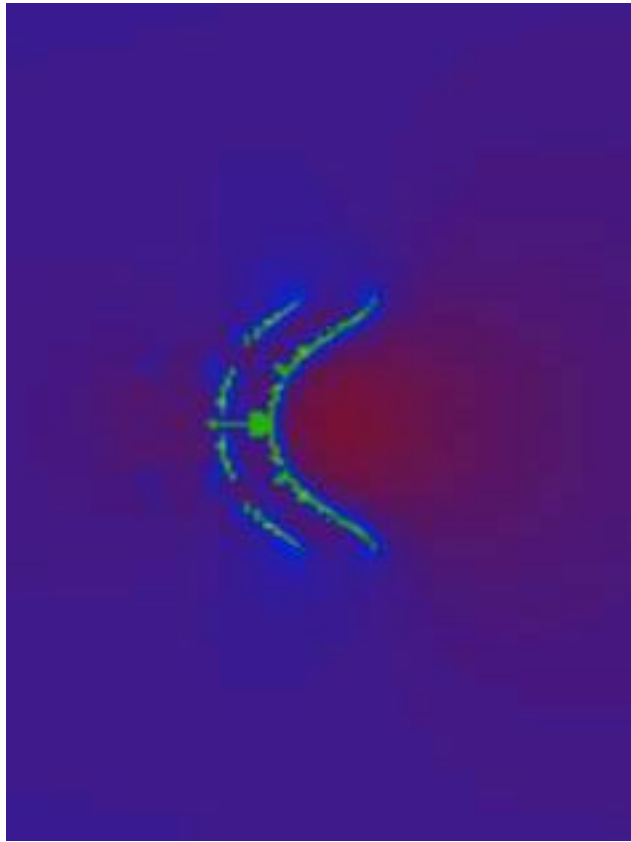


Leah



Rochelle Ratner

xPress(ed)

Leah by Rochelle Ratner

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containing 8 poems, was privately printed by the
author, Christmas 1978

Foreword

I have a close friend who lived in Europe during the 1970s. He's the sort of person who has to think for days, sometimes weeks, before he can write a postcard to anyone; consequently his friends never heard from him except when he came in town once a year. Most other people I knew, including myself, dashed off postcards in a few seconds. I never realized how important these words could be until, rummaging through an antique shop in the late 1970s, I was fascinated by the pictures and messages on old postcards. I bought ten or so, all for holidays, thinking they offered more distinctive greetings than the usual Hallmarks.

While I glanced at the messages briefly, it wasn't until I got home that I realized most were addressed to the same person: Leah Graham (later Leah Carvell). Suddenly the words became more interesting than the pictures. I went back to that store several times, usually finding cards with intriguing messages to Leah which I'd previously missed.

I've always been accused of being a Romantic, and the image of lonely women working in mills during the early 1900s suits me perfectly. From 1905 to 1915, especially, Leah and her friends were putting their whole lives onto these cards, then sending them through the mail for anyone and everyone to read. To place all this in perspective: in 1900 one out of every thirteen homes had a phone, and the dial phone wasn't in general use until 1919; Ford's Model T did not go into mass production until 1910. Through the words contained in these pages we get a first-hand portrait of a time when visits were cumbersome and infrequent, phone calls possible but not probable; cards and letters were often the only way to stay in touch.

Questions arise as we leaf through these one-sided dialogues: how old was Leah? Did she really have that many sisters and cousins, or was "Sister" a familiar (possibly even religious) term? Who were these people who wrote to her again and again? Was the "Walter" she later married the same "Walt" that Irene S. warns Leah to look out for? And when did Leah marry? There are huge gaps in the narrative. Messages hint at sickness, death, struggle, possibly mental illness. In between cards, there were obviously letters, and often visits, but all we have to go by are these fragments. Piecing them together, searching for repetitive names and references, tempts readers to fill in the blanks until a life story emerges. Novels could have been written from the same beginnings. I decided the words were more interesting left alone.

All in all, I found over 100 cards. While many were not turned into poems, the sentiments recorded here remain untouched: line breaks, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation have all been retained, nothing has been edited out. In a few places where the pictures or words printed on the cards seemed relevant to the messages, I've added

a few lines to convey to the reader what the cards conveyed to me (hopefully within the line pattern dictated by the postcard format, then individualized by each correspondent). Increasingly with each revision, I've worked to keep my impressions within a subtle, if not silent, background.

