

Oberlin, Ohio,

Oct. 3, 1904

My dear Pennywinks:-

I went over to Mrs.

Davis' this evening a little before five o'clock & telephoned to Mr. West to be sure to keep his promise to come this week to do our plumbing. Mrs. Davis made me stay to supper & I had a nice little visit afterwards. The boys ran over here to say that I was out for supper, & I had them bring back your letters from which I read short and suitable extracts to Mrs. Davis to make her a little acquainted with your surroundings. She is going to Cincinnati the second of November, and I want her to visit Glendale, & she wants to. Can you arrange for her to speak either in the school or church or both somewhere near that date? She had me go up stairs and look at her dress, and

See if it was stylish enough for Glendora. It is very nice - a long black skirt, and gray silk waist, nicely made. You know she is a fine speaker for Sunday or week day for any kind of an audience. I think Miss DeVore would be willing to have her stay at the school over night, & she thinks it would be lots of fun to have a visit with you, & says she can sleep with you in your little bed if you will let her. I am sure it is an honor to have such a guest in the school. If you want her, speak right away to Miss DeVore about it. I think she would have a lovely influence on the girls, & you could tell about her before she came - or after - . She would want no pay but her expenses from Cincinnati, & entertainment. (I think she ought to have, but she doesn't, any more.) Let me know very soon.

Mrs. Williams is going on a lecture tour also, somewhere near the same time, or sooner, - & she is going to

Illinois. She will be at Springfield & I don't know where else, and she can go to see Mary in the same way & visit in her little apartment, if Mary can arrange for her & would like it, her expenses from last traveling place (Springfield, I suppose) & entertainment all she expects. She can speak in church or College, or anywhere. By all means get together your Mission Study Club, & let her talk personally to them. Perhaps you could, Mary, have them at your rooms. Ellen, please send this letter right on to Mary, for I have known about Mrs. Williams for a week & have not written Mary - in fact really forgot. I had so many things to do. If you girls want these ladies as your guests, each of you write & say so as soon as possible to your own guest. Both go away next week - Monday or Tuesday although your letters could be forwarded to them, doubtless.

Mrs. Williams thinks it would be lovely
to have a visit with Mary, and I am
sure it would be fun for Mary. Mary
& Margaret need it make a great
fun for her & alter their style of
housekeeping. Consult with Dr. Bradley.
Perhaps the Pres. Minister would
like to secure her services in his
church. - Mary, why don't you
get your learned Prof. with the
ancestral names interested in your
Mission Study Club? Any minister
in these days who is at all up to
date knows about Missions, and
is interested in them too, if he is
interested in ^{the} onward march of the
Kingdom enough to be a minister.
Mrs. Williams will be a help to you
in every way, & no trouble.

Did you know that Prof. G.
J. Wright was married Sep. 22, to
Miss Bedford, who gave her time
& money to help the Centennial?

We have had really middumma weather till today when it was so cool we built a little fire in the furnace. The Fort Dodge boys always were and continue to be, a nuisance with their indecision. There are ten of them here in school. Four - you know - occupied the front third story rooms. Two have gone, one who worked and one who paid for the room they had together - your blue room. It was just as plenty as could be - but the clout didn't suit them, altho' they had half the wardrobe in addition - Mr. Brandenburg didn't like "pattering jobs" like filling lamps, he didn't like to get up early & fix the furnace, & although I kept his trunk & other goods all summer, he didn't like me. He got a boy in his place to work, but no boy to pay.

so my little 16 yr. old helper has
the blue room to himself. He is
a very nice, smart, neat little
boy and I like him very much.
He ran the washing machine this
morning - which was one of the
things V. would not do, - & was very
conscientious and dutiful. In the
mean time I had engaged another
boy to come in every Monday am.
to do the machine because V. would
not, so I had to find another place
for him. Mrs. Heaco takes him
for Monday am. & now I have
only one boy, which suits me. Of
course V's two friends in the red
room wanted to leave with him,
but I told them & so did Mrs.
Heaco that they must get me other
lodgers if they left. So they stayed.
But such a fuss is very unpleasant.

I had a chance of renting the room
to a very nice looking boy who came
with his father, but then all the
rooms had been taken. The second
story boys seem very nice.

Bessie does very well, and is a
pleasant & comfortable girl. I have
around. It makes us be very prompt
indeed rather hurry with dinner
have her, but she eats her dinner ^{in the kitchen}
when we are eating in the dining room,
& washes up the dishes as fast as
she can get hold of them, and
leaves the house by one or a little
after. She keeps with the boys
rooms, does all the dishes, sweeps &
cleans moderately well, & irons. She
does no baking nor cooking. She is
much less experienced than her
sister Birdie, but she is teachable
& so far - one week - has not objected

to anything I ^{have} asked her to do. This
last is the most unusual trait.
Evelina & I daily congratulate ourselves
on the relief we have from overwork
by the present very sensible plan.

This morning I rose at five because
my washer boy did. He worked an
hour before he went to breakfast. It
is 10²⁰ P. M. now, & I am tired.
The rest have gone to bed, and I
will follow. Good night, dear
girls, a Kiss to each from
Your loving Mamma.

My regards to Miss DeVore, and
to Dr. Bradley, or to any other
dignitaries!

1904

Ellen, send this to Mary, right away

417 South 6th Street
Terra Haut, Ind.
Mrs. Alice M. Williams

This will be Mrs. Williams' address after next Sunday Oct. 9.

Mary, you had better write to her so that a letter is there when she arrives. She is in Indianapolis and around there now, but you can reach her best by this address. Mrs. Davis tells me: Put your address on corner of your envelope.

Tuesday am. The enclosed letter from Mr. McCay I opened to see if it was worth re-mailing. I was just fixing my letter to take to the postbox when the postman came this am. & so detained it to see if there was anything to answer in yours which just came.

I sent this advertisement of Bible Study, that was given out last Sunday am, in our church Dr. Bradshaw recommending it. It may be what you want. If so, see to it right away. Possibly Miss De Vere may not consider Dr. Harper who is at the head of it, as sufficiently orthodox. Many Presbyterians do not, & I think myself, you had better not swallow whole everything he says. But "Every body is shaky" now you know (quoting Dr. Peers, of Bridgeton) that is judged by former standards. We are planning to take up this course at home for family worship, which you know is always so difficult to hold every one to. No more time now. Maudie