

Mr. Floyd Gibson
Has been a very good boy for
the past week.

J. D. Lawrence

Feb. 17, 42.

Columbus March 7th 1846

My dear Blye

I received a letter from Henry a few days since informing me of your situation I am very sorry to hear that you have been so unfortunate and fear that your constitution will suffer greatly however if you will follow the directions which I am about to give you I think you will obtain relief. Fill a bottle with honey and fill it up with old rye whiskey take three sweet spoonfull a day so soon as you discover that you are in a debilitated situation I have never known this remedy to fail and hope that it will prove successful with you.

Mr. Bar writes a letter to Henry a short time since and I forgot to mention that we had viewed his picture and think it a most excellent likeness as well as a fine specimen of painting could we but give it flesh & blood we would have him with us I am a thousand times obliged to the artist for so valuable a gift.

I have a few words to say concerning Rebecca J. J.

Mrs. Blye Dawson

Langston

Hy.

March 7

I think her notion of going to Charlottesville rather
strange and whimsical and would advise her by
all means to take Henry's offer. I cannot conceive
why she has not embraced it before this time unless
it be that her friends prevent her.

Enclosed I send you a precious memento the
Lord's prayer written by Daniel. I send it because I
have not long to remain here, and I know that
you would prize it more highly than any one else.
I hope that he is now enjoying the happiness of those
who surround the Father throne eternally saying his
prayers.

I am very happy to hear that Mr. Scott has
made a profession of religion and hope that he
will walk worthily of his high vocation. Eliza's health
is much better than it was. Rheumatism still
troubles me. I have had quite a severe cold but
have recovered from that. There has been more sickness
than usual in Columbia within the last two
months - quite a number of deaths.

Mr. Bow's family is well with the exception of
himself he has been complaining for several days.

You must write to me as soon as you can. Tell
Henry that I am very much indebted to him for
his last letter. He writes more news than usual.

I am glad to hear that little Polly is fulfilling
an injunction of Scripture "Mulleth" & 7. 7. 8. 8. 8.

Give my love to all my friends. Remember me
especially to Dr. Dick. Fairfield. Mrs. Rathbone requests
me to send her respects to you & Henry. Kiss all your
little children for me. Should I ever get well of the
rheumatism I will visit you. I should be very happy
to see all my old friends there if I should ever be
able to visit you. I shall expect a visit from
you and your family - if your former visit was a gloomy
one I hope the next may be brighter. Tell Henry to
write to me before he goes to New Orleans.

Daniel yours affectionately Mary Dawson

My dear Aunt

I have barely time to write you a few
lines to testify my remembrance of you. I left
Columbia a few days since and am now on a visit
to my friends in Boone. It has been three months
since I was up and you may know that is a long
time for me. Tell Mrs. H. that I receive her
letter for which I am much obliged for my love
to her & all my friends and believe me your
affectionate niece Mary Stanbur

our Father
who art in heaven
hallowed be thy name thy
kingdom come thy will be
done on earth as it is in heaven
give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us ~~our~~ trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass
against us and lead us not
into temptation but deliver us
from evil for thine is the
kingdom and the power and
the glory for ever and
ever Amen
Daniel Dumont

Thursday Feb 7th 1849

My dear cousin

I want to see you very much I have
been sick ever since you I am now getting well
last week was very pleasant the sun shone
every day but Sunday I was very much disappointed
because I wanted to go to church it was very
cold if you were to see Lilly you would not
believe her she has grown so much since you saw
her last she can ask in French for coffee she says
it so sweet. we are all well Mrs Langham is with
us last week we went to see Tom Thumb
answer my letter soon

your affectionate
Hannah M D

myself down⁴ south riding
fishing hunting and going
to school if I were with
you or with pa down
south if he is not gone
he soon will be I would
enjoy myself much more
than I did then. When
I was in Lexington I was
all the time hoping that
^{the day} would soon come when
I would have to come out
here but I am always hoping
now that the day will soon
come when I will have
to go home once more and
enjoy life but I think if
any person comes out here
to enjoy life I think he is

Saturday and Sunday sep 24th & 25th
1854

Dear Sister

I promised to
write to you I believe while
I was at Summers Forest
as soon as I got here but
I have been in such a
hurry and ~~worry~~ and
have to study so hard
that I have not had time
but as it is Saturday
I have a little time to
do it in but you must
excuse my bad writing
for I have just come

2.
from resuscitation therefore
I cannot write well.