There was one place where my own responses moved to the forefront, and that's in the "Interlude: Atlantic City" cycle. None of these messages seemed as interesting as others that I've included here, but I was born and raised in Atlantic City, as were my parents. Had I not recognized the pictures and checked the postmarks that first day I was looking in the antique shop, I might never have looked any further. I've placed this cycle in the center of the book, breaking the chronological order, but hopefully establishing a deeper, cumulative, connection.

Rochelle Ratner
New York City
November 28, 1994

St. Clair, July 17, 1905

There's a cannon
in a corner of the park,
on a bench nearby
a man takes a long,
white-dressed woman
on his knee,
looking helplessly up at her.
She, one arm around him,
uses the other arm
to push him off

beneath,
the single command:
REST!

Dear Leah
I thought this
would remind you
of Stanley
don't be angry
for I know
you loved him.
When are you going
to answer my letter?
I hope soon.

E.S.

The words written in pencil --

Someone tried their best
to erase *Stanley*
to erase *loved him*.

Postmark:
Jan. 27, 1906

Dear Leah must postpone
my visit, mother is
very sick again, she
is worse than ever
will write letter and tell
you all about it. am
awful troubled about
it for now she will
not get well. Have not
been in bed for two
weeks. Yours as ever,
E.S.

a dark-haired woman lies
on a silk pillow

one hand
draws her nightgown
across her breasts,
the other rests
just beneath her cheek

five roses, pink and white
lie bunched beside her

a fair, cherubic face
lies just above
holding in her hands
two more roses
to brush the sleeper's
forehead

LIVE FOR LOVE, AND THOU SHALT BE,
LOVING OTHERS, TRUE TO ME:
LOVE I FOLLOW, FOLLOW THEE!

April 2, 1906

a blue snapshot
of the old State House,
New Haven, Ct.
takes up most of the front
and on the back: *this side*
for address only.

The message is in ink
but the pen must have been
running dry, every other
word or half-word
is darker:

Dear Sister
Monday morn.
Annie is
rubbing away
at the wash
tub. Was at
Struble's
yesterday from
there went to
Eyman's. I
guess sledding
is over for
this year.
Your Sister
Minnie

There was once glitter
in the building's foreground
but most of it's worn off
just like the snow, if you
get the picture.

August 10, 1906
Harrisburg, Pa.

Scene: the sea at night.
Three men build a campfire
in a little clearing of rocks,
two rowboats anchored
to other rocks

along the horizon she's written:
Take a walk with me
and we will have a talk with me
along Conestoga and no one
waiting for us. You see!

(over)

I will take advantage
of all possible space
to write to my two friends
the Graham loaves.
I think of all of you
each day while I am
running my legs off at
the machine.

E.E.S.

Nov. 7, 1906

Even in log cabins
ROOM FOR ONE MORE
& set to leave

two men sit on donkeys
while a third donkey, empty,
drinks at the water hole

Dear Friend --
I hope you are having
a nice time
down on the farm.
we have more room
for you

it seems as though
you were away about
a month
please don't forget
to come back Mon.
morning

be a good girl
& have a good time
With love, Elsie

Postmark: Nov. 8, 1906
Lancaster, Pa.

GLASGOW, KIBBLE PALACE
IN BOTANIC GARDENS

-- for *inland* postage only
this side may be used
for communication:

We received your card.
I am on the bum list like you were.
I was at the Doctors last night.
Don't forget Mothers Postal
on Friday.

from Lottie.
Lottie Ressler

December 4, 1906

They use to call me Peachie
but it is too cold for them now.

Geo. Flichtner

March 27, 1907
EASTER GREETINGS

all I can reproduce here
are the words

on the front you must
imagine a cross, large,
the kind you find in graveyards,
with grass at the bottom

written all around it:

Dear Cousin

forgive me for not
writing sooner
I will write
in a few
days. Pearle
went home
this evening
we had
a nice
time together
I will
miss her
very much
How are all
the folks? hope they are
all well. Your cousin,
Alice

Now imagine a thin young woman
in a long lavender gown
draping a wreath of lilies
across that cross.

July 28, 1907

FOURTH LAKE,
ADIRONDACK MOUNTAINS, N.Y.

