Monday

Dear Don,

It is probably well to back off from Hemingway from time to time. I feel sometimes that you identify too closely - and that distorts vision. Sometimes he was strongly one thing and sometimes another. You will get as many views as the number of people you interview. My view, as the idealistic teen ager - full of hero worship for someone over my head - will hardly fit with most. It wouldn't fit with what I might think, with mature judgement, about his life. Another reason for not wanting to think about him or read about him - or what he wrote. I want to leave him - and his family and Horton's Bay - back there where they belong. We were all young then, and are now just as dead as those who are truly dead.

When Carol Card Bruner and her husband were here last month - she told me that when she went to a family wedding in Peterboro N. Y. — she heard about an old cemetery with many Bumps dating back to seventeenth century. The historical records described them as large handsome people peerless — honorable - determined. That sounds like grandfather, George Bump from something French So if the name Bump were changed it must have been very long ago —

Bill Ohle does a lot of researching about Michigan. I hope you will look him up should he be at the cottage while you are there. You would like him. He was only a small boy when Ernst was at the Bay - but no doubt has heard things. I have never discussed the subject with him.

I don't want to be a solid rock - even a feminine one. I am no matriarch. My strength is all underground.

for marge —

Sid Jr will be down about the twentieth —

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