

Letter from Hubbard's Uncle to Dillon Wallace's Sisters, Annie and Jessie Wallace

Hazel Green, Ky. Jan.28, '04

My dear Miss Annie & Jessie Wallace:

Your letter with the sad news of Mr. Hubbard's death came two days ago and last night I rec'd. a short letter from Mrs. Hubbard stating that she too had a telegram from your brother to the same effect. Your previous letter had encouraged me to believe that may be after all the whole party would turn up safe and sound next summer. Mrs. Hubbard has stood up bravely under the suspense but she evidently considers the telegram authentic and has given up hope.

It is some consolation to know that if some of us have been stricken that you two sisters have been spared. Just to think of the horror of it all dying of starvation in that frozen desert. June 20 to October 18th is not a long time but it has meant so much to some of us.

Now I have a strange thing to relate. I have always been a scoffer at dreams but here is something that staggers me. One night just after the middle of October I had a vivid dream. It was that I had rec'd. a letter from the editor of the Saturday Evening Post in which he used the following significant sentence "I suppose you know that Hubbard of the Outing expedition to Labrador is dead." I told my dream to the pastor of the church here and he insisted that it was a warning from he spirit world that Mr. H. was dead and now here comes your brother's telegram that the death occurred just after the middle of the month.

I wrote a letter to Mr. H's mother the night I rec'd. your letter. It was one of the hardest tasks I have had to do for many a long year. His mother and my mother are sisters.

Thanking both of you for your kindly sympathy. I can but wish to hear of your brother's safe return. If you get any further news won't you let me know?

Your sincere friend,

Jas. Compton