Dear Leah,
I am as lonely today
as I was a year ago.
I am not caring for anything.
From Edith

and on the other side:
(continued from Edith's card)
she knows by this time
whether the girls are any relation
to ex-governor Pennypacker.
There are now three kinds
of things in this house
Pennypacker, Penny
& I won't write what
I was going to.
My unseen friend just now
said don't.
He always says don't to Edith
and then she don't
only she does sometimes.
Aunt H. is so old fashioned
and full of laugh
that I must get the camphor to chew on
to move my face when I can't laugh.
My thoughts are continued.
Emma S.

Aston Mills, Pa.
Aug. 3, 1907

We live right
near this
school ask
cousin Clara
and she will
explain it
to you.

Blanche

Postmark:
December 22, 1908

beside a picture of Old North Church
in Boston: BOSTON RUBBERS ARE
BEACON LIGHTS IN RUBBER FOOTWEAR

Dear girls, your card at hand
Father will be in on Wednesday eve.
should it storm stay at Grandpops
till Thurs. morn.

Mother

April 9, 1909
EASTER GREETINGS

Thought you might enjoy flowers
when you come here early this summer --
we are planting flower seed
on the kitchen table
but in boxes.

Lovingly,
Nettie Waite.

Philadelphia, Pa.
Oct. 21, 1909

Leah I am starting
a new life in a
new home and like
it very much thus
far but must work
very hard. Myrna.

Battle Creek, Mich.
Jan 25, 1910

MAPLE STREET IN WINTER

Dear Friend Leah,
Received your letter
am glad you are pleased
with the book.
am out of writing paper
so will not write for
a day or two.
am going downtown
to a dance tomorrow night
given by The Caledoman Club
(a Scotch Society).

Sincerely, Jas.

TO MY VALENTINE
Feb. 2, 1910

Hello Leah
how are you
hope you are enjoying
good health.
I am well
except for a cold
two weeks ago.
I went home
sister Emma was
complaining right smart.
From your true friend
Ella M. Smith

the delicate
woman's hand intrudes
upon the heart
& the dove
takes off

Verona Falls near Battle Creek, Mich.
April 28, 1910

Here is where I went fishing last week.
Not even a mosquito bite.

Yours truly,
Jim

San Francisco, Calif.

July 15, 1910

I hope you will pardon my delay
in replying to your card, but I have
been ill and unable to write.

Would you like to exchange a few
cards with my brother? If so add --
Edwin J. Thompson, 3101 Calif St.
S.F. Calif.

Sincerely,
Daisy Thompson
3101 Calif. St.
S.F., Calif.

July 15, 1910

a Shirley-Temple,
rosy-cheeked girl
holds a bouquet of pink,
five petalled flowers

a gold basket of them
is under her arm
and a strand of daisies
borders the card

its once-glossy surface
is cracked now, so that from
the distance it appears
mosaic:

Dear Leah,

here is a birthday
postal for you,
as I have forgot
the date of your birthday.

Send the date in
as the others want
to send you one too.
We are all well except sister Emma
she is still complaining.

Your friend Ida Smith

August 2, 1910

The Marion
18 Web Ave.
Ocean Grove, N.J.

Dear Friend,
You ought to be here
I know you would enjoy
the Ocean
It has been raining
all day -- one day
it is cloudy,
the next day it rains.
When you take your
vacation this summer
come to the ocean.
Sarah Wiggins
has a very nice place
and likes it very much
you can cook and bake
there are a lot of
private homes, they want
girls. Let me know if you
want a place. Katie.

Sept. 25, 1910

Flowers say it best

a windmill scene
like a cameo
in the center:

THO NEW FRIENDS COME
YET TO THE OLD I'M TRUE,
A FACT I HOPE THIS CARD
WILL PROVE TO YOU.

Dear Leah what happened on
Sunday Eve. Thought maybe
you got an elephant.
Ida and I talked
until blue dawn
began to break.
Stayed until Monday.
W. did not come.
M.H. spent the eve
with me. She was on
the porch waiting on me
did not get back until
7:30. write something soon.
S.

tho new friends come...

October 10, 1910

Dear Cousin

I will drop you this card
for a general reminder
that you owe me a letter.

I am all alone

Hubby is working.

He will be home for supper.

Please answer. Blanche.

December 2, 1910
HEARTIEST GREETINGS

see --
the flowers thrive,
pink roses on
the envelope or package,
a pink ribbon around it

Dear Leah --
Wish I was there
with you today.
The roads are so bad
for one horse I am afraid
we won't make it over there
this winter.

