



Col. Hart Gibson

Versailles

Woodford Co

Ky

New Albany Jan 13-78

Dear Cousin Hart.

I was glad to learn of your safe return home, and feel truly grateful for all the kindness of your letter. Such letters give me strength and hope to work on for my children.

I am confident that Ap's true course is to go to N. York. and am doing all I can to get the money for him. But it is so hard to save from our daily life's expenses. When we earn so little. If I could but get some money from Congress he should go. I know he will gain a stand anywhere, if he only can get me to work and show his ability. And with letters from Lee to those men of note. I am sure of his proving himself worthy.

Dr David Gaudes has behaved
him from work in his office. and
Ap is feeling hard. He is in splendor
health, and is coughing violently
by some of the professions.

It is rarely that a Mother can say
of a son as old as Ap. that in all his
life he has never displeased or distressed
her. a comfort and true help to me
from his very infancy. and I do so
wish him to "have a chance".

Mrs has had another attack
of Malicious fever, and I see that
she and my Beauty must be
out of this climate for some time.
If I could rent a house to shelter
us. with garden. I would go to Ky.
and send Beauty to school at
Georgetown. I hear of a cottage
on the Kirkhead place. owned by a
Mr Slope. as for rent. do you
or Cousin Mary know the place?

I pay \$3.00 for this place. 5 acres -
and would I know. make our food
on the smaller in good land.
for Howard is just such a worker
as Ap, and has really fed us for two
years. I cannot bear to see Mrs
need pure air.

I do hope your affairs are all
working to your wish.

Tell Cousin Mary to please write
when she can. We all rejoice
to hear from her so much.

If she come to your home. do
not forget Ap. and if not. I will
write to him for the letters.

You could tell him what Ap is.
With love to all your dear family

I am truly yours

LSusan P. Vance



New Albany Sept 12th

Dear Louisa Hart.

I have no words to express my grateful sense of the happiness you and Mary have given me, by your kindness to my Mother and my poor sick children. For my Hart is as far from Mele as his little Sister.

He has borne too heavy a burden for some years - and I am thankful that he can forget it, and the sadder future with you all.

I write now confidentially to ask Ma to remain, as long as she will be content. for I am wading in deep waters - and may not be able to retain possession of this shelter - it is little more -

I do not want her here now
for it would harass her to know
my troubles and add to them
for I find from her all I can.

Wart cannot aid me and he
and Beauty are sick from sor-
row and dread of tomorrow.

I can hear all better knowing
they are happy and if I move
to another home - prefer doing it
in their absence.

I feel that you will understand
me and without writing to them
my request - induce Ma to stay
at Ken - for a while.

She can do me no good -
if my work should make it
inconvenient to Ma or you.
I have urged Ma to visit an
uncle but devoted friend of
mine in Woodford in Beckum.

I am trying to arrange so as
to spare Ma the pain of seeing
our little onept away - and may
succeed by the sale of a cow.

But I would break down Wart
if she and Beauty were here.
My poor little one has read
in my face - so much grief
that her life has been one sorrow.

The week she has passed with
you is the brightest she remembers.

I say nothing of this letter.
But I deprecate Ma's return till
after frost.

May God bless you all
Yours gratefully
J. B. Vance



Col. Hart Gibson.

Versailles

Kentucky

New Albany. Sept 9.

Can you or cousin Mary tell me
the school books now used
in teaching French?

I am anxious to teach Beauty. but
am behind the times and have
no text books, and do not know
the names of the right ones.

She could enter the high school
but I am unable to pay her to go
even if she were well enough
and so teach her at home as
I have done.

S P V

Dear Cousin Hart.

To our surprise and relief
Hart appeared in our midst. for we
had supposed him one of the "Lotus
eaters. drifting in a dream-boat upon
a stream of fancies, singing softly
"We will return no more".
Of his whole life. saddened and
full of Sunder as it has been, this
summer and you home will
be the brightest memory.

I would thank you and dear
cousin Mary for your kindness
to my child. if I could. but I can
never cease to feel grateful love
to you both.

Mrs. has been enjoying the
replay of Hart's visit. asking of
each and all, and wishing she
"had been there too."

She has been more unwell than usual, owing in a great measure to the uncertainty and daily increasing difficulty of our situation.

The loss of Hart's place, and the responsibility of my getting more government sewing - has left us all since May - without any income.

and this means upon Ma. fearfully. We accept the situation and struggle on with our garden stuff for food. But she cannot endure as I do - and it hurts me like death to see her suffer for what I cannot get.

Having been without beer except new corn for three months - I wrote Hart to ask you to send her some wheat to make the bran from the likes - and if you have it to spare I know you will add this to her comfort - I and my children have done what we could - but without work we must be without food.

We are hunting everywhere for employment - here or in Louisville. But our efforts are so far vain. I could get a teacher's place but cannot see how I can leave Ma with Beauty and the boys for ten months - for six years I have toiled here - till I am almost incapable of thought - and after all - the future grows darker daily.

Well - we must bear to the end. You and Mary have frightened many days to us all - and I feel like sending a "God Bless you" to both. Hart is willing to leave Mary and I will too, when my heart is free of sorrow and fear.

