"I have just finished reading "Centennial" by James A. Michener and found it very interesting. It reminded me of the stories my father used to tell us children about the West. At the age of twenty-eight, on May 13, 1879 Frank Z. Hubbell went West and was there for six years returning to Howell April 1, 1885 because of his father's health. The train fare from Sioux City, Iowa was \$22.80.

"February 22, 1878 Uncle Fred Hubbell who was nineteen and just out of school, and Will Carlin twenty-five a step brother, wanted to go West, so grandfather Sardis F. Hubbell borrowed money from a Howell Bank in their names and they took a first flock of sheep ever in Wyoming which was along the Union Pacific Railroad. They had already been there more than a year when my father joined them. He told about living in a dugout. In the book they called them sodies. Dad said they did build a stone house later. They had mexicans to help them. Uncle Fred was telegraph operator at Laramie station some of the time when he wasn't busy with the sheep, and Dad was brakeman on the railroad.

"They also collected fossils for the Peabody Institute in Boston, Mass. My father said they would dig and box them up and send them East as the Institute wanted them. Sometimes the weather was such they could not dig any. Uncle Fred put his name in one box and when it got to its destination Charles Gilmore, a man who formerly lived in Howell found it. Of course he knew our family and Dad and Uncle Fred knew the Gilmores. The Gilmore family visited them out West and dug fossils there often.

"When Dr. C.W. Gilmore had the fossils reconstructed he took a picture and sent it in a book to Uncle Fred. (Keeney [Parshall, Arvilla's son] has the book.) A note in the book says; "My Dear Mr. Hubbell, the upper figure of Pl. 16 is the skeleton you collected and which is now in the American Museum of Natural History, New York City. It is the only mounted skeleton of this particular animal known so I used the photo here to give an idea of what the articulated skeleton looked like. With kindest regards, C.W.Gilmore".

"Dr. Charles Gilmore 71 of 451 Park Rd. N.W. curator of the division of vertebrate paleontology of the National Museum, died yesterday Sept 27. An internationally known authority on reptiles and fossils, Dr. Gilmore had been with the National Museum since 1904. He is buried in Arlington Cemetery.

"I have often heard Dad tell about the Teton Mts, Jackson Hole, Laramie. Rawlins, Cheyenne, Scotts Bluffs and many other places in the West. To a child it was interesting and exciting, but as I grow older and after reading the book it must have been very rough and rugged country. We had relatives living in Sioux City, Iowa. A sister Laura of my great grandfather Adoniram Hubbell, who married James E. Bogue. They were in the meat packing business. Dad lived there and worked for them for awhile before coming back to Howell in the spring of 1885. Uncle Fred sold out his interests in the sheep ranch to his step brother and came back that same year. The next winter they had a big snow storm and the government was making restrictions on the land, and he [Will C.] lost most of everything he had, and came home in October 1887."

Arvilla Hubbell Larshall

[Arvilla Hubbell is my mother's aunt. Arvilla's brother Rodney Hubbell is my grandfather.
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