

not from  
the Bristol  
church

Bristol

May 4<sup>th</sup>

My dearest dear Mrs. Belden

I thank you for  
your delightful letter,  
telling me just what  
I wanted to know, yet  
written I fear at the  
expense of a nose head-  
ache and more fatigue,  
I did not dream of your  
taping your tired nerves  
to write me, for days yet  
and purposely did not  
write to you - so you  
might not feel any

not mentioned I noticed, and I shall hope to hear from Ellen that the special bag I am anxious about also reached Oxford safely.

I am glad to be able to say that I remember putting the Golden Hair into the last box of pictures, that stood in the hall Saturday morning. The one that Mr Lewis and I repacked with Superior. I am so sorry that you were so tired, yet I cannot

wonder when I think of the immense amount of labor which devolved upon you. I only hope that a few days of rest with all your dear family about you, will help you to begin to feel like yourself again, yet I know it will take time to rally from such a strain. I was not in the least tired dear Mrs. Olden - and only wish I had been able to do fifty times more than I did. My desire to be of service to you, during

Obligation, but I thank  
you very much, and  
do feel very easy in my  
mind about you, for  
if your faith is always  
to be answered, in visible  
& tangible form, where  
ever a helper is needed.  
as on the occasion of your  
journey. Why can we  
not infer that all your  
burdens will be carried  
in you up life's hill?  
Still I fear the "kirk boat"  
was a little visionary  
at Hoboken for he was

this past year of anxious  
care - has been so far  
ahead of my ability - that  
I am sure it has often  
led me to intrude upon  
you - but please ascribe it  
to other affection - Now  
that you have left it, I  
should think that Bristol  
would seem to fret you  
and Mr Bolden like a  
terrible nightmare, and  
that you would never  
care to hear the word  
again - but you will  
never know in this  
world - what a wonderful

help your lives have been  
to those of us who have  
stood reverently by - as  
upon holy ground - or  
how much we know  
that we are indebted to you.  
Mr. Byatt said the same  
thing when I met him  
for a moment in the  
Hullford station yesterday.  
When he asked with  
warm affection for you both,  
Mr. Bledau will be sorry  
to hear that he has been  
sick in Dorchester ever  
since he left Bristol.  
Flat on his back in a

Change hotel for two Sundays. We  
said - which was pretty trying in a  
new parish - and he confessed to being  
very homesick for Bristol. Mr Miles  
was homesick on Sunday - but his  
family came last night - on the  
same train I did from Hartford -  
Mrs Miles, tall, quite fair looking - her  
sister, older & a Methodist - & her son  
George Harding about fifteen with a  
sawyer. That is all I know about them.  
I went up to the house on Monday  
& sent off the package to Mrs Humphrey  
which I trust reached her safely. I also  
took a package to Mrs Root & did up  
the bundle for Mrs Peck, which I shall  
get tomorrow. Mrs Parsons had left the  
hat & a box of pieces was also in the  
closet which I took over to Mrs Webster,  
knowing you wanted everything taken  
out. If at anytime you want  
anything from the box at Funches or  
any business attended to here - please  
tell that I should consider it a favor

to be allowed to do it for  
you - for you never can  
know how much I  
prize your friendship.  
My poor stammering  
tongue, cannot express it.  
My Nans send their  
tenderest love to you, they  
have often spoken of  
their great pleasure in  
having you with us  
that Sunday afternoon,  
and your prayer still  
lives in their hearts.  
I hope you found  
Mr Belden still improving.  
Please remember me

most warmly to him,  
and give my love to your  
Mother. Each dear Child  
and Mrs Lubens.

Was that precious Shawl  
nailed up for you on  
Saturday night?

With constant love & hoping  
soon to hear that you  
are much better - Love

Very sincerely yours  
Clara L. Bowman