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Edgehurst Cottage
Sep. 24th 1902

My dear Willie

I have been
thinking so much about
you that I've been my
mind. I will here to write
off a few lines to you.

What have I been thinking
about? Well, about your
prospects, your life work.

I know you are very
capable, without flattery

I can say smart and I
feel so anxious that you
should be an honor to your
father's name you can be

and why not? Now you will
 say, "I'm going to get a lecture
 too, only a little talk, I was
 so much, how much I cannot
 tell, you, that you ^{disappointed} ^{did} not enter
 college this year, supposing you
 are ready. for it does seem
 to me, dear William, forgive
 me, that your time is too
 valuable to be spent in buying
 to canvass for books. I admire
 your perseverance, but I do
 wish it could be spent to more
 profit. Think seriously about
 this matter, and ask God
 to help you. I know you
 do look to him for guidance,
 say every thing before him,
 who has promised to help
 us in every time of need.

²Life is real life is earnest
and shall be fritter away
this precious gift - when
God expects great things
of us and wants us to live
for his glory. I find so
many mistakes in my
own life so much wasted
time, that I want to warn
others, especially those who
are so dear to me, to work
with a will and with an
object, so that we may not
only be an honor and an
ornament to help to society
but more partic'ly led by
of our Heavenly Father
Think of it, and ask God

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To show you the way, Trust
him entirely & absolutely
I say this because I remem-
ber how often I have kept
something in reserve and
while I have asked God
I still wanted to have my
own way. The heart is deceitful
surely and desperately wicked
I can speak from a long life
experience I can remem-
ber what a joy, you, William
to your parents when you read
you about how especially
you filled their hearts with
untold happiness, your father
is in Heaven your mother still
has to rejoice in her first born
and precious son

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Your Uncle Joe is very busy these days and I am sure you would enjoy being here if you were in some where else. May off in the far West as we used to think of Ohio now, brought so near. With the plowing and sowing. The cutting of corn. The silo and various other things on hand & quite a number of hands to look after. He is just over. Worked, getting up very early mornings and keeping at it until dark. A rather nice looking Scotchman called here a few days ago for food & work. So Uncle Joe engaged him. He put him at

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gathering apples, but after
falling out of the trees several
times & being otherwise a care
he took him & Washington to
find some more congenial
work. He said he had two
sisters in Scotland, who would
like to come to America, but
they heard it was "such a very
bad Country". Fine reputation
here abroad! Well, it is bad
enough surely, but I am
afraid our Scot. won't improve
it very much. Katharine
and Charles are very busy
all the time with their various
Animals & play houses and
all kinds of play, which to us
older folks seems more like
mischiefs, but they must be
busy. There are really some lovely

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children but I take up another sheet I am reminded how very long a letter I am writing. The children here interrupted me a good many times, and there has been keeping watch over a new (colored) girl in your Aunt Clara's absence on an errand a mile or more from here. The girls, Mary, are again in College and hard at work. This is Evang last year - and she is putting in full time.

Aunt Mary is at present on a visit to the Sarsons in Phillipsburg. Next week she Aunt Caroline and I expect to spend a few days with the Cousins in Boulton & then & then - what will we do or where will

we go? We are talking some
of Abuelita, but nothing is
decided. Your mother writes
occasionally - and I think
she is feeling better than she did
a few weeks ago. I know I am
writing too long a letter & this
horrid pen is exasperating.
A few days ago, Kesh, got my
good pen (gold) & broke it, & I
have this instead. As a Jewish
womb she is to earn money
to pay for it in part at least
which she is trying to do by
catching flies. she gets a penny
for ten, & she is quite helpful
now that she has earned three
(I think) cents. She seems to feel
real sorry that my pen does
not. I think this will be a loss
to her not to muddle.

How many lessons we
and all through life we
do not get learned, altho'
I am fast approaching my
four score years.

I must stop and look
after my woman and the
children. I am anxious to
know how you are getting
along and what are the
prospects for the future

~~May I also you be~~
ever, may you in time of
disappointment or prosperity,
never lose sight of your
best friend.

Always your devoted loving
Grandmother,

I think I have got right
numbers on pages.

Sep. 24. All thy children
shall be taught of the Lord,
and great shall be the
peace of thy children.

Isa. 54. 13

My lesson for today and I pass
it on to you L. W.

J. A. Scranton
Washington D.C.



Mr. William H. Bidder
Plain City,
or Unionville Centre
Ohio,