I am still looking for your letter.
I was up to Flora's yesterday.
She wasn't very well.
I suppose Jim & Nellie
were married last night.
John Knapp was also married
last week.

When are you coming over?
Please write me a long letter.

Love. Mabel.

Coateville, Pa.
March 24, 1911

Dear Sister
Mary told me
to write and tell you
that she has her cakes
and pies all baked
ready for you
to come on Saturday
and you are not
to disappoint her.
I have not worked
for over a week.
Hurt my foot.

J.H.G.

May 3, 1911

a gold-bordered card
with a single rose,
two buds (one broken off)
and gold thorns

BEST WISHES

Suppose you have been
looking for a letter
long ago

I wanted to write
but seemed I couldn't
find time

Roy is up again,
goes out a little.
The nurse left last Sat.
was here three weeks

Dr. Finney was here yesterday
and fumigated the room.

Your sister,
Harriet

Postmark:
August 11, 1911

came to Lan.
on Monday
tending Mulinger's
Funeral

went to
Chris stayed
till to day
growing some

shopping going
to Vandike's
leave this after
noon at 3 o'clock
Mother

addressed to
Miss Leah Graham,
someone has written
in blue pencil:
Stamp

& not the usual
green stamp
but a red one
on the bottom:
postage due 1¢

August 20, 1911

Electric Power House and Dam
On Dan River, South Boston, Va.

I was out driving yesterday:
how is it going in "easy alley?"

Harry

Postmark:
August 24, 1911
Lancaster, Pa.

3 women in Easter bonnets
crouch in an old beat-up crate --
WE HAD A BOX SEAT.

Dear Cousin
Well Leah I had better
apologize for stinging you.
That is the way a fellow has to do.
I thought it was the Sat. eve before,
I had forgotten it was last Sat. eve
so I went to R.S. and it never struck me
about it until I was out dancing
then it was too late. Will make it up to you
some time when I see you.

Ruth

Postmark:
Coatesville, Pa.
Sept. 7, 1911

Leah save me
some sinerys
of what you
took from home
I will fix it with
you bring your
camera with you
when you come.

Mary

& on the front
a typical Victorian
pose

a woman
in a long gown
DREAMING OF THE
HAPPY HOUR

rests her elbow
on a coffee table,
stares off into space:

sinerys? smergs? sinergs?
smerys? sewing? what the hell
does she expect?

December 30, 1911

ALL GOOD WISHES...
...FOR A BRIGHT AND
HAPPY FUTURE...

Leah, Edwin is
an awful sick boy
but is a little bit
better now we are
all just about down
sick with the care
but we have a
trained nurse came
last night. his tem.
now runs from 102 to 104
now just got it a
little under control with
the baths.

E.

Postmark:
Jan. 10, 1912

a BIRTHDAY GREETINGS card.

Hello olde friend
how does this weather
sute you.
I suppose
you are slaying
and you olde chum
are slaying every night
having a grande time
I was home
they are all well
I tolde Margret about riting
she said she was going
to right to you
I have not seen Molley Siles
if I see her I will tell her
I am well hope you
are the same
answer soon all ways glad
to heare from you.
I remain your friend
Ella M. Smith.

Postmark:
Feb. 20, 1912
Lancaster, Pa.

Dear Leah,
received your card.
was glad to hear from you
I am well & happy
oh we are so busy
over church, you know.
Hope you are well
by this time.
Just think I am
on my third double end warp
it's that fine I can hardly
see anything at all.
Don't get scared
I don't think that at all
I know you would feel slided
if you would not get a treat
of then *ha ha*.
Oh. Minnie is out
clearing palings this eve
pretty cold for that job
let her enjoy herself
I was young too
and will do the same thing
over again. Your friend
Emma

Interlude: Atlantic City

March 27, 1907
MARLBOROUGH HOTEL

Dear Sister
Mary is coming up
on Sat. Morn.
on the 8:34 train.
Alice and I was down
at the school this morning
but the teacher did not come.
Your Sister Sallie

≡

July 3, 1908
ABSECON LIGHTHOUSE

Leah we are having a lovely time
Emma and I room together
and go bathing every day.
I am sun-burnt so I am blistered
but am feeling fine.

Mazie
Hotel Shoreham
Virginia Ave.

≡

July 11, 1911
Yachting Pier at the Inlet

Dear Cuz I forgot
to give Loretta my address.

