

1028/63/7

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Dundas, Feby 25 th 1867

My dear Willie

It was my intention to write to you on Friday last week, but it failed, then on Saturday I made sure of doing so and could not after all I was glad as your letter and mine would then have crossed which is always provoking. ***

We could not send to the post on Saty. evening but C. Gwyn got the letters and gave Ed yours after church yesterday so I had it for or with dinner. Most thankful am I my dear boy to hear that you are so much better and able to knuckle to your work, do not be discouraged at being rather behind and not able to compete for prizes--it was not your fault you were ill and perhaps the time has not been all lost when we are laid by from our duties it is meant for our good, and our own fault is we are not bettered by it. I trust that now you will be quite strong and able to make up in a measure the work before you. We have had Jemmy with us from Friday till this morning when Frank drove him into Hamilton to meet the early train, he has a very bad cold poor fellow and I fear the cold drive would not improve it. Edmund was up too and Mr. Ballard came so we were pretty full. BB took two home with him to sleep; Carrie went to Toronto on Friday and is expected home tonight (Tuesday) with Janette. ^{write} M. I suppose means to remain a little longer in town but we've not heard from them since they left Lloydtown. Tomorrow they (M and J) take their departure to be with C and B for (Carrie says) a couple of months. Shall we not miss them, and the dear little fellow Percy? Frank has no occupation as yet nor do I see what he is to do going again but I fancy they have not enough to do just now to keep him at work. Papa has gone to St. Catharines on a Ch. Secy. mission and will enquire if there is any thing there that he can be at for a month or so till we get an answer from Mr. Bath; poor boy I am so sorry for him he is so unsettled and will be I know till he is off to sea again.

time

I must find ~~time~~ ^{about} in a day or so to send a note to Mrs. Johnson to thank her for all her kindness to you. I am sure I need not say do all you can in any way to make yourself useful to either her or Mr. Johnson. Enclosed is a dollar for the purpose you wish, let me know what the boys give him. Write your new master. I hope you'll go on swimmingly in your studies. Were you glad or otherwise when the Theatricals were given up?

I know who was glad--I can never fancy they can do good to any one but have a tendency to do ill when I hear those advocating such things who profess to serve a Heavenly master I think of the words which He spake to His people by His beloved disciple "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world if any one love the world the love of the Father is not in him" Surely had Jesus or any of his apostles gone to a Theatre it would have been to do good not for the pleasure of witnessing or taking part in any of its mummeries. I am sorry Mr. Badgely advocates the evil--but truly thankful that it is at any rate for the present set aside. And now my own dear boy I must say good-bye. I think M. B. means to write a note, and with very much love I am ever

Your affectionate Mother
Ellen Osler

Edmund - E. B. Osler.
Ballard?
E. M. Ellen Osler.
M. B. = Maria Bath, my mother
W. W. Francis
1842