

Wed Feb 23

The Merrill Center
The Oberlin Beldenhane

1907-1908



Mrs. W. H. Belden .

of Mr. G. S. Humphrey

250 Bement Ave .

West New Brighton,
Staten I s .
N. Y.



Oberlin, O. Feb. 1861/106

My dear Mrs. Belden, -

I don't know how many times I have planned to write to you in the last few weeks and have been prevented by one thing or another.

We were so glad to learn from Evelina that you are growing stronger, and I trust you have not been a victim to grippe as so many have here this winter. Florence has had quite a long

seize of bronchitis, and is just beginning to attend school after more than two weeks' absence. I also served my apprenticeship with Griggs and Whitman had a fall which laid him up with an injured knee for more than two weeks. And now we have another patient at the hospital - the saddest of all. My mother and father were spending a week with us, and last Friday night, after a pleasant gathering of missionaries here for the evening, mother slipped on the stairs, and fell, hurting herself quite badly. She did not notice the last step and fell on her side, breaking the hip bone at the joint, we fear; tho' it has

been so painful, it has not been possible to make a careful examination. She is receiving good care at the hospital, and is more comfortable now;

Well, I must not harrow your mind with our troubles, for there are many lovely things to write of. What I have been wanting to write and tell you, is, - that we have been, and are, so happy here in your comfortable home. It has been so good for all of us to be here, and we are having a very ^{delightful} home this year. I wish it might go on indefinitely without a break, but alas, I have not heard your plans for the next year, as to whether you desire to be away another year or not.

Of course we have been trying to
make our plans, and at last they
are maturing a little. My husband
will return to Japan next fall, pro-
bably, while I expect to remain in
Oberlin another year with the
children. We have all been so
happy here in your home, and we
like the neighborhood very much indeed,
but, I am feeling the need of greater
economy, and as one of the cottages
at the Mission home is to be vacated,
we thought best to speak for it.
If you are wishing to rent for another
year, I imagine you will find no
difficulty in doing it, and I wanted
you to know our plans early in the

- 2 -

season in order not to lose any opportunity.

I thought too, that you might to know about the furnace. It has worked very well until a couple of weeks ago, when the grate fell out.

We had thought we could have it patched up to last thro the winter, but it has not been at all satisfactory, and we have felt that we should have to put in new grates.

But knowing that you have a thought of a new furnace before next winter, we have tried not to put expense upon this.

Mr. Newell has consulted with Mr. Watson about it, and he says the

expense will be between \$16, and \$20, and we have about decided we shall have to put it in, in order to be comfortable.

But just now we received a telephone message from Mr. Watson asking for your address as he has a special offer he wishes to make to you.

I do not know what it is, but wanted you should know what seems an immediate necessity to us.

I wonder if you know anything of the kind of furnace Mr. Healey has put into his house - a soft coal furnace, which feeds from the bottom. They like it so much.

Mrs. Healey says they are heating much more, for with four boarders and the attic finished off they are using everything, and heating much warmer than before, with about half the expense. I do not know what kind it is, nor am I advocating anything, but it was interesting to me, and I mention it on that account.

If you have any suggestions to make or wish any thing done to the furnace, please write us soon.

Hoping to hear from you ere long, I remain,

Most cordially your friend,
Jessie Ozad Newell.