

1028/61/27

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(To W.O. from his sister, Miss Ellen Osler)

The Rectory Dundas
September 29th 1866

My dearest Willie

I will try & do better in the writing line this term, than I did through your last, although there seems to be remarkably little to tell you, as Charlotte has doubtless posted you upon the subject of Jennette, & Marian, who are very nice girls, I am sure you would like them very much. We are always regretting you are not home, & miss you very much. We have proposed a little plan, if it can be carried out, for the cousins & myself to go to Toronto for a week or so next Month, while Henrietta is here then we could keep house for ^{you?} & go exploring Toronto under Edmunds wing, you could then manage a day in town perhaps while we are there which would be very pleasant, Carrie is in Toronto at present, & will return next week, bringing Henrietta back with her for change of air. Brick is going to Montreal on Wednesday for some little time, I don't know what the girls will do without him, as they think more of him than Carrie quite approves, - I was so astonished to see Mary return with Papa from the Synod, she looked very pretty, & was more lively than usual. I do hope my dearest boy you have remembered your promise, & not compromised her by saying anything like definite words, you would thereby do both yourself & her more injury than you can see at present. When you are old enough, & still remain true (which I am sure you will) I promise to do all for both of you in my ^{power}, by being perfectly silent on the subject for the next two or three years, you will materially advance your cause with the parents on both sides, as they will then see your love is steadfast, & find that to raise objections would be no use. x^^

Uncle & Fanny arrived here in that heavy rain on Tuesday, fanny driving? all the way from Lloydtown. They left with Mary on Thursday afternoon, so their stay was short & sweet. We six cousins all went to Brookes' & were taken in a group in Memory of the event, of three brothers two eldest daughters meeting for the first time, I have not seen them yet, so cannot say that the Photos are like, they are a good size, \$7 a doz, altogether too large for an album.

The girls play Croquet very well & are fond of it, so we play a good deal, the only misfortune being that it gets dark so soon, Jennette is so small, but she is very nice & clever, Marian is about an inch shorter than Charlotte & so fat & soft & round. They sing Duetts together very well, & talk & laugh & are jolly, they appear to like us all, & Canada in general, although they open their eyes with astonishment at many things they see & hear.

What a state of mind M^{rs} Johnson was in, lest her Prefect should be taken away from her. I am afraid she will spoil you terribly, now she is sure of your remaining with her. Are all your cakes gone? We imagined you that first Sunday afternoon, & hoped you would not feel ill the next Morning, the Apple tree missed you when you took your departure. Is Miss Clara McDonald at Weston? dont allow her to become too fond of you, her attachment to Jimmy was fervent. When you are writing to that young & respectable Head Master, you can enclose any letters from Dundas with anything in them to read, he will like to hear occasionally that we are all alive, & your letters are generally specimens of brevity & concisement. Whatever they are remember I am always very glad to get them, & will answer to the best of my ability. With much love

Believe Me always yr affec sister

Nellie