

My dear Dr. Bradley:-

~~We have just received
a letter from Mary~~

~~Several times~~ Since my daughter went to be one of your teachers at Blackburn College, I have more than once thought of writing you, for I wanted to thank you for the kind interest which from her letters I know you take in her & in her work. It is because I believe you to be ~~her~~ true friends that I am writing now to ask your advice. When Mary went away last September she said she should not come home at Christmas time on account of the expense, but I told her

again & again that if she found
it too hard to stay away, she
must come home. From the tone
of her letters I know her heart
is ^{increasingly} hungry for ~~her own home,~~
& ^{have just been} ~~her own home,~~ ^{to} ~~talk~~ ^{think} ~~it over~~ ^{it} & it seems ^{to} ~~her~~ ^{to} ~~ought~~ ^{to} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~come~~ ^{to} ~~for~~ ^{to} ~~the~~ ^{to} ~~vacation.~~

She has accepted a very cordial
invitation from Miss Moore to
spend the Holidays with her,
& as enjoyable as that would
be otherwise. I fancy she is
now too homesick to get the
benefit of ^{it} & I want her to
go back to teaching as fresh as
possible. I wish you would

say a word to encourage her
to come home, unless you are
sure I am wrong about it.
You know the life of a minister's
family, & you know or can imag-
ine ^{circumstances} how ~~the~~ ^{how} ~~strained~~ ^{strained} the life
of that family would be without
that minister. Father. It is because
Mary knows these things so well, that
she tries to economize to the utmost,
& keep all she can. But it may
be poor economy for her not
to come home. ^{conscientious,} She is very exacting
to herself ^{about every duty.} I am wondering
if she can get reduced rates
from: Caliville to Oberlin.

We can get students' vacation
rates from Oberlin to any place
& return.

Mary enjoys her work very much,
~~she~~ writes us very fully about that
& ~~everything else in her new~~
life, ^{and} so that we feel pretty
well acquainted with everybody
she knows & every thing she does.
So without really intending to do so,
she has let us into the secret of
her loneliness.