



Handwritten: Mrs. William H. Belden,
Berlin,
Ohio.

287 College St



Carrie. Dear
love to her,
yourself.
gradually
I would
write you
at
Philadelphia.
my, Pa. May 4, 1900

any one has written you
of the serious illness of
dear Mrs. Parke, but know-
ing that you love her I
feel that you ought to hear
of her state, so take it on
myself. She had a slight
paralytic stroke four weeks
ago as she and Dr. P. and
Melanie were walking
about Glen Summit. She
never lost consciousness.

but her left side became nearly helpless, and she has gradually grown weaker until now it seems but a question of a few days - or, at most, only a short time, until she will be gone. Of course it is a great grief to all her family, but poor Dr. Parke is quite broken up by his grief. They have been such constant companions all these many years that he hardly knows how to bear the thought of separation. He is very quiet

and lonely, but greatly broken. I will write you again when any change occurs in Mrs. P.'s condition.

We are pretty well now, but had a long, weary siege with grippe for weeks even after I thought me well well! The whole valley is perfectly beautiful with May loveliness just now, and I wish you were here to enjoy it! You are coming pretty soon, are it you? We are almost through house-cleaning, and would finish this week only

The dust from the road is so bad I do not want to clean the parlor and sitting-room until we have rained. We have had such dreadfully windy weather, I think the wind and dust together give us an idea of what it must be to live in Texas.

I want to hear your experiences at the Missionary Conference, and I want to see many dreadfully - would be thankful even for a letter. Where is she! Give love to everybody. I don't know where to send this letter but fancy you must be with