Will you give it to her?
146 S. Tennessee Ave.
Wish you were here. It's fine.
(no signature)

≡

STEEL PIER BY MOONLIGHT --
no postmark, no date

Leah

Let's take a trip in here
tonight (I expect to).

Billah

≡

August 3, 1912
SOLID COMFORT ON THE BOARDWALK
women sitting in rolling chairs
lined up against the rail:

Dear Friend will drop you a few
lines to let you know
I haven't forgotten you
I guess you thought I did
but believe me Leah I didn't
Will write you a letter before long
Friend Green

PS -- what do you think of this
for a parade -- don't you wish
you were one of them?

Westminster, Pa.

June 5, 1912

Hello Leah

I bin going to rite you

I have bin bissey cleaning up house

I hope you are well and home

how did you get along at the hospiddle

you said you had to be operated.

Let me heare from you

I am awfull sorry to heare it

I am well and hope you are the same

with love to you and rite soon

always glad to hear from you.

The carde looks like you.

Ella M. Smith

Postmark: Lancaster, Pa.
July 12, 1912

BROWN HALL,
MICHIGAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF,
FLINT, MICH.

Dear Leah,
Had been to the country
for a week,
had a dandy time,
lots of good things
to eat. Uncle Geo.
has been in Lanc.
for five weeks.
Went to the country Sat.
Danby and Millersville.
Had a letter from Aunt Sue --
says she likes it.
It sure is hot there
these days. Hope you are
getting better. Write soon.

Mary E.

September 17, 1912

Would like you to
be with us on Sun.
come down to the stand
on Fri eve if you
can't come down Roy
will come out am
very busy just now
helping in the tobacco
Your Sister. Harriet.

Millersville Pa.
Sept. 18, 1912

LET
OTHERS SWEAR
BY OATHS UNTRUE
YET FAITHFUL
I WILL BE TO
YOU.

Dear Friend Leah --
guess you thought
you were never getting an answer
to that card you sent me
but I wanted to send you
a picture of myself
and it did not get good
so I will send one later on
if we ever get that far again.
I took it at Manor Camp
and it was a hootch. Ha Ha.
Thanking you very much for the card
hoping to hear from you soon again
P.B.C. was on that picture
guess that is why it didn't get good.
Minnie M.

No postmark, but dated
Oct. 8, 1912

one of those blonde
helpless cowgirl pictures,
a bust shot, cut raggedly off
to enhance them

Dear Leah --
this is my second attempt.
I sent you a card
on the 25th of Aug.
but it came back to me.
I trust this one
will reach its destination.
I am sending the old one as well.
There may be some one on it you know.
How are you feeling by this time?
I have left the Cork Works Leah
and feel much better sitting around home.
I wish that were all I had to do
for a few months. The girls
tease me about getting married.
What do you know about that.

Lucy

Millersville, Pa.
Dec. 23, 1912

Well, Leah,
almost Xmas time again.
Hope you will have
a brighter one than ever.
Just got through making
puffed rice candy.
Wish you had some
when it's cold,
not this moment
it might burn your mouth.
come up some time
I often think of you.
In regards to presents --
Dear that will be all right.
I would not expect you
to send us some,
that would have been too hard
so far away and what
you have experienced already.
I have received a beautiful ring
(to my eyes) already as a present.
I will write and tell you more.
Tell Minnie I send her the best
N.Y. wishes I know of.
Your friend. Emma.

December 24, 1912

Well Leah are you
still in the land
of the living
I never hear a word
from you
I hope you are better
and ready to eat
a 15 lb turkey
for Christmas
you should hear
our youngsters
they are almost wild
Let me hear from you
good bye and merry Xmas
to all.

Lizzie

Leah from Edith, 1912

GOOD LUCK
AND GOOD HEALTH
IN THE NEW YEAR

Dear Leah,
this is Sunday morning,
and it gives me great pleasure
to write a few lines
to each of my dear girls
in the snow-crowned hills
of Graham farm.
I wish so often
that your home was nearer mine,
that we could just walk over
and see one another.
Mother said the other day
she wished she lived near your house.
I asked her why.
She said so I would get
another basket of things.
She forgets most everything
but that she remembers.
Today one year ago
our dear Helen was lying asleep
not to waken again till the voice of God
calls her.