Uncle
Sam saw us (the boys) playing
football in the yard and
when we saw him we
put to our rooms except
I and another ^{boy} who went
into another boys room
Uncle come over and come
up in the room that I
was in and sent me
to my room he has
not had me up get
for it or any thing else.
It is as cold here now as
it is in Kentucky in Nov-
-ember we have to wear
winter cloths and have
to have fires.

I went to prayer

3.
meeting last night as
the boys had one in the
academy even the smallest
boys have prayer meetings
in there rooms every body
here nearly is religious
they tried to get Jobe to go
^{to it} but he refused so they
let him alone.

how much
I would like to be at
home to enjoy life we
are now in the dark
but you and Pa and
Mr. H. and Louie are in
the light you do not know
how bad it is to be
a way from home you
do not know how pleas^{ant}
it is to think about home
and think how I enjoyed

Duncan

June 5th 1857

My very dear daughter

Your letter to your father received to day (Saturday) you still request the cloth for the collars, I did not urge Ellen to send it for I thought there were only some four or five weeks before your return & you would have enough to do - as you have made a second request I have hunted it up & send it to you I am distressed to hear that your eyes are so bad, are you as careful as you should be? do not tamper with any thing that may be recommended to you for the eye, it is a very delicate organ & you must be very cautious about the articles you use, I am truly glad that you are coming home with Mr Silsbee so then you can be attended to,

Much love to you & B. in haste your affct Mother

It is rather to be regretted the Sparks' are ^{to} be absent so long, W. will miss them very much - Miss Craig's wedding came off on Tuesday evening, she leaves for the sea side on Monday to sail for Europe, Miss McKean, Miss Harrison, & Miss Bush were brides maids, the number of persons was great, four ministers went in from here, Miss W. could not be persuaded to go - she quite well & cheerful, the thought of you & B's being home so soon is reviving to us all Be careful what horse you ride & know that it is not addicted to no bad tricks, Ellen Matthews came out with your father, they are all at the pond fishing, we are eating strawberry, if you do not get them before you leave you will miss them, we shall have raspberries, My kind regards to Mr & Mrs J. & wish them a pleasant & safe sail over the water, & happy return -

we reach home. - As we shall only
be in each of the cities - a few
days - it will be better for you
to direct all communications to
Leopoldtown. I can imagine
you are very much engaged at
present - preparing for your busy
season. Hart often speaks of sugar
-rotting as being most delightful
I find he is more of a southerner
in his feelings - than I had supposed
I laughed at him to day, for being
ashamed to hail from Kentucky
- and told him - if I were from
Oregon - or the wilds of America
I should not be ashamed of my
own state; he says "he will get
such kinks out of me" - but I have
my doubts as to his success - I
think the "kinks" about this

Boston Oct. 18th 1859

We have at last my dear Father
been able to tear ourselves from
New York - and are at present
stopping at the Keever House -
which we find quite a contrast
to the Fifth Avenue - At one
time this hotel was considered
the best in the United States -
but I regret to say it has degen-
-erated of late. We calculated to
pass a day or two at New Haven -
but in consequence of the fair
held there now, were unable
to procure a room at either
hotel - and were obliged to stay

the only night we spent there -
at an old boarding-house of
Hart's - the land-lady was exceed-
ingly polite and attentive, and
was anxious for us to stay with
her on our return - but we found
part of a day sufficient to see
all that was worth seeing.

We reached here Thursday night
and having friends in the city
my time for letter writing is more
limited than ^{when} in New York.

It always affords me great pleasure
to visit Boston & Cambridge having
been at school in the latter
place - it appears quite like a
home. We dined to day in
Cambridge with Mr & Mrs Jared
Sparks - and called to see Prof-
and Mrs Agassiz - I showed

Hart one of the school rooms and
the seat I had - We think of
leaving this City tomorrow - for
New York - Phil - Baltimore
and Washington, ~~After~~ which
we shall turn our faces home-
wards - Hart is beginning to get
a little home-sick - though properly
speaking - it is only his anxiety
for me to ~~see~~ Louisiana, before
winter sets in - he is looking
better than I ever saw him,
has fattened ten pounds -
great encouragement for him
to prolong his trip - I am
enjoying fine health and
spirits - have had two pleasant
letters from home to day - I hope
I shall have the pleasure of
receiving another from ^{you} when

