

About Mine  
Jules

Sudbury, Ont.

Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> 1911

My dearest Lois

I am enjoying yours of the 20<sup>th</sup> I fancy you have got by now a couple of scribbles from me of the same date. As for where I was I was in Toronto but left for Sudbury in the evening.

I hope you don't get measles, as you suggest. Don't! for goodness sake because then I would be sure to get a chance to go to Montreal. Anyway they're horrid.

And don't for the love of Mary Ann tell me how nice it would be in Montreal. Just about half another letter like this and I'd be "sacked" for leaving my work and running away.

Lois when I do get a week end off we must ~~also take~~ spend it together - all the time - nearly - don't you think? And we won't have time to play Bridge, will we Darling. Just time to make up for lost time and then it will pass too soon anyway. My love it is horrible that we must be held apart in this detestable way and yet it would be

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plain madness to hurry. It is just the same  
work, work, work, and wait wait wait  
until we are in a really satisfactory position.

Sweetheart, I have almost got down to  
rock bottom again with a bump so I'll stop  
this.

Have you ever read Jules Verne's stories?  
I used to love them <sup>one of them I seem to remember was</sup> — all about a submarine  
which used to make a descent at a certain  
place and run under a mountainous island  
and would come up in a wonderful  
tremendous cave with castles and pirates  
and all sorts of wonderful things.

If I'd had Jules Verne and perhaps Rider  
Haggart with me yesterday they would <sup>not</sup> have  
had to make a very great stretch of imagination  
to construct the scene for a wonderful new  
story.

The Creighton Mine is owned by the Canadian  
Copper Company and is the largest <sup>MARBLE</sup> malle  
mine in the world.

I reached it at the end of a twelve  
mile drive from Sudbury and at lunch

out there, met an <sup>3</sup>Upper Canada College man  
named Oughten, who afterwards showed me  
the mine.

I got very confused and could not possibly  
describe the workings accurately, but <sup>OUGHTEN</sup> Oughten  
first took me and showed me the pit.  
This is a hole they have dug out - about  
100 feet deep and perhaps  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile around.  
I think it is deeper than the highest  
Montreal building and you might pile in  
quite a number of Windsor Hotels before  
the hole was filled.

A few groups of little men were working  
at the bottom while on the sides in  
several places pairs of men were engaged  
in running rock drills.

After looking at this for some time  
I put on overalls, got some candles, ~~and~~  
matches and leather mitts and we started  
down a shaft or rather a very steep incline.  
This goes right into the earth, starting  
from a point quite a distance back from the  
side of the pit (perhaps 50 yards I forget)

continue ↓

4.

The ladder down which we walked is about 350 feet long. (More steps than those up the mountain?) and stops at four levels. All this I learnt afterwards so I was quite lost in starting.)

At each level tunnels start and lead to vast underground caverns. I think I was in five or six of these caverns. (Chambers I think they call them)

They are lighted by flames of acetylene gas, and high up on the walls you can see other lights — the candles of the drill men and their helpers. And remember the chambers are as big as a large church and the blackness makes them bigger.

In some a hole about 15 feet in diameter has been knocked through to connect with the daylight of the <sup>main pit</sup> or upper air and it gives me a peculiar feeling to see the luminous shaft which comes down through the surrounding darkness.

I came up feeling as if I had finished a magnificent dream or closed the book of a delightfully thrilling fairytale.

with love  
yrs affectly Edward S. W.