

Box 219 Athens, O.

Miss Betha Lambert
Westerville, Ohio.

July Aug. 1, 1897

My Darling Betha: Here I am in my room at hotel with wash stand as desk.

Frank is working for Carlos here now. He and I just came from S. S. but will not attend the morning service, so I shall spend the time with you although you are sitting in the choir.

I got one of your letters from Plainville last evening, written July 23. I don't blame you for being anxious and I did not think of there being such a long delay as there was, and will write more frequently if it is only a note.

I shall return to Chauncy tomorrow again, but do not know how long I will be there.

I suppose I will get my expenses out of it perhaps which of course is better than being idle only it gives no chance for study.

I expect to go to work, by the middle of the wk although my finger is very tender yet.

The work will be on the City Hall here. If I don't get too lazy I shall do some work on my diary today. There is only one ^{of thought} line, that I think I should care to write down or recollect and that is my relation to you. That grows deeper and deeper no difference what else may come. I do not wish to act childish or simple

, but I don't see any way to avoid it so long as we maintain the relations we do and I have no notion of breaking off our engagement even if we have to wait ten yrs.

If I can get work, what would you think of my staying with my work until we are able to carry out our plans.?

As it stands now I see only one way in which I can be in school and that is to get means from the church and as I am not an annual conf. minister nor could be so this fall I presume that would shut me out. If your eyes will permit I want you to go ahead sure

I do not know what they will allow you, but if possible secure enough to make you comfortable in every way and get your clothes.

It is difficult to say what may develop in the next five yrs. God has His own plan and can work wonderfully if we but listen and wait.

Of course I have said more than I ought, but have not meant to be rebellious, although I cannot see the bright side just as you seem to.

I can bear financial embarrassments etc. much better than some other embarrassments, which in some way seem to make up a part of my life, but I leave these things until we meet for a long talk.

They expect to have the college finished by Jan. 1, '98 and it surely will be a nice building. The streets are being paved, so they have things in pretty good shape, but I don't like the disposition of the people here like some other places, but of course I can't have my way about everything.

Yes I have no doubt your trip to Geneva was a great thing for you and what is good for you is good for me and I expect to derive much help from it. I believe we will get to go to the field and sometimes I wish we might go this Fall, but perhaps it is best not to do so. I prefer further preparation if possible but somehow it seems I have gone my limit until I get a start and if I teach I would rather go where I am needed more than here.

your life certainly is sweet
to me and I can make most
any kind of sacrifice now in
order to bring about plans to bring
our lives together. I cannot be
my true self without you
and I do not think it is simply
selfish motive that prompts me
but it is the soul craving its
counterpart. Night before last
I dreamed that you & I saw you
at a little distance and on
extending my arms you rushed
into them just as a child, and
of course I did not shove you
away at all nor forget the rest
of the program. I suppose I
will have work for a while now
and of course must stay with
it, but will come to you the
first opportunity and shall
not be backward in greeting you.
Your letters are ever so good
and helpful to me. It has been
such a task to write with my

finger, but will try to write often.
 You know there is so much
 to say and so many things we
 would like to tell each other that
 a letter seems almost like
 mockery and yet how nice
 it is to get a letter. I cannot
 refrain kissing every one of them.

You certainly are a dear
 patient, sweet little girl and
 have put so much sunshine
 into my life. I am more or
 less discontent with my own
 life, but am perfectly satisfied
 with your life in every particular.

I will try to be more
 cheerful and trustful. Your letters
 of cheer shame me with my
 ingratitude; instead of being a
 support and shield to you I
 am a hindrance to in many

ways, but I love you dearly and shall cling to you with all my heart. This training may be just what we need, I trust you may be free to express yourself as to what you think best to do in our work and what your choice may be in reference to our school work, etc.

How I would like to spend this P.M. with you. I am quite well and sleep much better than I did. Whatever may come, we are still one until death and should you be called first we will continue to be one. May God guard and keep my sweetheart. Take time just as easy as you can on account of your eyes. I sent a note from Chauncey yesterday am. Please continue to write often.

Kind regards to all who may inquire,
your love

J. H. Harris.
Aug 2. Good morning Dear, J. H. H.

Return to Box 219
Athena, Ohio.



Miss Bertha E. Lambert,
Westerville, Ohio.
"Franklin Co."