

Box 219, Athens, O.

Aug. 18, 1897.

Darling Bertha! Your letter
just rec'd a few moments
ago made me smile all
over my face. I feared you
might be sick as I
usually get your letter
not later than Tues. night.

My fingers are rather
clummy for writing so I
may not get much written.

We are rushing our
work as it is up so high
and we want to finish
before rain comes. We have
nothing definite in sight
yet, but C. J. may get the
brick school house at
Stewart and if so, that will

keep us for several days.
It will take us about all
wk. to finish this; so "I go
on not knowing, I would
not if I might; I ^{would} rather
walk in the dark with God
than walk alone in the
light" Prof. Fay of the college
here was married this P. M.

Our time will come by and
by. Every letter makes me
feel that it is considerable
nearer. You need not be
uneasy about not expressing
your love. I know you are
rather reserved in disposition
but I see much more behind
that and I can read between
the lines you write that your
whole affections are centered
in me. I know that
you love me more than

you can tell, as you shall
 be at liberty to express all
 you desire when we have
 our visit.

My mind runs back
 to three years ago tomorrow
 evening when we arranged
 for our correspondence.

I thought that was a
 wonderful boon, and so
 it proved to be, but what
 was that compared to now,

The thought came today
 that you and my trunk
 constituted my possession
 but there is not enough
 gold in U. S. to even the
 whole world to tempt me

to prove my claim on you.

So I am rich except
in money and somehow I
think when we get out we
can have as much of that
as will be needful to make
us comfortable and happy.

It scarcely seems like
ten years since mother's death.
For nearly ten years I have
been away from home except
when I taught, and so far
as I am concerned individ-
ually I prefer, next any
kind of a shelter so it is
home, but I cannot think
of taking you from your
pleasant home unless I
could take you to one
that in some way at least
furnishes your present
comfort.

I trust this may find you feeling better, as I have feared it might be about your turn to have fever.

I never heard your complaint at all scarcely although I have known for some time that you were not very strong, but that only brings you more tenderly near me.

Perhaps you had better not attempt to make up your ^{work} at all, although I know you are anxious to do so.

Simply let it go for this vacation. Aug 24, 25, 26 will be held, Athens Co Fair.

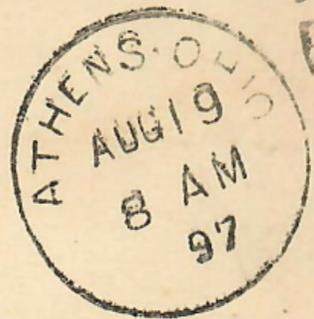
Much more comes to mind

but I can give the quiet
of it all in saying that
I love you tenderly and
feel like working and
waiting patiently on until
the goal is reached.

You are a comfort
and peace to me wherever
I may be placed and I
hold your love as a sacred
trust as coming from God
may He guide and keep
us both as seeme best to
work out His will.

Your devoted lover
J. H. Harris.

Return to Box 219
Athens, Ohio.



Miss Bertha Lambert

Westerville, Ohio

"Franklin Co."