

Lanning, N.Y.

May 6, 1919.

Dear Walter.-

Well, I certainly did get a nice surprise for my birthday. The watch reached me on the 29th. Your selection is a beautiful one. It is the prettiest style I have seen, and I thank you so much. Guess I will count the hours till Christmas. ha. Say I'm going to make a guess and say you will be back by the 1st of September any way. See if I'm not right: ha

If you make the return trip in  
a flying machine don't look for  
me at home. You will find me  
at the fruit farm. That is if I'm  
able to be there. Today I feel like a  
second attack of the "flu". That is  
why I am so slow to acknowledge  
my birthday gift. So please consider  
the "cause" when you think of the  
"flu" and consider the "source" when  
you think of my advanced years.

At the farm I have a variety of work.  
Some book work, some commissary work,  
making out pay roll & paying off over  
a month and what ever there is to do.

One of the Holy Roller Sisters down  
there came near giving me a  
thrashing last week because I wouldn't  
let her carry off the commissary.

The boss has fired that bunch so by the  
time I can go back to work I think  
they will be gone.

The last letter I had from you  
was written April 1st. You asked  
if any of the Lancing boys are  
back yet. I'm afraid. Walter, that  
you get very few of my letters.

Surely by now you have some that  
tell about. Leonard Lyons, getting  
back. also a brother of Lula Landrum.  
Several Starthing boys have come.  
Carl Kries, Carl Schubert. a Stevens  
boy and a good many more from  
here that you may know. A Garrett  
boy who was wounded. Lincoln Adams  
came about 2 weeks ago. Ernest Kries,  
a boy who was reported killed came  
about 4 weeks ago. He lives with the  
Collins family.

Guess I will close now and write  
more when I get back to work.

Excuse such crooked writing.

I'll try to do better next time.

Can't find a four leaf clover so I'm  
sending a few flowers.

Hope this finds you well. Be  
good boy. Write when you can.

Lovingly,  
Stella