

My dear wife:

I have been to church. It is a beautiful day. The sermon the dullest I have heard in ages. No wonder men fail to believe when they are fed on such fantastic food. I should think ministers would be afraid not merely of making sceptics, but of God's wrath for distorting his Holy Word. The text was in Exodus; "and the bush was not consumed." The bush we were told was meant to typify (1) the Church (2) the individual Christian. They were always in fire and trouble, the minister said, but not consumed. This was the lesson of Hoveh's burning bush! Oh God! I wonder that such absurd, misleading, whining fools are

not consumed!

Well, I got through the chapter yesterday. Somehow, it was very hard work, but I stuck to it. It is all right now — no complications and plenty of room for tragedy. I think it will come all right now.

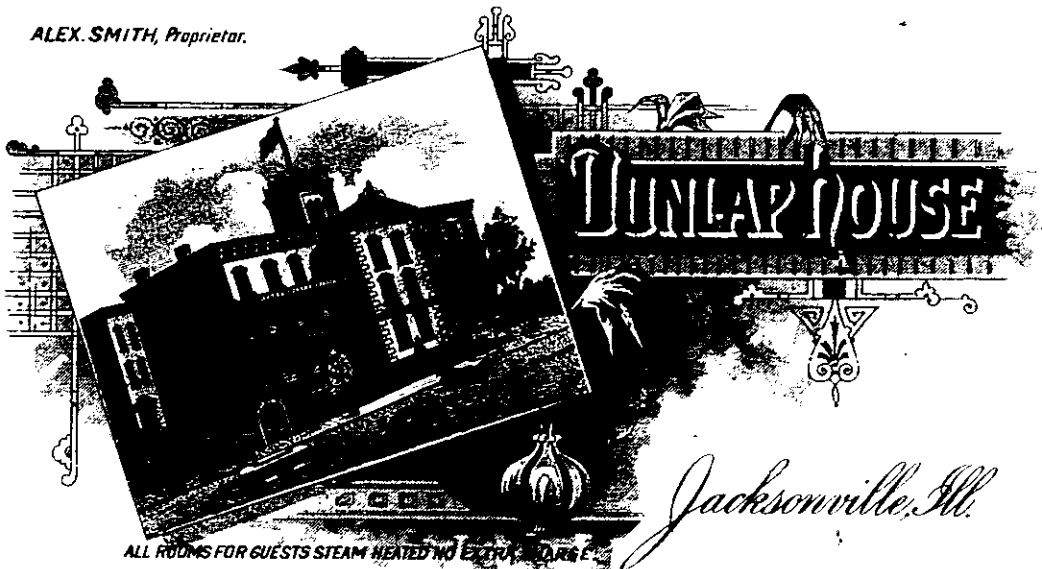
I shall go on with the next chapter pretty soon: go to Church tonight and write the Bytander tomorrow. I leave here at 6:15 tomorrow night: reach St Joe. at 8:20; leave there 10:30 and get to Bethany about 1:00. I got the draft yesterday and will mail it from Bethany — probably on the train that takes me there. So you will have it almost as soon as this reaches you.

Twelve days more and I will be with you! I think I am entitled to an extra warm reception for having kept up my spirits and not troubling you with dolorous letters.

I hope Sigis better. If not I shall be

ALEX. SMITH, Proprietor.

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ALL ROOMS FOR GUESTS STEAM HEATED NO ELECTRIC LIGHTS

Jacksonville, Ill.

18

sure it is because she did not have me
to take care of her. Tell her I am ever so
sorry for her. I think I must get her some
silk underwear for Christmas.

Keep up good heart, dear. If we can't
have all we wish let us enjoy what
we have. I do not suppose there is very
much for us in life but we can at
least enjoy what there is. Love to all
God bless you —

Albion