Many happy years to you. Edith.
Harrisburg, December 29th

Jan. 18, 1913

BEST WISHES

Dear Leah

Frank says if you aren't
going to have any company
Sunday we will be over.

Let us know.

You know if you did
Frank would come back home.

Tell Lena she had better
look out for Walt,
he will run away
with some of those women
to coming. If Frank
had went I would have
went too.

Irene S.

Postmark: Harrisburg, Pa.
March 3, 1913

Dear Leah, glad to hear
you are able to work again
and hope I can come
to see you soon. did the
girls get the cards I sent
them at Xmas? When
you write again tell me some
thing of the boys. do they talk
yet? as ever, Edith.

Harrisburg, Pa.
March 9, 1913

Dear Friend Leah
I wish you ever such
a joyful Easter
celebrating the resurrection
of the One who guards
your pathway.
Isn't he leading us
different than we thought
a few years ago?

Truly your friend,
Edith.
S

April 30, 1913
Quarryville
Cousin Clara B. Minney

postmarked two days later

Dear Cousin Leah
I received your beautiful
and much appreciated present
and thank you very much.
I was sorry we could
not come to the wedding.
Come and see me sometime
if you are not above coming
to a little cabin like this.
Conveniences and luxuries
are to be found in the most
humble dwellings.

color postcard of a
large two-lane pier,
rowboats docked between
the lanes, and far out to sea
one of those large slides
you go down on a burlap bag:

SHOOTING THE CHUTES. DREAMLAND.

August 14, 1913

Dear Leah,
glad you like it
and hope it will do you
lots of good.
Aunt Sue is better,
she was not over the hills.
Took dinner with Harriet
and came back Tues.
went today again.
Aunt Rose went with her.
Brimman's like it.
We sure had so hot
weather since you were gone.
Love from all. Write soon.

Mary H.

Miss Leah F. Graham
Lancaster, Pa.
c/o Stehli Silk Mill
-- Worker 45 --

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
September 5, 1913

Dear Leah,

this being your birthday month
if I remember rightly
will send this card.
Did you get my last letter?
am getting anxious to hear from
you again.

How is work down there?
Working is very dull here,
but weaving is rather good.
am making out better than
I ever thought possible.

E.E.S.

September 10, 1913

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING,
STATE INSANE ASYLUM,
TRENTON, N. J.

Dear Leah:

I received
your sweet card
you don't know
how I missed you
after you had gone.
I just got home
last night
I was up in the
dining room after
you left. Write soon.
From Peachie

Los Angeles, Calif.
Dec. 10, 1913

Dear Leah,
I wish you could see
this beautiful country --
I can hardly describe
its beauties.
I am happy with my
loved ones at last.
I am enjoying it all
so much and think
the climate will be
fine for me.

Auntie

December 21, 1913

Dear Leah good
old Xmas again
The saddest one
I have ever met.
Remember me
to loved ones at
home. Yours as
always, Edith.

December 29, 1913

COMING HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

clad in her finest,
a young woman
carries a suitcase
and a bouquet of roses

Dear Sister,
Try hard to come home for Xmas.
This doesn't seem like Xmas weather.
We had lots of company today,
Uncle Joe's girls, Eyman's girls,
& Mr. & Mrs. Messner.
We will be busy this week
have not got our cakes all baked yet.

Your Sister,
Sarah

Postmark:
April 11, 1914

THE TALK OF THE TOWN

or at least three old women
in their Easter bonnets

one holds a cup of tea
while another leans forward
casting a finger out
to make her point

on the back,
in pencil:

O you Kid

If you will do the cooking
I will do the eating
Expect to hear from
you soon

Happy Easter to you
Now you guess from who

No date or postmark.

Dear Leah
will send your Christmas
greetings home for suppose
you will be there.
Have been looking for a letter
from you for quite awhile.
Ada has gone to Florida --
did you know that?
How is Annie,
did another little stranger
come to see her?

As ever,
Edith

Hospital, Harrisburg, Pa.

Dear Leah
this is my 30th postal card
and I am tired
scratching yours in love
Edith.

No date, no postmark.

December 31, 1914

I will send you
this card to let
you know that
we are still
on the map we
will look for
you soon don't
come on the 10th.
We are all well.
Wishing you a happy
New Year.

Mrs. R.

