

Letter written 1867
by Mrs Nancy Welch
to Mrs Polly McKee

Astoria Oct ^{the} 19 67

Dear Friend I thought

I would try to answer your
kind letter to day we are all well at
presant but I will haft to tell you
some sad news along with the good one
week ago to day ~~we~~ Dr Trenchard died
of his old disease which was brought on
by ~~the~~ disipation I suppose you know
he was very fond of high living and
a little whisky withit and it brout on
the gout which he could not manage to
get rid of it seems as if Mr Trenchard
has here hart full of trouble. this town
is growing slowly but stidly they are
impraveing they streets and there is two
new Churches bilt this summer and
new bildings agong up all the time

you would hardly know the place
in fact you would not know your
old place it has all gone to rack and
ruin, disolate and forsaken all of the
flowers that Clarra took so much
pains to cultivate is gone to rack
we still live in the same old house
and no prospect off any better one
people are getting so grand here now
that my old things begins to look
quite rusty but it makes but little
difference with me so long as I am
fat and healthy and that I am you
would hardly know me I am so
fleshy O Grandma how I would like to
have you to visit with again but
alas that time is gone by I think you
and I will never meet again I am
a praid in this world but we hope
to meet in the next if God is

writing I suppose you have learnt
before this time that George ^{of} Foster
is in California he married Mrs Ingalls
and they have move to California
I do not know what part I would
like to tell you a great deal more but
I cannot think of them you wanted
those lines that you and William
wrote William tried to find them
to send them to you but could
not they have got misplaced or
I see the old lady Chaffit sometimes
walk over the hill yet but she is getting
very much stoop over and looks
quite feeble Mrs Lamphere looks
pretty well but the winters are hard
on her she is like the rest of us are
getting old Mrs Heustlers folk are well
and every body so far as I know John
has bin gone from home over a year

he is in sa Salem and they say he
is married but he dose not tell me
ya if he is I do not na but it is ^{so}
I shant contradict it untill I know
better) there is one thing Granma
that I dont know much about
that is politics but one thing I
do know that union and disunion
has caused a great split in this town
which it will take years to remove
I want you to write to me often
and ask me any question or you
wish to no or any thing and I
will answer you to the best of
my ability it gives me great
pleasure to hear from my friends
and especily you Granmother
I shall now close ^{by} saying the
family love and all yends there
love to you please remember me
to Granpa and all the folks
Jane and Clarra and every body
Ya good by for the present
Nancy Welch