Mem. of Conversation with Judge Gary, October 15, 1924

Sites evidently thought Filbert would not keep me long so was going to turn me over to Swanson, but the Judge is still there and sends for me. Hamilton Holt is there. We talk a bit about Pomfret, and I am to go up when Judge Holt gets back from Europe. It comes out in conversation that the Judge has contributed to ~~keen for~~ several local enterprises - park, improvement of cemetery, etc., in Pomfret.

After Holt has gone he tells me that the first Gary land was bought from the Holt heirs. He says they started out with 300 acres and they bought 12,000, that the price per acre has gone from $450 to $1000 or $1200. He gives me a new light on the Patch. He says that piece was already picked up, divided into lots and had been sold to some old fishing and hunting club, evidently a pretty bad lot.

Evidently very proud of Gary, says that the people in the town are alive to its improvement. Tells of a committee of ladies coming down to present the case of a Y.W.C.A., and how well they presented it to him, and afterwards what a good impression they made on the committee.

Got a little more on early life. Story of Lucy Wakeley, Noah and himself setting fire to the grass and getting out the whole village. He has a letter from her. She is 80 now and well until recently. She speaks in this letter of their early days and how happy they were. I take it that he and Lucy were particular friends. She calls him, I think, her pal in this letter. Very amusing his pleasure in it. Asks if he remembers the winter of the deep snow when they walked over the tops of fences. He does, and he tells how they skated all over the country on the crust. Recalls how Lucy was roguish, had a habit of turning around

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in her seat. This was forbidden by Horace Barnes. She broke the rule one day and was reproved. Took opportunity when the teacher's back was turned to stick out her tongue at him, and he turning quickly caught her. The result was that he punished her by hitting her hand with a ferule until the tears ran down her cheeks. Judge Gary says he never was so much outraged in his life as he was at that, -"the idea"he said, "of a great big man hitting a little girl was more than I could stand." He evidently feels something of the outrage today.

I am very much impressed with the keenness of his feelings in all these recollections. He is angry, disappointed, amused, excited, as he tells the tales. The picture of the school room is very vivid to him still - four rows of desks - boys on one side, girls on the other. He sat in an aisle just across from the girls and used to draw pictures on his slate of horses, dogs and cats, - says he thought he could do them pretty well. Lucy in the letter he has refers to him as being in her judgment a great artist.

He tells me of his first hunting.

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