

Amherst. Pa.  
June 15<sup>th</sup> 1896

Dear Larry -

Your letter of sympathy received Saturday evening, and I will try to tell you the few particulars of our father's sudden death. As I told you when you were here, he had been in bad health for the past

year, but only for the last six weeks had we any cause to be uneasy about him.

Monday and Tuesday he seemed much better and taught his school up to twelve o'clock Tuesday, as he had always done, never slackening up in his work a single minute, although he could not walk to the school building without

a violent spell of indigestion. Tuesday night he insisted on our going to church just across the way, which we did, finding him on our return all right, and lively and cheerful. He was talking and repeating poetry to Rob., saying that Masses's poem entitled "To-day & To-morrow" was one of his favorites. He

repeated it all, dwelling particularly on the two lines which run thus -

"He walk the wilderness to-day;

The promised land to-morrow  
 little dreaming how soon  
 he would realize the truth  
 of the sentiment expressed in  
 those two lines. He retired  
 at 10.30, and slept soundly  
 until 12.30, when he awakened.

ed with a violent spell  
of what we thought was  
indigestion, but what proved  
to be heart trouble, suffering  
agony. He said, "Wife, there  
is no indigestion in this, it  
is my heart, it is my heart,  
and this attack is worse  
than the first one I had."

We worked with him  
faithfully, but with no

avail, and he died in a  
little less than an hour & a  
half, without any word of  
comfort to us, or any sign  
of recognition from him,  
for he became unconscious  
for 15 minutes before he died.

Poor father, he had a hard  
struggle to get on in this  
world, but notwithstanding  
all his trials and troubles he



he never lost faith in  
God, saying always in  
our darkest hours that God  
would provide a way for  
us and that he put his whole  
trust in Him. He intended  
to open a co-educational  
school here next fall and  
his prospects for a full school  
were fine; several already  
being secured as boarders.

This, of course we will have to abandon, as the boys are too young yet to build up a school of this kind. He will stay here for the summer and probably longer, that depending on where the boys get work. Tom. arrived Thursday morning in time for the funeral at 10.30 o'clock. Lunch.

Reynolds came from Richmond.



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Wednesday afternoon and  
was such a help and comfort  
to us all. I never saw such  
kind people as these <sup>have</sup> proven  
to us in our bereavement.  
It seems they could not do  
enough for us and their offers  
were increasing. Wednesday they  
sent us large baskets of cooked  
food (knowing that we had  
no cook) and also lunches

for parties sitting up with  
corpse that night. The flowers  
were profuse and in every  
variety of designs, which shows  
how much he was beloved by  
his pupils and esteemed by  
every one here. Mother and we  
children are greatly grieved,  
but we do not mourn as ones  
without hope, for our father  
was a genuine, pure, christian

and always expressed himself as perfectly resigned to death, and ready to go when called. I do not think it would be possible to find one who has a deeper religious nature, or a higher appreciation of God's goodness and mercy than he had. — Write to me whenever you have the time. All well and send many regards.  
With much love,  
Cornelia