The son of the Lexington hatter and
one of our old intimates at old
Maricks. I was perfectly thunder-
struck to see him. He left his trunk
baggage & all in Liverpool - took
a small portmanteau and in
~~six weeks~~ started out to make
the tour of the old world. ^{in six weeks} Of
course he would only want to
stay a day in Rome or Florence or
Naples or any other city which would
be interesting to you or me and
to every man who has read Livy
or when Anthon or Smith's editions
"Popo" arch was "scape the gallow"
looking as ever. Fitz was his happy
as lively as I saw him. By the way
I see from a letter from Sister
that Louie has been elected member
into the Church. I doubt very
much if she can read & fully
understand the "constitution" &
by laws of the society. I fear she
is fast going to sink under the good
protection of some of our puritan
friends & relations there in Kentucky

Geneva, Switzerland
Post restorata
Feb. 27th 1861

My dear William

It is getting
on to be five years since I received
a letter from you and just as long
ago since I wrote one to you - ~~well~~
though there is so little real news abroad
in the European World which would
interest you, I am determined to
break the uncalld for silence between
us. There is no reason, as I can see
why it should continue longer.
We received to-day two letters from
America, one from Father and one
from Sister. Everybody seems to be
in dull spirits on account of the
question which is now agitating
the whole country. We on this side do
not know very little of what is
actually going on - we are wholly
at the disposition of newspapers

What they tell us we must believe
or go on conjecture or speculation.
For my part I neither believe or
disbelieve a thing I see or hear, &
only hope the leading men in whom
confidence is placed will do their
duty and save us all from ruin.
I have been fearing all along that
we might be obliged to come home
which would cut us off in the
middle of our work. Cluuder
however is now in Paris on his
way to the United States, and
I suppose you will see him even
before this reaches you. He wanted
to get presents for you all, but
the crisis will prevent his doing so.
I hope my return home will be
under better auspices. But the
bringing of presents from Europe
is become an old story and those
who furnish the means are the
only who have desire foreign
articles either of dress or luxury.
Times are too hard now unless I
fear they will not be altered much

before I shall be called on to say
adieu to this old World. The crisis
is already having its effect on the
business men in Europe. The
merchants begin to look about
themselves for help and bankers
suspect the worst from the best
recommendations.

Kim & I will no
doubt leave Geneva for France
in the month of April or May.
We would have left this month
but found ourselves too deeply involved.
We are no longer in Germany where
one is paid for living with a
family or vice versa is a
necessary expense for board.

But enough
of money matters, you probably
hear enough of it at home without
my giving you instructions or more
particular information from Europe.
Since I have been in Europe I
have only met one single person
whom I knew - viz. Charly Bonhies
whom do you think it was? W. P. Shaw

outrageous villain - so far we have not seen
any honest man connected with the concern -
The present Lord of this section is a Yankee Baptist
and is, of course, a pious, a vascal.
Genl Howard & his associates will doubtless make
immense fortunes of the planters through bribery - then
I suppose a new set will be put in - and thus
keep on changing until countless Yankees have
made fortunes and gone home to preach on the
justice of the system and the barbarity of the planters.

It is now decided by the franchisees that the
Negroes, in addition to their other privileges should
be allowed to vote. They are not governed by the laws
of any state, and have nothing to do with them. They
as to speak are foreigners amongst us and still we
must allow them to take part in making laws
by which concern the weal or woe of the white man
alone. For a reasonable man this seems absurd
but no doubt to a Yankee negrophobe it appears
to be the Will of God. But if the situation be thoroughly
considered, and well pondered, it will be found that
some outside Government of this kind will be
advocable and necessary. Taking the present condition
of affairs in rather of view as an established fact, it
then follows that they must live together in
peace. To accomplish this we must have a

Oak Forest Aug 4th 1865
Dear Father
Your letters of the 15th & 20th last have
both been received. The former from Lexington the latter
from Cincinnati to which place you had gone to meet
Coates. I have but little to add to what I said in
my former letter to you. Our co-operation is of course
unchanged - I have just gotten through the 2^d quarterly
settlement with the negroes, and much to my surprise
I was paid off with more quiet than is usual. owing to
the idleness of the plantations the pay of the negroes
did not come up to what it otherwise would have been,
in fact about \$1100⁰⁰ paid off all the hands over
the three places. If we could get clear of them all
now with a certainty of getting them back in the fall
it would be greatly to our advantage, but the experiment
of discharging them all now, with only a hope of getting
them back is too hazardous to attempt - We therefore
withstand to keep and pay them for the little work they do.
Now that the cotton crop is almost certain planters
are offering from 20 to 30 per month for good hands
so that they may secure their cotton early. This
increase of pay may take off many of ours, and the
money which will be made from the cotton will enable
the planters to keep up the same rates next year.