For the first time in my life I am utterly cast down.

May God Bless you all.

Your cousin
Isaac P. Vance

Not delivered in 10 days. Return
to Mrs S. P. Chase 516 W. Jefferson St
Louisville Ky

LOUISVILLE, KY
NOV 4 3 PM '95

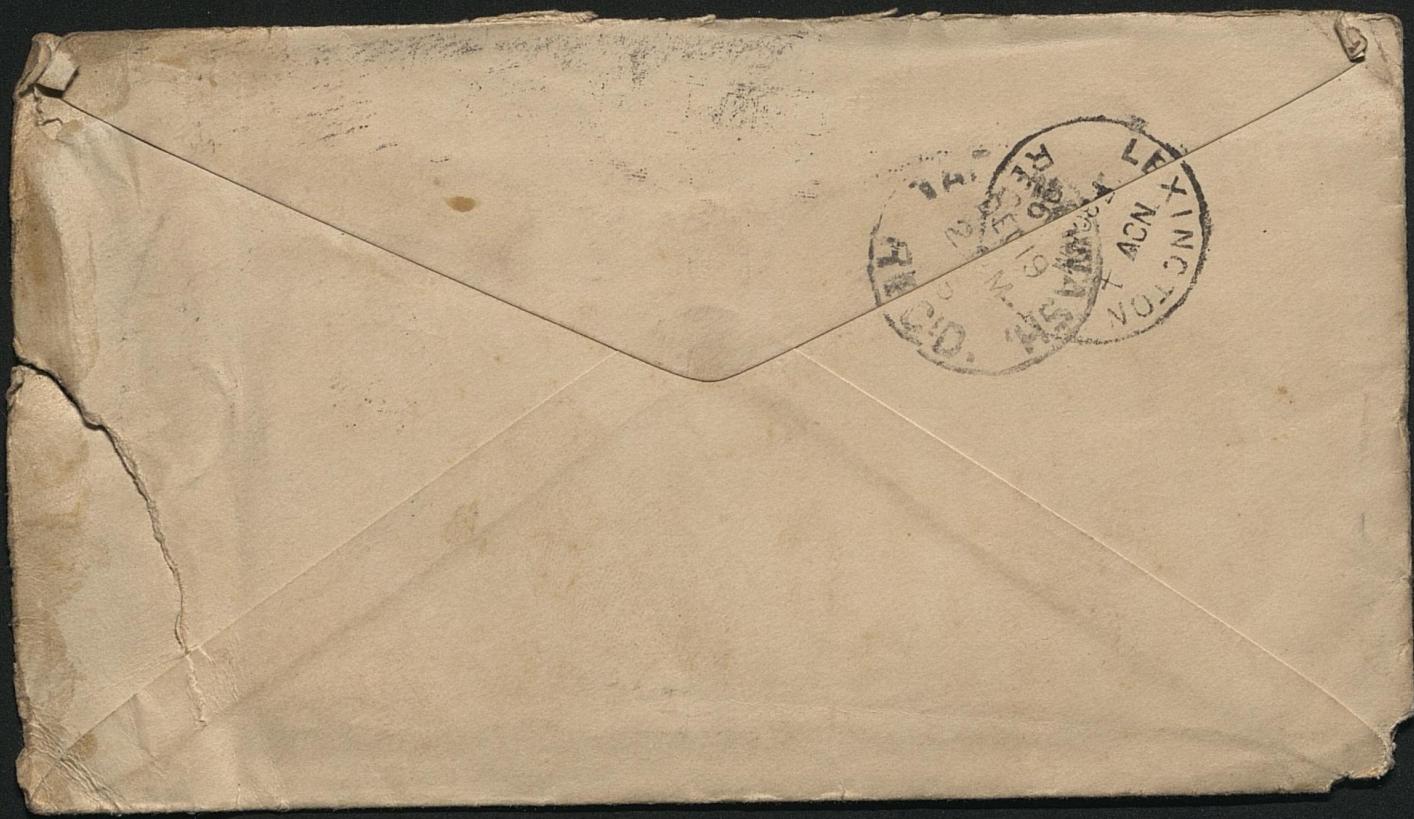


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Col. Hart Gibson

~~Deputy~~

C/O Mr Harrison H. Foster
201 North 2nd Street
Tacoma
Washington



RECEIVED
MAY 10 1864
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Nov 2nd 1896.

Col Hart Gibson

My dear Cousin.

So many years have passed
since we have known of each other, that
I almost doubt if you will know me.
But when I remember your Mother, I cannot
believe that you will forget me. I cannot
I have no strength that to write many
words, for I have long been very ill,
daily fearing with the disease of our
Mothers, and given up to a grief that
can never lessen.

I am bereft of my life's one object and
will welcome my release from sorrow.
But some tasks remain for me in life
and for my Mother's sake. I ask you
if you can aid me by a loan of
fifty dollars, to be paid when a legacy
is realized by the sale of real estate
left by Mrs Quinn.

I need this money very sorely and it
is simply impossible for any of my

children to give it to me.

I can pay it some time - and I hope
you will help me - if you can

I am ill, and too weak to seek
this aid from more distant friends.

With love for you and yours

Your kind woman

Theresa Peyton Vance