

My dear May,

How it is a long time since I have written you & meant to write every day. But I have been so busy every day. Of course I have wasted time but I haven't meant to. Yesterday I was going to do so much for my room for me thing. So I haven't even got that done yet, & study arrange my work, but I just wasted time a good deal & then I had to take a girl to the city. Two other teachers went but they were new and didn't know the city & had business of their own so I went. The girl had got in to the school. That took from lunch till dinner. And now I haven't even got my lessons for tomorrow. Though I haven't been writing to you, Miss Poppey, I have been doing some thing

better, but I hope has been of more
service to you than any number
of letters. I wish I had done more.

Shall I tell you about my
work? It is lovely. I have one class
which finishes the grammar very
soon begins rhetoric, then the ^{two} ~~three~~
classes using, Kavane & Beatty, the
book Willie had in the head camp.
I think I am going to like it very
much. The other class has to use
the Dawson & Herricks as Mrs
D & I must have the books used
up. That is the only disagreeable part
of my work what isn't really
then I have a class in 19th
Cent. and one ~~is~~ in College
preparation exclusively and one
in Old English. The Census
was going on with Moody &
Loritt but there were only ^{two}
to be in the class & so I'm putting
them in 19th Cent. poetry the next
semester where I'll give them
American Literature. The Old
English is for a girl who has

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I did all the college preparatory
work but a little which she
will have in my special class.
She enters Wellesley next year
& has time to spend for is
taking Old Eng. to get advance
credit on here. I guess it
is the only thing about here
she could get credit on, I guess.
The idea of teaching it staggers
me, especially if they exam-
ine her at Wellesley on it, but
I am glad to give it. I wish I
had my own old book with the
few notes it may have in it. I
have sent for a new one. Then
we have new teachers (who I
just are all in for work seemingly
are going to all swap lessons
from each other. I think I will
take voice culture from ^{the new}
chemistry & physical culture teacher
& add some exercises in gracefulness
to something. So what best take?

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I think I need more. Maybe
it would be well to take
a copy. But she wants to
take Chaucer from me so that
she can read it & I don't
pay 9 cent. what shall I do?
Write me quick, will you?

She has studied Chaucer
some what. But I don't know
as she wants any thing else.
We three were in here together
planning it & Miss Ritten
wanted to give the Chaucer
but I did & so she said she'd
give her tennis lessons.

She is the new recitation &
physical culture teacher &
she makes for the most of the
physical culture, Louise did
of the poetry. Miss Fahrman

doesn't read herself at all. She graduated at Kenyon in '97 but she has studied a lot since; I guess. She was at Columbia one summer, and last summer she was at Harvard. What shall I do? Shall I "pick up" or try it?

Then I have psychology and ethics. Ethics, I guess is going to be very easy. I believe it will be easier than logic. I have had only one lesson in it yet. I have a large class in psychology compared with last year, about 50.

I am awfully pleased of the 19th Cent. some way too. What shall I do with Wordsworth? Could you give me a hint or two? I don't

want to read the Prelude. It's
too stupid. You see my work
is much stiffer than last
year, but so much nicer. I
don't know what Bible class
I have yet. I am really very
happy & perfectly contented
here now. I don't want to
get so contented, though, as to
stay ~ for years. Miss D.V.
is lovely to me.

Dear I have had so much
stuff that I have wanted to
write you ~~that~~ and I know I
can't think what it all is.
I'm at a loss in my English,
some way. What would I
ever do in a big school?

I think I will ask for the
letter I'm sending home to
be sent by you. It tells about
the new teachers. Louise is

not back but her sister is.
She sent me her photograph.

Miss Aitken, the new
primary & day school teacher,
rooms across the way from
me. We are already intimate
& I feel free with her than
I ever became with Louise.
I have described her in the
other letter. She is Cornell '03,
Latin &
Greek but she has been teach-
ing children in public school.
She wants to read German
with me & tell you if we
work as we propose this year
it will be fine but so far
we have wasted time visiting
which I'm not going to do any
more. She took her Greek
Testament to church this am,
as she says she always does.

I looked over to with her. I should
always have been afraid of ap-
proaching ~~or~~ ~~meeting~~ ~~her~~ ~~during~~ ~~it~~.
but it is really nice practice
in keeping your ~~hand~~ in
touch without any work.

I have my own little room
back. Miss D.V. is lovely, greeted
me very cordially indeed, had
me next to her but we at
table for breakfast and asked
about you & Meline and all.
I think the girls seem to be an
improvement in last year.

