best happiness of all, namely a for every thing faithful friend on this earth, which she more than shows. Certainly I deny those expressions which are thought among those who surround me when I am quiet and reserved. But I have my well being for my self and us however. And say it is nobody's business but my own, I am the one to please in my affairs and welfare. Then no one hassles my position. To be outside can be good but at home is likewise best. But yet I have not received my home where it is best.

Last Friday I was at the opinion meeting (*likely a religious meeting*) that was filled by a crowd. A program with songs and music and declarations and then coffee and treats as dessert. Forwarded your greetings to Hulda. And said that Philip should not be glad over anyone for such gladness was only for Hulda. Then she replied that I think well and yes she cries yet. And I said that she ought to do. Yes, thank you was her answer.

Mrs. Faulkner and Albin were there. Few others I spoke to. So I was one on the fringe. No one invited or asked me about the association. Yesterday evening I took a little tour around town. It was so rainy and not fun, like being in a crowd. So has today been stormy. So I have only been to the Post Office, but am planning now to go to church.

I see in your letter that there are others besides me who can over sleep (*see Annie Carlston March 18, 1904 letter*). I wonder if she gets a warning when she is being corrected. Yes, these here proposers (*Annie and Charly*) have a difficult position. Your roommate does not make any comment on the fire in the stove when she awakens you. Means she does not say anything because she is also freezing.

Now it is time for this letter to get fast speed to town before I go to church. I end therefore with heartfelt greetings and welcome you back, I your steadfast friend. Enclosed are kisses. I am your *promised* (*engaged*).

CA Sutherling

Hulda sends you greetings. Your brother and cousin and also my cousin. Perhaps I will hear from you soon.