

I hope you
will.

Oxford Aug. 6. 1902.

My dearest Alice,

I indeed I am glad to see the letters
that your children write to you about their ex-
periences. This morning Evangelina drove Mrs. Ellen
Buckmaster's Mary, Will, Mary Thelma & Elvira Hunt
who is visiting, to the 10-15 train on her return home
& I also Gertrude got into the carriage and she took
me a drive going by Oxford Ave. & so around by the
County house, E. M. B. Hunt & May. The address to
Eastern to see the night and here a good time
generally. Ethel will go back to S. I. on Friday &
I think Elvira with her. Will, Cordelia and Ev.
very interesting letter land for our benefit &
parts of yours. We all enjoyed them, and felt
well repaid for waiting for some time at O.P.C.
to hear the mail changed. We are never too busy
or too engrossed with amusement, if any one
to read your letters. We all enjoyed Will's letters
and I did not ^{at} see any one see them but read aloud
& distributed them as you requested.

Am glad you could go to Revere, the house
had a couple, just the family. Aunt Emma & Eng
not in fact. When George Humphrey has been
here to go along & it has been gotten up mostly for his benefit

It is possible that he may come out on Sat.
in that case Leach's will remain until the
week following. The Mary & Ida Smith here have
very busy making dresses for the girls and Mary.

Eli, dear, it almost seems to me that prayers
were answered when the women came to ask
for rooms, and the gentlemen too. You will
have to make some sacrifices & that big bed
stead could have been stored to accommodate them
could it be put in your garret and then these
second story rooms could not be hurt, unless
you have had the walls cleaned, papered or
some way improved since I was with you -

Soon every body will be settled for next year
and then you chance to go again. Of course
you cannot for a moment think of taking board,
but by some means or other I'd have some parties
and have things as they want, for I suppose they
will get accommodated some when I should
wonder if it be a saving for them & here their are
fires? Of course you will have to run some risks
where some things spoiled. This is inevitable
but you must too have the means of living
I'd try to have every room occupied, & as you
suggested we try use the dining room for you
bed - some. God will not forsake you. He may
try your faith, but listen to His voice and take

opportunities as they present themselves.

I am sorry the Lord's day is so burdened
with work and anxiety but be sure that God
will help in time of trouble only we must seek
His will and not dictate to Him. For God has
his own ideas for us we must seek to know what
they are, Don't Willie expect to enter College this
winter. It seems a pity to interrupt the girls
studies but if horse comes & worse could it be
hatched? The time to act is now before any thing
is arranged for the winter. We get "hold on God"
when we cast away human help - He is sufficient
and able to do every thing for us - "casting" all your
care upon him. Even our prayers are sometimes
selfish, the heart is so deceitful. My prayer so often
"Lord teach me how to pray and what to pray for"
and Lord do not let me depend upon my prayer
but only on thee. Teach me to know my own
heart, Search me & try me and see if there is
any evil in me &c. You have consulted different
of your friends & of course they have their own views
there is nothing to be done any more in that line.
Watch opportunities while you are praying -
I think of you & pray for you many times I am
distressed when I think you suffer. I want to see
you so much, but if I should be with you it would
be more to board and I can't be much

help. Mary has no servant. Evangelina & Gertrude
take hold of work and do very nicely. They have
good judgement and are very industrious.

After Caroline goes away I shall stay mostly
at Edgewood. I want to be with the children

We want to go to Boulton & the Water Gap
this summer. I had a letter from Eliza a
few days ago. She says Mary & Mollie will be
away most of Aug.

I know your special news here that would
interest you: Hope to hear soon that your
house is full, and the Willie has made something
by his canvassing. I think he is rather sick yet
do not you. Has Selden been able to earn any
money this summer? Do you do any thing with
your drawing? The Annual came to day. I have
not had time to look it over very much but am
disappointed not to see more of the girls work.

I hope you will have a nice time camping - Don't
let the girls get engaged. (Confidential) There is plenty
of time and I don't think they are calculated for
hard work which would be the result if they were
a poor man. This advice free gratis, but the longer
I live, I see how many girls make mistakes but don't
stick it out. This for you only. Hastily for this in much
Heart love to all the dear ones & all the best ones



Mrs. H. W. Bidder,
Lafayette College St.,
Oxford, Ohio

REC'D
AUG 10
10 40 PM
REC'D