

C O P Y

April 10, 1937

Miss Jessica E. Beers

Dear Friend,

There hangs in the entrance hall of the main building of the Elmwood School a most life-like portrait of one whom every loyal friend of the Elmwood loves to honor. Passing that picture, we seem to feel again the vital personality of one who greeted us often in those halls in the old days.

We pause before that figure in white and read:

Jessica E. Beers
Founder of the Elmwood School
Principal
1889-1914

Can it be so long since we were daily under her wise care and supervision? It does not seem long, for those were vivid days and they have made a lasting impression upon our minds and hearts. As the years pass, we become more conscious of the debt of gratitude we owe to her. We have now the perspective and we understand better than then how great was her wisdom and how keen her vision.

Education, as she interpreted it, had a new meaning and under her leadership the entire community was stirred to action for better guidance for its children.

Some of us as parents, and we who were her pupils, have cause to thank her and bless her for all she did to enrich our lives. Her influence in the community and her gift of the best she had to offer to the large group of children in Buffalo, is a contribution never to be forgotten.

Her pupils are scattered throughout the length and breadth of this land, but there are those who still pass in and out of the doors of the old school and stand before the picture of their friend and teacher and - remember.

Among the many who would love to give some utterance to their feeling of gratitude and affection, the undersigned would like to have some part in celebrating April 15th, her birthday. A lucky number for the Elmwood School and for us.

Therefore, we the friends who stood shoulder to shoulder with her in those early days of the Elmwood School; we, her pupils who benefitted by her wisdom and faith in us; we, whose children follow in our footsteps and love the school which she made possible; we greet her on her natal day, asking her to accept as a birthday remembrance this gift of deep gratitude and lasting affection.

May the day be a happy one and all the days ahead most blessed.

Charles K. Bassett
Leonard Bissell
Edward H. Butler
Harriet Byers Deans
Martha Bull Dilkes
Helen P. Estee
Josephine Hoyt Gilbert
Albertine Hoyt Glenney
Jeannette Bissell Goodyear
Dorothy Hill
Edgar Hill
Marie Hill
Charlotte K. Holbrook
Esther H. Hoyt (Mrs. Wm. B.)
John D. H. Hoyt
Jessie H. Jewett (Mrs. C. R.)
Louise L. Kahle
Winifred Smith Mathewson
Carrie A. Moot (Mrs. Adelbert)
Richmond D. Moot
Seward A. Moot
Welles V. Moot
Mildred S. Norton
John B. Olmsted
Hilda Hoyt Potter
Elizabeth Preston (Mrs. Austin Roe)
Esther Hoyt Sawyer
Wade Stevenson
Jean Bissell Webster
Ethloine Whittenhall

*Louise Preston
Mrs. Reek, East Aurora.
Also Rev. Preston
Consul in Kingston
Jamaica*

*Mrs. Hemingway (Sallie Preston)
Mrs. R. Mills
Mrs. Robert North
Miss Loraine Robb
(Charlotte Preston)*

