

H. Barrie

1028/60/3

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Dundas Sepm. 8th.

1865

My dear Willie

I can excuse you if you begin to think yourself in a small degree
 You will feel disgusted at not having heard from home before this
 as you ought to have had a letter last week and the Paper, but as I
 told you before, you must never think I forget you when there is no let-
 ter at the time expected for you know I am generally pretty busy but not
 likely to neglect you wilfully. We were glad to get your letter telling
 of your safe arrival, as you said nothing to the contrary we may hope
 you felt all right, but I wish when you write you would remember just
 to say how you are. After all the bustle of the Bishop's visit, B B and
 Carrie's arrival home, Hennie being down for a fortnight, and our having
 the house pretty full all the summer we feel particularly quiet. Penn
 came too on Saturday--he left on Monday by train, Fanny, Mary and Char-
 lotte the same morning by Boat, Frank driving them into Hamilton. Next
 morning Papa drove Hennie and Hal in to go down by Boat and now we are
 only just 4 in family. B B has been away two or three days so Carrie
 came up to sleep here. I hope Ellen Mary and Charlotte will be home
 some time next week for I miss them very much, but it will I think do
 them good to have had the change.

I cannot think of much news to send and Frank is too lazy to write
 if he could rake any up. When you write home next it would be well to
 enclose a note for him if you can find time to write it, the Paper will
 tell you of D. M. Mc Kenzie's wedding. G. Farmer was married the other
 day (Saturday I think) to Alice Milne. We had the Ancaster Picnic the
 week before last, it went off very pleasantly and since then the weather
 has been so hot we have scarcely known how to bear it, but today has come
 with a blessing of steady rain which will cheer the hearts of many who
 have had to drive their cattle miles to get a drop of water, in many
 places the wells have dried up, and the pastures are almost bare. You
 will be sorry to hear that our cow is dead, we think poisoned by drink-
 ing some of the stream water running near the Tannery impregnated with
 wome chemical preparation used about the skins. We shall not get another
 just now but buy our milk through the winter. I hope the old Dr. Ardagh
 may not be as ill as you say, when you see him tell him we desire to be
 kindly remembered to him and give my love to Mrs. Stewart who with her
 young lion-hearted boy and other members of the family I hope are well.

Our kind regards to the Checkleys and with best love dear Willie

I am ever
 Your affectionate Mother
 Ellen Osler

P. S. Has Walker sent your things up, and do they suit you? to bring home at Christmas.

Hennie - Hennie the Judge's wife
 Fann. - Judge Osler
 Fanny - Fanny Osler - a Lloyd town Cousin
 Hal. - H. P. Osler the Judge's first child
 McInnis - local character
 Farmer - Jim McInnis ??
 Dr. Ardagh - Barrie
 Checkley - the Checkley School Barrie