

Send Mary's  
letter to Ellen  
Berlin Ohio,  
Oct. 1, 1905.

My very dear Erelina:-

I would enjoy having you here by my side writing letters to the Trains and Millie, but still I am glad you are where you are, and where I doubt not God has sent you to be very useful.

Every body says you must let your children have plenty of out doors to make up for the long hours. I should think it would be a good plan for a class of little ones to practice going out in quiet order, and run around the house - say six times, then come in, in order and quietly take up their work. An older child might lead the procession.

I saw Mr. Bartholomew a day or two ago, and he said he might go <sup>in about</sup> in about two weeks if he could get off, and would be glad to take a package of yours. Write me what you want beside the clock.

The missing trunk got safely to Oxford in the end. I have no doubt each trunk missed of getting something it ought to have had, but all things considered, we did pretty well. I never want any of us to go through another such a time again for it is pretty nearly killing and starts every body tired with the year's work. Mary's year seems to me the most important - being the only one of its kind, when she is ambitious to get ~~to get~~ all possible for future work. It just hurts me to think how tired she was.

And your hard work too - but you must slight your, or you will not get thro' the year. There is nothing in particular to write about. We are not in

College things this year, but I have it missed it so far. Selden does not seem to study much but he had done all right so far onto his lessons. But I wish you would advise him when you write to put in good study now. Yesterday he was napping all day with some other boys, He is very good to me all the time.

Fanny is very little use now that the dishes are so few. We have had no washwoman since you went & so she has had no ironing either. I could <sup>not</sup> find one, but now I am on track of one for next Wednesday. I have it quite made up my mind what to do about Fanny, but I shall not let her go till I can see ahead a little better.

Mr. B. says I may still get boys. He seems truly sorry he had not been able to send them, but said there were not nearly enough boys to go around.

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The great increase that was so much  
talked about is not very great at all,  
& mostly girls. Mrs. Keaton says only six  
more boys than last year, and many  
more rooms in town prepared that now  
stand empty. I have been sleeping mostly  
in the front room, but the bed is so poor  
in comparison to mine, that I guess I'll  
sell my own furniture down again,  
& I'll go back to my old room. It is  
very inconvenient having my things in so  
many places. However, I don't regret this  
change. In doing it, I gave a practical  
proof that I was walking by faith and  
not by sight, and so I am not tormented  
by conscience saying - "you ought to have  
had more faith". I have not worried  
a bit about the rooms, altho' I don't  
at all know how we shall manage  
without the money. That takes faith too.

Mrs. Heaton and the children came over to see me as I sat on the piazza this afternoon. She inquired very specially about you and was pleased that Evelyn's obedience was suggestive to your pupils. There is a new teacher Mr. Brandon & his wife who have moved into the Avery house. I had a pleasant call there the other eve. They are the style of Harvey Peck. I took over a big bunch of nacturtrims as an introduction.

Mrs. Fison has moved out of the Doolittle house, <sup>to Elm St., I think.</sup> It seems she is not very reliable, and a good deal in debt throughout the town. You know Mrs. Walker's husband (the W's. live in the D. house) died the day after you left. I have seen a good deal of Mrs. W. & think well of her. Faida is looking well, & Beth less gassy than when she first came.

I called too on Agnes Baird at Lank. She expects to be in America two years, <sup>Study</sup>ing, probably in Teachers College New York.

Mr. John seems to be quite popular this year, & has plenty of calls. He looks well and cheerful. The other boys are all equally nice, & very little care. If we could have had the same sort in the other rooms!

I meant to write to Willie tonight too, but you better send this on, with one of your own. The boys have been down taking & looking up things in books, & it is getting late. Ray Curtis was just in to get a boy to join the Bible Study Class, and he asked very particular about Willie. I hope somebody writes to Willie & sends on letters that are not too long.

Selden sends you love -  
much of your Mother's goes into this poor letter. Ellen S. Belden -