Postmark:
Lancaster, Pa.
May 19, 1915

TO MY SWEETHEART

excuse pencil

Dear Leah,
Just a few words
to let you know that I will
be looking for you Sun. morn
Let me know if you will come
in the morning then I will
wait for you in the
cloak room. S. School is at
9:15. I will be disappointed if
you don't come in the morn.
I want you to go along for
dinner. Hope to hear from you.

Anna S.

Postmark:
October 12, 1915

Birds-Eye view
of Susquehanna River
and City of Harrisburg, Pa.

Dear Leah

I am here
because I am here.

Where are you?
Maryland or Pennsylvania.

Let me know soon
if not sooner.

What is Ann's R.R. No.
and your No. at home?

I always get them mixed.

Your chum,
E.S.

January 24, 1918

Dear Cousin Lillie

Well Leah this is winter weather
we are having. It has been
a long time since I saw you.
We are well and hope you are
the same.

Sister would like to know
if those two Brubaker women
-- old maids they were --
still work at the silk mill.
She would like their address.
If you know will you please write
and tell me. They sold cushions.

Your Cousin
Clara B.G.

Oakland, Calif.
March 26, 1923

Dear Leah,
Hope you are well.
It is spring here
Trees in bloom
Celeste has been with me
three months. Love
& best wishes to all.

Sallie

Postmark:
April 13, 1930

May this be a glad
Easter for you it
is not a very bright
one for me. But am glad
for the One who arose from
the grave on this day.

F.

P.S.:
Had your card ready to send
when your greeting came
to me. Am so sorry for dear
Harriet.

Huntsville, Ontario, Canada
July 2, 1936

TALLY-HO INN ON BEAUTIFUL PENINSULA
LAKE NEAR HUNTSVILLE, MUSKOKA, CANADA.
INFORMALITY, DELICIOUS MEALS, HOMELIKE
ATMOSPHERE ARE FEATURES OF THIS RESORT.

This is our cottage for the weekend.
Having a good trip,
not too much rushing.
Kids loved Niagara Falls.
Came over to Canada last Thursday.
Nearly froze Thurs. nite
in unheated cabin!
Have been comfortable since, however,
made sure there was heat.

Love,
The Lebos

Kingston, Tenn:
November 29, 1941

Dear Aunt Leah & Uncle Walter

We're having a wonderful time.
At present we just came off
of "Cling Man's Dome"
which is 6,000 feet
above sea level.
Of course nothing like Pike's Peak.
Coming down had a flat tire.
Fine weather for a trip.
We're going to Nashville Sat. night.
So long.

from Horace and Edwin

Iris Gardens and Swan Lake
Sumter, S.C.
May 3, 1946

Dear Aunt Leah & Uncle Walter --
I am sending you a picture
of the Iris Gardens which
I spoke of in my letter.
I was out to see them
Sunday a week ago and they
are more beautiful than I
had expected. There are
swans on the lake, one
of them had young. They were
feeding them when I was there.
A lady out there said that people
traveling from countries of
Europe say they are one
of the most beautiful
scenes of their travels.
Tobacco is planted out already for
several months and corn and cotton
is up here. Love Horace Write

March 6, 1948
Columbia, S.C.

a black & white picture
of the state capitol building

Dear Aunt Leah & U. Walter
I know I have neglected writing
but I have been quite busy
working at Walgreen's
& playing music.
am not playing as much
as I was.
I get \$25 a week
& 1/3 off anything
I buy in the store.
Your nephew,
Horace.

10 March 1949
Bournemouth Poole
PAVILION & ORNAMENTAL GARDENS

Hello Mrs. Carvell --

Thought perhaps you might
like to get an idea
of what my Hometown is like --
it really is a beautiful place --
right on the seafront --
hope you are well --
Ida Krick

The address says USA
at the end, from the date
it looks like it must be Europe

The stamp costs 2d
says *postage* on one side
and *revenue* on the other,
a crown with a young king
to wear it

Ocean City, N. J.
August 26, 1953

Dear Carvey,
We left home Sun. morn. early
arrived here in time for breakfast.
Weather is hot and perfect for
the water. Will see you soon.

Love, Smitty

July 25, 1955
Shannee-on-Delaware

Dear Cousin Leah,
Surely did enjoy
your visit with me.
A friend of mine
drove me up to the
Poconos last evening.
Crowded with Tourists.
We went to a Fireman's
Carnival, took (3)
chances on a Car.
Wish me luck.
Glad you got home O.K.
I have three eggs in Beet sauce.
With love, your cousin,
Dorothy