

Monday 6 A.M.  
Plain City, O.

My dear Mamma:-

I am very sorry that I have a very poor report to make for this week. I have been sick all week and yesterday didn't even go to church, but I managed to get in one day's work with pretty good results. I will be working this week in Unionville Center, Union County, 4 1/2 miles from here and if you send any letters before Wednesday morning, you might address them there. After that, address me as usual at Plain City.

Unionville Center has pop. of 259 a high school, Intermediate room and primary. I have the solid order of the Supt there and will clean up the town in three

days I hope. I haven't received any mail from home this week, which I think is rather funny.

The superintendent of the schools here has come to board at the hotel and sits next to me at the table. I & other people who board here think that he is very dignified, but the real difficulty is that he is afraid of his own shadow. Reminds me in actions somewhat of Professor Martin. You remember he wouldn't give me any recommendation because he said it wouldn't do any good. He bought the book because he wanted it. He gave an address the other evening in the church and I could see his knees tremble while he walked up the steps.

Two or three times when he and I have  
 been at the table <sup>alone</sup>, he or I have tried  
 to break the ice, so to speak, but  
 have always failed. His conversational  
 powers don't go any further than asking  
 dis. connected questions or answering  
 them by in. any relation. It has even  
 he does get his courage stirred up  
 enough to speak to you he always  
 has to look another way while  
 he does it. We sit at the middle  
 table and he sits at the end so  
 that he could look either direction  
 of the room, but he never looks  
 to right or left but keeps ~~sight~~  
 his eyes glued ~~to~~ the table cloth.

That man Pratt I spoke of  
 was going to leave Saturday afternoon.

but he got so drunk, they wouldn't  
take him on the train. While he was  
drunk some one, some way got a  
hold of his pants which had some  
hundred dollars in bills and travel  
tickets and in return left a little  
green box which would look like  
some thing to a drunken man. This  
fellow was half drunk one day  
last week. He ate his dinner early  
and forgot all about it and some  
time after every one was gone and  
asked if he was too late for din-  
ner and ate a second meal  
though not a very hearty one.

Maybe I'll write to you  
during the week.

W. G. Belden  
Unionville Centre, Union Co. O. Ho.

B.

and probably won't be thick enough  
to hurt any thing although next year  
the artichokes will need to be thinned  
somewhat. If I don't come home  
before frost comes please take in  
those little gladiola bulbs that I sowed  
the seed for. Did the Kinkaid say  
that I planted some corn yet?

Have you heard how Hosteller is doing  
conversing? You know he went to  
summer school and only started work  
a week or two ago. Well it was just as  
I told you I thought would be the case  
at least the last that I heard. He wrote  
Rudin after he had been at work a  
bout a week saying that so far  
he hadn't had any results. He finished  
his letter by saying "Write to me before

pay would like to work at it better than any thing else. I hop. to visit you at home by Thanksgiving if I don't get a chance before then.

I received your letter on Thursday I think, and hope you will write again pretty soon. How did my seed turn out? I hope you saved the Tulip seed and also the watercress seed. I saw some watercress in a little creek by the railroad when I was riding to Urbana on my wheel but it was only in blossom. I do hop that you saved some of the seed because if by any chance I return to Oberlin before spring I should like to experiment with raising some. How did the golden blow and artichokes turn out. They would need to be taken up I suppose

"I quit." I feel very sorry for the poor fellow but don't think he is out for any reason. He isn't free enough in his use of the English language.

It is near supper time and I really must close although I would like to write more before I close. Please write to me pretty soon.

With love  
Willie

W. H. Belden  
Plain City  
Ohio.

After 10 days, return to

*W. H. Belden Jr.*

PLAIN CITY, OHIO.



*Mrs. Ellen Seranton Belden  
287 1/2 College Street  
Berlin  
Ohio.*



