

Bowling Green Feb, 6th 1870

Dear William

As I have not heard from you since I saw you last, and as we are on the eve of moving away from here, I thought best to write to ~~write~~ you of it. I have for some time been looking for a better location for practice than I have here, and seeing no chance to sell our farm I concluded to rent it until I could sell, so I have ~~do so~~, rented it for \$75.00 per annum to a man who I think will take good care of it. I wrote to my old friend Dr Baer of Richmond^{Ind} about the prospect there, and he gave me so much encouragement, that I went there three weeks ago and found things quite favorable to our going there. Dr Baer is unable to do much business out of his office, and offers to turn over to me most of his outside business, this together with my former acquaintances there will make a beginning there that I would not have where I was a stranger. I met with quite a number of old acquaintances, who all seemed pleased with the idea of my coming ^{to live} there again. Dr Baer has done a very large business there, and he says one half the population there are in favor of homeopathy, and the best of them too. There ^{are} about 16000 inhabitants there now and increasing every year.

There is a small New Church Society there
and they have just finished a very pretty
little Temple there, which will afford us
advantages of that kind, which you know
I very much value. The truth is I have
played farmer about as long as I can afford
~~to~~, and altho I always enjoyed it very much
still I find it to expensive a luxury for me, I
have every year put more money on the
farm than I took off it, to be sure I have
made a very pretty place out of a piece of
wild land, and hence increased the value
of it five or six thousand dollars, still it is
not affording us as much, as ~~it~~ will the rent
it, and in a city I will be able to do very much
more business, and do it easier, and the
girls will have advantages that they don't now
have, We are very busy now in getting up and
making arrangements to move about the
first of March, when we have to give possession
of the farm, I hope some of you can come
and see us before we go, we shall be nearly as
far apart when we get to Richmond, so that we
will not be apt to see any of you for a long time

We are all well, and all at home now ex^{cept}
-cept Mary, who is still in Baltimore,

All the girls join in love to all your family
write soon

Yours affectionately,
J. Howells