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Dundas, Novb'y 14th

1866

My dear Willie

You must not think hard thoughts of your Mother if you do not get a letter from her as often as you expect it, for she has generally more to do each day than she knows how to get through. However setting all else aside I write a few lines today more particularly to tell you that as to socks for winter I quite think 2 or 3 pairs of oldish ones were put in your trunk in readiness for the cold weather, look and see if not tell me when you write; I am getting some others knitted but they are not ready yet.

The death of Mr. Johnson's son-in-law was a sad thing and I am sure all you boys must have been greatly shocked at it these painful events dear Willie are sent to remind us that this is not our Best, that there is a bright happy home above for which we should seek to be prepared, because often in such an hour as we think not the Messenger is sent to call us away from Time to Eternity.

The girls came home in great glee from their little trip to Weston and Toronto, they were glad to have a peep at you and sorry not to have seen more of you but the holidays are drawing on rapidly and it will be pleasant to have you home. We sent off a parcel of clothes to Frank and had a letter from him last week, he is going on steadily with Fred Wright (from whom we heard as well) we hope he may be able to come home for a few days at Christmas, it will be pleasant for us all to be all together then. Edward's wife too I dare say will be with us so that our number will be much increased.

Did you or any of the boys sit up either last night or the night before to watch for the Star Shower? Janette sat up till four this morning but was doomed to disappointment perhaps it may occur tonight but I do not fancy any one will feel inclined to sit up again. E M and Janette have gone in to Hamilton by Nelson and will be too tired for it.

As I have to write English letters and to Lloydtown I must bring this to a close.

With very much love from

Your ever affectionate Mother
Ellen Osler

Mr. Miles