

326 Market Street, Bethlehem Pa

Sept 13. 1896

Dear Mrs Belden & Family.

Mr & Mrs Bridges from Bridgeton were here early in August and made us a visit of a few days and he said he saw in one of the New York Papers the death of Dear Mr Belden and I have been looking in the Presbyterian every week to see some account of it. and have just been to Bridgeton and saw Mr Ed Fittus who said he had had a letter from one

of the girls and that he was
interested in Greenwood and
that Mr Lyon of the West
Serry Academy was there at
the time. The dear man
has gone to enjoy the beautiful
vision he had when he was first
taken. I often think of the visit
we made you and what he told
us of the vision he had of the heavenly
mansions which are prepared
there for the faithful and I am
rejoiced for his sake that he
is in the enjoyment of it and free
from the care and suffering of
this life and waiting to get

well enough to take up his life work
but sorry for you and you have
our deepest sympathy in your
bereavement. Mrs Padgett will
add a few lines and we would
be glad to hear from you when
you can write remember me kindly
to your sister whom we met at your house
in Bristol.

Very dear Mrs Belden -
Not until Mr Padgett
went to Bridgeton were we
sure that Mr Belden had really
been called to "come up higher"
we felt determined not to
believe it. We are so sorry for
you and the children. I wish
we were nearer to you and
could help you in some
way. Somehow I had
always felt since we

came to Bethlehem that
we would again see
you face to face. It was
a dream of mine to have
both of you come here
and talk on Missions.
I felt as if this people would
catch the inspiration if they
could listen to Mr. Belden's
earnest plea! I looked at
the book of Clifton Springs views
this summer and longed
to go there. I thought of this
happy visit we had with you
in Bristol. It was not possible
for us to take any trip then
but I seemed to have such a
great desire ^{see} you again. I am
so glad we can remember
Mr. Belden so pleasantly but
am so sorry he could not
have been spared to read
a long useful life. I know
your heart and hands are
full. But if an opportunity
comes to you, we should appreciate
a letter very very much. Tell us
about your family, and if you visit
every thing will interest us. I still hope
that sometime you can come to
Bethlehem. Yours very sincerely
John H. Belden



Mrs. N. H. Belden,
Oxford Furnace,
Warren Co.,
New Jersey.