

May 12, 1948

Mr. Earl P. Stephens
Harvard Forest
Petersham, Mass.

Dear Earl:

This is just a note to make clear such arrangements as I have made for operating the Forest during my absence. I am leaving Scott Pauley in charge, and I am placing you in charge of the woods operations, records, etc., subject to consultation, when you think you need it, with Scott and Steve. I think this will work out all right.

I would like to have the men cut as much wood as possible, though there will be various things that will take them out of the woods — cutting hay, brushing out trails, etc. We should brush out as usual the trails that connect the town with our Tom Swamp Tract. There will also be work to be done in grading around the new house and in putting in the pipe line from the main building. I will talk to Charlie about these things and to you before I leave. Ray is in charge of the new house, and whenever he needs some work done that our crew can do, he is authorized to call for it.

With regard to woods sales, I think the scheme that you and Charlie and I worked out a short time ago will be feasible. I think that Charlie should arrange the sales and the deliveries, making frequent reports to you on what he has done. You should keep careful records of the whole sales operation. Money should be paid to the Harvard Forest and turned over to Miss Carpenter, unless it turns out that people want to give the cash directly to Charlie when he delivers the wood. In any case, the main thing is to keep accurate records.

Within this general structure, I hope you will govern your own time as you please.

Sincerely yours,

Hugh M. Raup
Director

June 15, 1948

Dr. Raup,

A situation concerning the woods crew is going to arise in the near future, so I thought perhaps that I should get some advice. Matter, of fact, it is at the request of Charlie.

First I will bring you up to date. I understand that Frank Robinson will be spending most of his time at the Pickers after June 23. Elbridge Bates is at the present time on his way to Petersburg, Florida. However, it appears that it might be necessary for him to help his brother on the farm, since Myron Bates has been in ill health. How long that situation will exist, is of course problematical.

This evening Charlie told me that his brother, Harry, had asked him for a job here at the Forest. He explained to me in detail the state of affairs, as they were going to be in the near future; as I have tried to convey to you in the above paragraph. I immediately told Charlie, that he was "boss" of the crew and that I had every confidence in any decision that he might make. However, Charlie has the belief that even though Harry has changed his attitude considerably since he left the employment of the Forest, and that Harry is an excellent woodsman and certainly

2

willing and capable of doing an honest day's work, that the town's people will think that he (Charlie) is more or less taking care of his relatives. (That is some sentence isn't it?) Also, that Miss Carpenter wouldn't approve of it!

Well, I still tell Charlie that it was his decision. But, that I felt that a fire-man crew was adequate at the present time. Therefore, that if he had made obligations to Elbridge that he should first settle those in an unbiased manner. Then, if Elbridge was satisfied or un-
available, he could hire Harry or whomever else he desired.

Charlie still wasn't satisfied and asked me to get your opinion. You know, Dr. Raup, I think more of Charlie and regard him more highly every day. He's quite a guy. Anyway, I was hoping that I wouldn't have to bother you this summer, but here it is.

I personally know very little about Harry's history during his employment by the Forest. However, I'm quite sure that he would be an asset to the crew as would anyone with his experience. I like him as a man.

I will show this letter to Scott for his approval.

I'm enjoying the summer immensely. Please tell

all of the folks settle. Take care of your
silks, and have fun. We are all fine
and dandy here.

Yours truly,

Carl

August 7, 1948

Earl Stephens

Dear Dr. Raup,

Thanks for your letter of Aug. 1. I will be only too glad to meet you and the folks anytime, any place. Matter of fact, I had intended writing to you making the above proposal, but you beat me to it. I would have been disappointed if you had not accepted it. Just let me know the time and place, and I will be there. So much for that.

The station wagon was serviced and worked almost immediately after you left. Rain held up the process for a few days, and I wanted to permit the sun to have a chance to dry the framework before putting it away for such a period. Since then it has been put on blocks along with the Lincoln, batteries disconnected, and remained unmoved. Which reminds me that I must have the batteries charged about a week before you intend to arrive. I'll get the new tires at the same time.

Ray is making progress on your house. Yesterday he completed pouring the concrete foundation. He ordered it ready-mixed, and the trucks arrived very periodically and certainly kept the men busy. I think that he is doing a fine

job and has accepted the responsibilities in a most confident manner. There will be lots to discuss concerning the house when you get back, and I hope the photographic record of its various phases will be of interest to you. I know that we have enjoyed watching its construction. Especially Mike, which brings up another part of discussion.

Thursday, July 22, Mike and I left here bright and early for Marietta, Ohio. We arrived there Friday after 20 hours of continuous driving. The little cousins here in Marietta from Memphis visiting Grandma King. I stayed a couple of days and got back here ^{the following} Tuesday. The amazing thing, however, is that Mike stayed there! He was really enjoying himself when I left. Matter of fact, he ignored me completely! He has quite a number of children his age to play with, and I understand he has been keeping busy. My Mother plans to come over when Blanchie goes to the hospital; she will miss Mike then. We certainly miss the little fellow though, and have threatened several times to get him back home where he belongs, but we're enduring his absence. I feel it will do him lots of good. He was getting undue criticism from Blanchie

as can be somewhat expected, and at the same time she will get some rest perhaps. Charlie and Ray and the others ask about him nearly every day, wondering when he is coming back. I only hope that his parents can hold out until my Mother comes! Ha!

Cott has been developing at a rapid rate this summer. Crawls and is trying his darndest to walk. He is more observing every day. Weighs twenty pounds now. I guess he looks more like Mike, at least that is what everyone says.

Dr. Stillman is going to pay us another visit this Thursday. I'm going down to Worcester to meet him. This will be his third visit for the summer. He's really quite a guy, and I like him more everytime I see him. Of course he says that the only reason that I'm interested in ecology is that I'm just polishing the apple. I loaned some reprints of Lucy Browns to him the last time he was here. We discussed those when he came the second time! Ha! He has asked me to come down to Black Rock this fall to mark some timber. Made me feel good that he asked me. So perhaps this fall the Ramp-Stepens sombire can go to work once more! Ha!

Carl Smith and his wife have been here now for several weeks. Both are bird fanatics, and he is somewhat of a botanist. He and I have been going afield nearly everyday and I'll venture to say that he will have a good idea of the Forest before the summer is over. "Rusty", Mrs. Smith, is doing typing for Scott and Steve. Carl is not the ordinary forestry student by any means, and I believe he falls within the classification of yours of a liberally educated student. I think you will be able to open several new horizons for him.

Steve is all set for Yale. Passed his French exam the other day. Also has a lease on a beach cottage for the year. I believe he plans to leave in September, allowing enough time for the move etc.

Saw in the West Va. Alumni magazine where Torpel was going to teach for a month at the University of Copenhagen. That would certainly be an experience.

I enjoyed very much reading of your experiences. I can see right now that there will be plenty to talk about this fall. I hope that you are enjoying the summer to the utmost. I know that I certainly am. I hope to have some interesting

information for you when you return. I've
never seen a summer pass by so quickly.
I must say this, however, I certainly wish
you counsel. Helps me to keep my per-
spective. Ha!

Please tell the folks hello for me. Take
care of yourselves and have fun. We
be looking forward to meeting you at
the designated time and place. We are
all fine and dandy.

Yours truly,
Carl