Miss D.V. has her nephew
here at the house this year.
He has been teaching five years
and is going to go on with his
engineering course at the Univer-
sity this year. He met me at
the station the night I got here,
a little before eleven o'clock. He

had been here last year commencement week, you know. He is not particularly attractive, except nice enough. I don't see much of him and don't care to ever.

Stella Dean, that girl that I told you is so much like a boy, so much so that I heard a girl say once that she didn't feel it right to say some things before her. One who caused me a great deal of annoyance last year has come back with her hair cut short. Now you can imagine her with her shirts etc. She would do any thing to make a sensation, but I had hardly thought of this as it spoils her looks. She is seventeen, I think. She wants

10.
Be mannish, you know.

I think I ought to write Mary Cochran about her invitation to the college club or go over - I guess I'll have to go over & talk it over with her for I don't think I could by mail (reply). I don't know as I really care to belong any way. Besides the expense, it would be a great nuisance to have to get up and go to the meetings.

Some way or other I am hard
going advanced English classes.
But I feel much more com-
fortable than last year, like
it much better, I believe. I am
at the children's table, just
myself here because there was
no teacher here and am the
only teacher here. The table is

table is not full. Our last year's
maid has been married and
we have a new one who is very
good, better than Annie, though
a young girl. I like to hear
the say of how she shall wait
table.

I find I left a lot of stuff
at home. I have your belt-
buckle here, to wit, the brass
button. Shall I send it to you?
If you wear your Quigham dress
you will want it. I will send
it. I have been having the
face ache since I came &
my neck has looked stiff
as big as a pumpkin. I have
been measuring it myself
& I'm going to keep a tree
if there is any change. The

^{first} time I measured it, it seemed
to be $14\frac{1}{2}$ nearly. It feels better
now & seems to be $13\frac{1}{2}$. But
that first may not have been
done right & I may not
measure like Mrs Beckford.
Her number was 14. Do you
remember what yours was?
Much less, I suppose. I don't
think I can ever wear
that white dress with such
a neck as this. I believe I
have to put in a yoke for I
think people will think
me crazy to wear a low neck
when it looks like that.

Honestly, Mary, to be an English
latter to be as ignorant as I
am of fiction is scandalous.
It just keeps me in pins and
needles all the time.

I didn't seem to get but two pictures of you and me and I shall just die without any more of you, Miss Mary.

Have you written Willie since you left home? I started a letter the first day I was here, but I haven't finished it yet. Poor Willie, no birthday letters even.

Say Miss Grant told me some things Mr. Wager had said. She doesn't think he is really desecret. You must keep this part of the letter off if you send it any where or do any way. He said to a girl who was specializing in English and took him her card for approval when he saw Medieval History

on it, "The ¹²⁴ surprised that
you should elect a course which
you can not respect yourself
for taking" or some thing like
that. Mrs Grant says she
thinks that Mrs. Johnston is
not as good, is failing.

Can you suggest any way
how to study the preparatory
reading? I've put in a list
of them. A number of them I
haven't read & plague it!
Sibel & Hilda are going to be
in it. It was in text class
that the Twickenham episode
happened. I wonder if I will
get over that some time as I
am getting over French papers
in March. Of course I wouldn't
care so much if Lou was not
here who was in the class.

We didn't read the whole of the
 Andreas, did we? I have to give
 Brownulf and Andreas etc for
 that Wesley course, at
 least I think I ought to give
 what is in this course in order
 to have her get credit. Say if
 I had her write metrical
 translations I could have
 an incentive to study up
 versification which Mr. Wager
 said we could do. I think
 some where I have notes
 of Miss Luce's or some body's
 as to good books on versifica-
 tion. If you take a course
 in it, you might be able to
 suggest books but I think
 I have a list. Shall I get
 a Globe chance if I do chance
 with Miss Farnham?

16.
Mrs D. is going to back this
year, political economy ^{etc} ~~etc~~
There are various improvements
in the house, one a cozy corner,
very pretty, in the third story
hall, one a senior parlor.
I wish I had a better hat.

Well, I must stop. Miss Poppy.
I'm daily looking for a letter
from you, Miss Poppy. I don't
know where to send this.

If you are with any relatives
please give them my love.

Your very loving
"Miss Penn".

This is such a disgrace of a letter
that I guess you'd better not pass it
on or read it to any body, but destroy
it. It's hardly intelligible.
Sunday Sep. 24 '05.

Return to E. S. Belden,
Glendale College,
Glendale, Ohio.



Miss Mary Megie Belden,
Care of the Young Women's Christian Ass'n
New Haven,
Connecticut.



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