

My own only little Conclusions are in Seedei - However they
may come over, then we shall make ^{allow} ^{field}
much of them - Children it seems to me are among those good things no
one appreciates until they have given over being children -

My dearest Siree - ^{please prove this true & believe}

we with very good wish
from affectionate friend
Annex Williamson

We have been thinking
of speaking of you a good deal lately - apropos
of our wishing for you, yours, every happiness
in the coming year, & a long continuance of
succeeding happy years - I had hoped to

send you now, along with my letter a tiny
memento of our selves, but one which I flatter
my self you would like, viz, portraits of Herbert
& Williamson & myself - but unfortunately
they are not quite ready - They shall be sent
if the moment we have them in hand -

When you receive them, will you give them
a welcome, & will you know how gladly their
originals would come instead, if that were
possible - Herbert's portrait is Capital, like him,
giving an ordinary expression, but strained
in either good temper or falling to shrouse with
the reverse - The Photographer has kindly taken

all the lines out of my face, thereby changing
it from a tolerably alive one, to a good looking
well conditioned woman Winnies Verres, which
I am not. Dr Williamson comes out well,
but is also reduced in the matter of Verres,
& thus to him is serious, as Verres & Genius are
practically synonymous in him. However
such as they are, they come with all love -

I fear your year has not been without
anxiety, we heard in some round about way,

of an accident to Sir William, I think from
one of the Officers stationed here just now, &
who had warned a friend of yours, unluckily
I forgot the name of our informant. What we
heard was that Sir William had fallen in
some Geological excursion, hurt himself,
so as to compel him to keep quiet for awhile,
but was now quite recovered, even better for
the enforced rest. Most sincerely we hope
that latter part of the story is true -

Please give him our love & best wishes -
 Dr Williamson himself is tolerably well - not strong
 looking old in many respects; being old - but working
 as much as ever - we have tried hard to persuade
 him to relinquish his Class at Owens, but to
 no purpose, he insists, says, "so long as his work
 is well done he shall continue to do it." So
 we must just stand by & watch him.

Edith is splendidly well - teaching Music
 successfully for her pupils, & very much so for
 her own healthy development - sometime it
 will be also satisfactory for her purse & pressure
 but so far much of her actual earnings has been
 expended in her piano, long visits to Germany
 for lessons, & stores of Music & such stock in hand
 which will not need replenishing quickly -

Herbert is I am glad to say very well, within
 a hairs breadth of being as tall as his father
 & broad in proportion, he is still not quite thick
 as half - naturally we need to watch closely
 lest his strength should be over taxed or his
 appetite fail - else this growth would harm him

He steadily wishes ^{Mr} for an art life & his father says that until he is eighteen he need not finally decide, meanwhile his education may bend in a literary & poetic direction with as much actual drawing as can be added to ~~with~~ college work. If at eighteen he still wishes the same, he shall be as well trained for an Art Profession as he would else be for any other he might choose.

With this the boy is perfectly happy - works at school splendidly, & spends every spare hour in dogged practice drawing; Figure work he prefers to all other, indeed he finds all else a little tiresome he is now shading from the cast - but not taking lessons - I shall be glad to hear of your well being my friend - I was so often wish he could have kept Eva here awhile & was tempted to beg the loan of her a month or two but confidence in the house hold power of making a girl happy prevented please give her best love & best wishes - You must be very happy in having her with you - We are also interested in three sons whom we do not personally know -

Dr Danson the geologist - I think Mr William the Engineer & Mr Rankin the Medical Doctor - Also in a very nice daughter & some law whom I do know a wee bit - some dear grand children - Do you know you are to be congratulated on the possession of grand children, we are missing them so badly - Herbert is the child of the family & he is no child at all - every thing becomes hard & common place without little ones.