

My dear Willie-

How is lumbering going?

Have you formed any plans for the summer or for next year? I wonder if any one has written you how near Evelina came to being here with me the rest of the year. She came this near, but Miss De Vore wrote and asked her to come if she could get off right then with the probability that she would play next year to teach the children. But Squint thought it would not be just to the school board at Huntsburg and so she refused. She says she could not have found a substitute any way, she thinks, we have a new teacher but it's not another Belden. I'm awfully sorry Evelina couldn't come because I think it was rather an unusual chance for her.

Did I tell you that I was

teaching Political Economy? I can  
see you scoff at the idea, but I  
can tell you I get on all right  
with it — it's as easy as dirt.  
But this week I'm going to  
give it up, rather to my sorrow,  
because we can't make a  
good arrangement of the  
schedule as it is. I have to  
have me of the psychology  
class alone now, but won't after  
I get rid of the political econ-  
omy. Have you taken this last?  
I suppose not yet. It's rather  
interesting and I was glad to  
have the chance to study it.  
I declare, I wonder what I shall be  
asked to teach next. I'm really  
getting rather a liberal education  
with it all, don't you think so?  
After dinner — It's getting

late and my letters are not getting written for I have been visiting.

This afternoon I read an article in the February Bookman on The Nobility of Professions; to wit, teaching. It certainly was any thing but complimentary to the teacher. It seemed to have been written by a man who is one of us though!

Well, I'm glad I'm not a public school teacher for I think it is true that they have no social positions and a chance only to become drudges. Is any thing in this world absolutely satisfactory - I suppose not. I'm sure my ~~+~~ I was interrupted & don't know what I was going to say but I guess it was that my teaching is very satisfactory to me in most ways.

I read two stories this week  
of Bret Hart's, short stories.  
They were Spanish, I guess,  
I mean had to do with the  
west where such people are.  
I wonder if it's narrow not to  
care for stories of other nation-  
alities. I'd so much rather  
have American people or even  
English and yet I haven't  
as much patriotism as many  
people.

Are you reading the classics  
at all, Willie? I hope you are,  
and - that all you reading  
isn't of the new books or cur-  
rent reading, because one  
must be acquainted with  
a certain amount of standard  
literature, no matter how  
much he knows of the new.

Julia Marlowe and Southern  
 have been playing in Cincinnati.  
 Julia Marlowe sprained her ankle  
 before she came to the city and she  
 has been playing just the same  
 but carried around in a  
 chair! Imagine! I have not  
 been to the theatre this year.

I hope I've got a letter  
 from you after a while. I'll  
 look for it till it comes.

Very lovingly

your sister,  
 Helen Craigm Belden

March 4, 1906.