

of stagnation just yet.
Good bye, dear girl.
How I should love to
see you! Warm
love to your dear
mother and your
dearest self, as well
as to each of the
children. Do
call on me when you come to
see us very soon.
Very lovingly
yours
"Lily Leger."
July seventeenth
Eighteen ninety seven

dear ones at Clifton, and thank
your dear mother for her delight-
ful letter of June 29, and you
for allowing me to see the plan
of your future home. I think
the house must be very cheer-
ful and pleasant as well as
convenient, and I hope many
happy, useful days are in store
for you and your dear children
in your new home. My heart
has been much with you, dear
Ellie, since I have heard of
your plans, and I can easily
imagine what every passing
day means to you just now.
How you are living over the very
hours of last year at this time
And for several weeks to come
I know only too well from my own
experience. May you have the

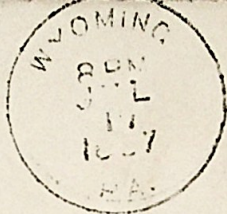
constant presence and help of the "God of all comfort" to sustain and bless you during these trying days. And with all the looking back there is also a looking forward with a strange mixture of sadness and hope. I trust the latter feeling may so greatly predominate that the former may be lost sight of. I do believe you have been very wisely directed in your choice of a place of residence. I have a very great respect for Oberlin as a place of education, and have no doubt you will find it desirable in very many other ways, at well. You can hardly feel very much of a stranger as you know so many people everywhere and are sure to have some friends there. And how delightful it is to think you can always be with your children! No sending them away to schools and college, but the best of education going on all the time, and your dear family not divided. It is a great trial to be separated from one's precious children, even though you know it is for their best good, and

you feel that all is well with them. I wish we might have a visit from you all before you go west, dear Eliza. I do not know which way you will go, but if your route brings you near us, you will surely stop here, will you not! Please tell your dear mother that I feel as if she must visit us on her return trip to Oxford, and I wish she would arrange to stay a good long time, too. I think this is a pretty good place to rest, and she can do exactly as she likes in every way. The girls will give ^{her} plenty of music, and we will all try to give her all the pleasure and happiness we can. I know she will miss the dear one whom she has always been accustomed to see here - I never cease to miss her dear presence. But urge her to come, Eliza.

The dear ones are all at home just now, and all well, I am glad to say. Measles left no bad effect upon Ellen, happily. I wish you could attend some of our "parlor-concerts" almost any evening, when she plays on her violin and Sara accompanies on the piano. They play very good

music, - often very difficult. Scott
and I sit on the porch or in the
parlor and enjoy to our hearts
content, only once in a while giv-
ing a regretful thought to the fact
that soon Sara will not be
here, and the time from October
to June is so long! I think I wrote
you mother that Tom was not well.
I am glad to say he is perfectly so
now, and goes every morning to
the W. B. Hospital where he spends
the forenoon doing anything he can
generally in the dispensary, but
often assisting at surgical opera-
tions by administering ether, or
anything the surgeons wish. He
is in love with his profession, and
a day or two ago ^{he} was so late in com-
coming home that I thought he
must be dining with the residents
at the hospital and did not save
me any dinner. When he came
he had not had any, but remarked
"when it is a choice between dining
and witnessing a fine operation, I
always give up the dinner!" - Harriet
is going to visit a school friend at Hazelton
next week. We go out to Glen Summit for
a day or two or three once in a while.
All well there. I do wonder if dear sister
E. can manage to go with Mrs. Sayre to
Northfield? I hope so. - We expect Granville
and Mary Henry, ^{to arrive} before very long to visit
us. And some young folks off and on
at different times through the summer.
We are not in any particular danger of

7-19-87



Mrs. Wm. H. Belden,
Clifton Springs,
New York.

