



Cameron House,

C. COLEMAN Prop.

Box 219

Athens, Ohio, Aug. 8, 1897

Darling Bertha: I arose at 7
This a.m. went to S. S. dinner,
is now over and I come to what
is a sacred thing to me: viz
write to my "Sweetheart".

I am feeling well and have
a good appetite. Your letter
came to hand Friday and made
me feel that you were, purely, very
near in thought. I know that
you have spent some lovely hours
in that sense. I sat down last
evening after supper and just
tried to imagine some of those
Sat. evenings of last yr. and I
could scarcely keep still, how
a smiling countenance always
greeted me whether I smiled or
not and how I knew that there
was a soul that just filled what

was lacking in my life. But
I thought then of how God had
prospered me this wk. and that this
was just what we both had asked
God to grant to us and some-
how I said "all is well". I knew
that our love was true and pure
and that you had my love and
I had yours and it's certainly
is blissful to feel and know that.

While I have loved you for
so long, yet I know now in
a sense I never did before what
love really means and I am
quite sure you realize it the same.

I commenced work here
Tues. morn and got the balance
of the wk. I am not quite a full
hand but get $\frac{2}{3}$ per. day. My
finger bothers me quite a good
deal and may always be a little
crooked. It does not pain any.

Had it been on my left hand
I don't think I could work any
this fall at brick work.

I think we have about 10 days
work on hand now



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I have rather an elevated position as we are about 60 ft from the ground and will go higher perhaps 20 or 25 ft, but I am very careful and we have good scaffold.

I appreciate what you said concerning school and I know we are at a standstill in one sense but, all will come well in some way. You spoke of not feeling very spry, I hope you are all right by this time. I shall feel sorry indeed if your eyes will not permit you to enter school this yr, but whether you enter school or not or even if it is evident that you should be an invalid in that respect the remainder of life, you are still my own true and loving parent

and I just want you to feel perfectly at ease in that respect and I believe you do. Anything of that kind only makes your life seem nearer and sweeter to me. But I believe you will become stronger and will be able to do the work intended for you. Your affliction is not a discouragement to me at all. I only want us to make such use of our opportunities at present in such a manner that we will be prepared to meet any emergency, yes I would like to have the chance to see you by waiting an hr (and I wouldn't growl about it neither). I often think of those few moments after walking home with you. I don't believe we took too many such seasons. If in school this yr. I hope to arrange to spend more time with you than I did even last yr. I think it is very essential.

I had quite a talk with Dr. Hayes today in which I got several ideas



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which we will want to consider when we meet. I don't know yet what arrangement I can make for school but will do my best to be in school of some kind this yr. I think I will be around before school time as there are some things that I think it is quite necessary to talk over before making a decision. Lemard is here now working for Carlos. I expected to have written before this time but did not get at it. I don't believe I would enjoy the "figger bites" very much. I presume you still view the medical work as you did.

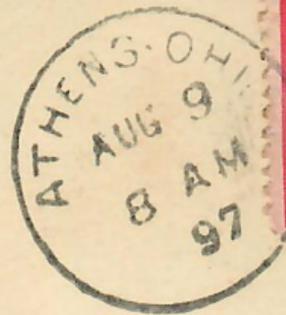
The way seems brighter in that direction than it did and perhaps we can make it still

brighter. Howard was here, ^{one day} this wk. & I don't know whether he was after his papers or not. I expect you are writing to me this afternoon. I wish I could slip in and look over your shoulder, probably I would lean over them. Perhaps we might be too fast in marrying this Fall when we consider everything carefully, and if we are in school together I think we will not notice it so much, but I dread this separation business. I don't want want much of it. Life is too short for us to be spending so much time away from each other, but I am willing to do anything that will be the will of God and simply want to be passive in His hands in everything.

I thank you for being so cheerful it that has been a blessing to me. I don't need to say "write soon" as I know you want to say something to me. May the master continue to help you in your undertakings.

Your Love, J. H. Harris.

Return to Box 219
Athens, O.



Miss Bertha E Lambert,

Westernville, Ohio.

"Franklin Co."