

Westerville O. Feb. 2. '96.

Mr. J. H. Harris,
Ada O.

My Dear Joe: - I have
been longing all day for
a talk with you and
now we will have it.
I am at my work as
usual, but still "bark"
some. I have been out
five nights in the past
week, so you know
I am not very sick.
I am very thankful to
be about my work again.

All the literary societies
except ours had open
session this week, so
there was no meeting
Thurs. & Fri. nights. But
there was church again
last night. And I really
believe we are now getting
ready for work. How can
God be so good to people
who are so indifferent
as to his work. It is
on my mind and I
believe I must tell
you about the meeting
last night. There were
not very many at church
and they seemed very
indifferent and uncon-
cerned, until during

the testimony service an
old Methodist who was
filled with the Holy Spirit
got up and gave just
such a talk as we
needed. Just as the min-
ister was about to close
the service one of the
students (who had laughed
at by some) arose and
said in substance, "I think
we all need to get nearer
to Christ, Can't we just
get down at that altar
once for closer consecration."
The minister called for
a song and said that
Mr. Montgomery (the student)
could kneel at the
altar and others if they

desired. Almost immediately, the altar was filled with christians seeking a closer consecration. I thought I would be one of the first ones at the altar but Satan kept me away until all the places were filled except by a gentleman who has been walking with me a few times and would you believe that I let that little thing keep me from the most useful thing in the world - a full consecration to God, but I did.

I felt such a sense of shame and condemnation that words could not express my feelings.

I came home, and as I went to my room for secret prayer I felt that that consecration must be made before I closed my eyes in sleep. Thank the Lord I was able to make it, and such a blessing came to me and has filled my heart all day. I promised God that I would do whatever he would like to have me do regardless of the cost!

For some time she thought
has been with me almost
constantly, as to how I
should spend my life,
but I tried to think if
I assisted in some
work, it did not mat-
ter much what, that
it would be all right.
I found that would
not do, and I came
to the place where I
had to say "Lord I will
do any thing, in any place,
and in any way, if
thou wilt only make
that work plain." Then the
blessing came, and the
Lord seemed to say "Just

now do the work that
is all around you"
Joe, I still look you as
truly as ever. I do not
know exactly what God
wants me to do, but I
do feel that he has some
special work for me to
do, and if he calls you
to one work and I to
another, we must follow
that call even though it
separate us contingents
apart for life. God's
work is more important
than ours. I would not
cast any reflections on
the past, but I do think
we have made the

mistake in settling other
questions, and especially,
that if companionships
through life, before we
settled this question with
God. And must we not
let it come first yet.

I think we can not do
otherwise. May we not
just put ourselves in
God's hands trusting that
he will lead us.

Now I have told you all,
Pardon me if I have said
any thing that I ought
not to have said, but
I have simply done
what I felt was my duty
and believing God required
it of me.

He received a letter from
Ida last evening. She
seemed to appreciate
your visit so much.
Jud was away but coming
home soon. He and
I are having plenty of mud
in Westerville. School
is passing about as usual.
I fear I have tired you
with my much talking,
but I felt that I must
just tell you all
Trusting that God will
lead us daily, just
where he wants us to go
and that we may be
willing to follow wherever
that may be, I am as ever
Your Bertha.



68

Mr. J. A. Harris,
Ada, Ohio.
Lock Box 28.