

Royce Teyan

June 12, 1915

My dear Ida:

I came here last
Wed. in answer to a
telephone message
from Betty Clay, calling
me to Papa. I reached
him just about three
hours before he gently
closed his eyes + was
gone. He had been very
frail all the year, but
we couldn't realize that
the end was right at
hand. I shall always
reproach myself for not

coming a month ago
when my school first
closed - but I thought
I had to wait till the
Normal closed which
followed two weeks after
the close of school. He
had been dying all day,
& had no word of recog-
nition or love for me. I
have to look back to his
visit to me last summer
& I strain every nerve
to try to remember every
little expression & manner-
ism. You of course know
the heart ache we have -
but I know he has passed

into a glorious existence,
that death with him
was merely stepping
across the line, which
separates a world in
which the pain &
struggle & sickness
is not counterbalanced
by the pleasures, victories
& happiness - to one
where all is light &
joy. I believe he &
my dear Grandma have
renewed their association
which was I think the
sweetest I ever saw.

+ I know they do not
want us to grieve.
Papa never grieved over
anything. He believed
in the infinite wisdom
love + mercy of God. He
said there were only two
kinds of troubles in the
world. Those you could
help + those you couldn't.
He was all energy + deter-
mination in removing
the first kind - the second
he submitted to as the
will of God "In whom he
lived + moved."

But I haven't this strength
I feel oh so desolate + lonely.

I don't feel equal to
 taking up my school
^{work} again - I don't see how
 I can put my heart into
 it, as I must to make it
 a success, neither do I feel
 that I can be what I should in
 Mrs. Betts' class. I know
 feels more bereft than
 any of us. She has never
 in all her life been
 separated from him
 but a few months at
 a time. He has stood
 by her in all her troubles
 raised her first baby
 for her, you might
 say - & since her second
 & last marriage, it

has been the study of
her life to repay him
with love & care, & to
make him happy.
She ought not to have
one thing to regret, for
she has been truly
devoted to him. And
the past year, when his
mind had partially
given way with his
body - no mother ever
took more loving care of
a helpless babe than
she has of him. Now
she feels without an
occupation, & feels so
deeply the listlessness of the

dear care, ^{But} I know only
time can soften this sorrow
to her.

Soon after Mamma's
death, Papa had his
monument made
just like hers. He had
all the inscriptions
put on it but the date
of his death - It was
a source of great satis-
faction to him, the
rest of his life - that it
was prepared just as
he wanted it done. He
had no fear of death, but
enjoyed life. He had
many times given us
minute directions

about the way he was
to laid to rest. He had
an agreement of years
standing with a preacher
friend, a lifelong
friend, that which
ever one survived the
other, should conduct
the funeral service.
That also was carried
out.

Neither Bro. Jimmie
nor Mamma could come,
Mamma had visited him
in the early spring, when
he knew her + loved to have
her. He went so fast after

5-
his condition grew
serious that she couldn't
have reached him before
unconsciousness came,
& in her nervous state
of health, & strained
finances she thought
best not to come. But,
Jimmy had also visited
him very recently & was
not able to come back.
His health is very bad,
and also Marie's ^(this paper) her
days are numbered, we
are all sure. She has
Bright's disease in a
bad form - has had
convulsions twice from
uremic poison,

Bro Alex + Allie from
Dallas, + two of Manie's
boys were here.

If my home folks
get along all right, + the
Gen. Supt. will excuse me
from further attendance
at the Normal, I shall
stay about two weeks, +
visit Bro. Alex before I
go home, so write me
here.

Your loving friend
Lida.