[*Letter from Flora Pillsbury (1887-1921) to George Nichols (1889-1961)*]

Camden, Me.

Oct. 11, 1914

Dear Brother George: -

Glad to hear that you arrived O.K. Didn't you have a dandy day to go – couldn't have been better if you had ordered it special. I would like to have been there all right, I think this is the prettiest time of the year to ride in the country.

Well, Limerock Valley Pomona's meeting with us is a thing of the past and it was almost the best yet. Good sized crowd out and a dandy supper – best we've had for several years here at our own Grange. "Uncle" and the "girls" decorated the hall and they really did a good job. They brought lots of vases and things up from their house – one of the vases (a beauty too) was on the Chaplain's desk and got knocked off on to the floor somehow and smashed all to pieces. No one knew who did it but I think Miss Marston thought Raymond Pendleton was to blame, she told me that he ought to be sent to a Reform School.

Our Grange has an invitation to visit Penobscot View Grange, Oct. 22. They are to have 3rd & 4th degree work and a Harvest Feast. Seems nice to have an invitation once more – we haven't had any for so long from a neighboring Grange.

We raised quite a commotion Wednesday evening. Here's the story Susie Thompson is telling – You told Mr. Irish (she says) that you were sick, and started to go out of the hall when I told you I wanted to see you a minute, so you stopped and when you went out I went with you. Your car was outside and we went off in it. Someone who was in the hall heard all this and heard the auto when we started off. Blanche was awfully worried as you didn't go up to see her until next morning. How is that for a yarn? What is the matter with Susie anyway? Has she been appointed your guardian to look out for Blanche's interests. She is always telling me a mess about you and Blanche, how much you think of each other, how often you see her etc – just as if it was any of my business. I don't know why she does it or why she should tell this story. I s'pose she wants something to talk about but there's generally plenty to talk about in Camden without making up anything.

I never thought Blanche cared very much for me and now I suppose she will dislike me more than ever. Probably she won't be mad with you as the inference was that I invited myself to go with you. Too bad we didn't have it given out in Grange just how, when and where we were going.

Lena Bohlin got a couple of application blanks the other day – Harold Duncan is going to send his name in right away and I think the other is for Lena Henderson. I have heard of several more who are talking of joining too so I guess you will have chance to work the degrees some more. John Gillis told me that he is going to join a little later and I think he really intends to. P'raps he thinks he can cut Quincy out if he does join.

How did you find your people did your little brother know you this time?

I suppose you will visit the Granges around there, is there one in Detroit. I wonder if you hate questions in a letter as much as Ed does – if you do I'm sorry as mine are always full of them. Ed always sputters about it but if he'd only answer them it would give him plenty to write about.

I have a piece of sad news for you if you feel able to hear it – Shirley and Montie have "busted up". Haven't heard any particulars in regard to it but they go separate ways now and never together. What will Herbert say now?

Now this isn't intended as a "sermonette" or anything of the sort but please put yourself in my place when you read it. Please lets not bring up for discussion again the subject we talked over Wed. eve. You know my opinion in regard to it and I know yours. Now don't misunderstand me I don't think either of us harmed the other by airing our views but I don't think it necessary to bring it up again and I don't think it would do either of us any good to have it as a steady subject of conversation. Now don't think that I have any idea that you would introduce it often for I know you wouldn't but honestly when I have thought over since, the things we said I feel as if I had gone down quite a bit in my own self respect. Anyway it doesn't concern us so let's "cut it out". Probably you are saying "Old Maid" about this time but I can't help it – this is the way I really feel about and I guess if you were to tell the real truth you would have to admit that it wasn't any credit to me in your estimation. Anyway I know I can depend on you to help me keep my own self respect.

Its cleared off dandy this afternoon – probably you are making the most of it. Hope you are feeling better than you were. If I were your physician I should prescribe more writing than smoking – P'raps the writing might not do you any good but too much smoking surely would not. I know this is an awful long letter but cheer up – I won't do it again but I seemed to have quite a lot to say and you will do well if you have patience to finish it out. I know you are glad I have reached the bottom of the page for I'm really going to stop –

Flo.