

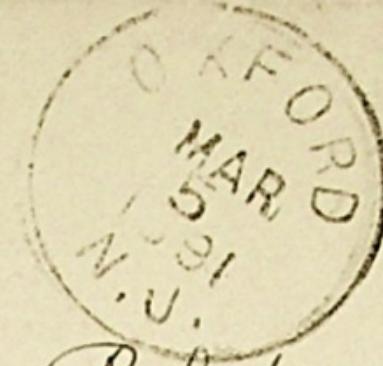
Anns. by mother & Ellen

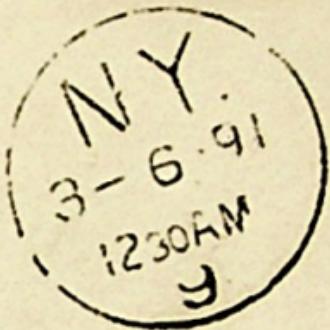
Mrs. William H. Belcher.

Bristol

Conn.

P.O. Box No 846.





1.

Oxford New Jersey  
Mar. 8<sup>th</sup>. 1891.

Dear Mama.

I haven't any thing to do now so I thought I would write to you as you said in your first letter.

I put my own hair up last night but I came right out but I am going to try tonight again.

Rutha Sanford and I play checkers almost all the time when we are not down at Aunt Mary's.

I have read "Uncle Tom's Cabin" all thru and also "I'll Try" and "Little Agnes" and "Wickie" and "A Start in Life" since I have been here.

I did not read "Peter Parley's Tales" before I came away.

Mr. Cockerell was here day before yester

yesterday and gave Bertha and Evangelie  
and Gertrude and me each a box  
of candy.

I suppose Grandma won't be home  
(I mean here) for quite a while, will she.  
She told me that if Papa got better  
she would come back pretty soon.

How is dear Papa? I wish I could see  
him and show him how sorry I am  
for him. How is little "Kannie" too?  
I hope he is well over his cold now.

Uncle Elmer calls Bertha Sanford  
Berthie <sup>the</sup> same as he calls Lena, Lanie,  
and he can't seem to get it into his  
head that it is Bertha, he says Berthie Bertha  
and at last will say it right but the  
next time he will get it wrong again.  
<sup>forgot to</sup> I thank you for the lovely letter you  
sent me, to encourage me in trying  
to be a good girl. Aunt Ellen is  
just reading it now.

Ellen wrote me that Miss Hallie  
Brach is going to be the head of the

3.

"S.G." (that is our little sewing society you know) I am so glad <sup>she</sup> has because we wanted some lady at the head of it but did not like to ask any one.

Uncle Selden is reading the other leaf of my letter now.

Cousin Sarah is just about the same only she gets weaker <sup>and</sup> every day.

I hope Papa will soon be better.

Will you give him my love and all the rest and give "Adeline" a good big kiss from me.

I don't suppose you will have time to answer this letter but Ellie can answer the questions. Please ask Willie to write also.

Aunt Ellen sends lots of all <sup>love to</sup>.

Please excuse spelling and writing  
① ② ③ Your loving sister daughter  
④ ⑤ ⑥ All. Mary M. Selden.

P.S. Please excuse

the directing of this envelope?

M.M.B.