High Cottage near
Fremont West Chester
County

My Dear Sister,

Oct 11th 1870

Enclose I give as promised a
copy of Anthony Dey & his wife's Complaint.
It is not well copied but I presume you can
decipher it atleast enough to comprehend its
object. Cousin May refused point blank to sign it.
and after solicitation wth Anthony Dey who had signed
it forwarded it but I must before seeing her
write to her that the post requiring Contribution
I give you ^{her} wife Cousin May desired should
be expunged: that neither he or his wife could
consent to take your children's property - "to rob
them" as they say because they are being robbed
by wth May Humphreys.

I believe all parties strange to say - without a
word being said - wth Margaret & wth wth Dey -
none of them claim Contribution from wth
David Humphreys (Cousin Sarah). The omission
to take from the children does not appear to have
been, so made as a matter of course.

The amount of Contribution to be made, I have

His marriage gone - all the money he tried to accept no service
without giving the price & took after it yourself.

Make a bargain with yr lawyer before land is offe - be certain of this -
You will be charged double if you don't. They will take less than they ask.

no means of ascertaining. I presume the amount will depend upon the deficiency in David Humphreys account as Agent executor of his sons estate ^{of the undivided assets.} If much of the evidence offered by Cousin Mary the or it is not admitted - is ruled out - the amount to be contributed will be very large and yr children will be very heavily assessed.

I would advise you to employ a competent lawyer to represent yr children in order that their legal rights may be presented even at this stage of the proceedings.

In selecting yr lawyer I would not be controlled by his reputation for learning and ability and character - but I would select him who is the friend of the Judge and who is what is called an energetic pushing lawyer - close & attentive. And I further advise you to see him often & see the Judge his friends & thus plead yr own case - that is the only way to win.

It's a gloomy day raining. We are all pretty well. & all join in warmest love to you & your children.

Yr ever devoted brother
R. Gibson.

sett only as a friend and agent of Anthony Dey. These Defs will
procure and file his statement & that effect and his release of title to
said Dey; and they claim that the amounts so paid with the
interest thereon must be paid by W^m Humphreys in redemption
of said land before recovering possession thereof and are a
set off against any liability they may be under to her in this
Cause on balance of other accounts between them if indeed
any such liability exist; which they do not admit.

Finally these Defendants aver that under the adjudication
of the Court of Appeals and under the rules of law, they
are entitled to contribution from the other legatees and
devises of D. C. Humphreys according to the value of their
respective legacies & devises to compensate them for so
much of the loss of the devise of Illinois as shall not be
made up out of his undivided estate. And to obtain such
contribution, they make this answer a cross petition against
the Plaintiff and W^m Morgant A Humphreys and her sons
David C Humphreys and Thomas S Humphreys
and against W^m Sarah G Humphreys and her children
Lucy Humphreys, Sallie Humphreys, Annie Humphreys
and Joseph A Humphreys and pray that an account
may be taken of the value of their respective legacies
and devises and contribution adjudged in favor of these cross
petitioners according to law and that they may have

all proper relief.

Signed

Anthony Day
May 14 Day



Death always seems near to me, and perhaps we may all sleep beside sister Belle before long. I am mad at the whole race of widowers, and almost mad enough to hunt one on whom to revenge the wrongs of poor dead women. Perhaps you can sympathize with me, as I hear your father is about to renew his youth like the eagle, and transplant a Virginia rosebud to his Southern home - The rosebud is my part of the story - I only heard he was to be married again, and as he is 70 I take it for granted that the bride is not over seventeen. Poor dear old gentleman - if I had it loved and honored him all my life, I could not help laughing at him - as it is I feel more like crying.

Oct. 16th 1870

My dearest Sarah,
You might write me a letter once in a while, after keeping me in a constant state of disappointed expectation so long - but I am too forlorn and miserable to be proud, so here I am again begging for a crumb of comfort this time. I want to hear some one who loved sister Belle, say that she still is loved, still longed for - not utterly forgotten yet. I have cried and worried myself almost sick over a letter from buddy (it is a mockery to call him that now) saying that he is engaged to be married, and leaving my approbation and consent - of course he won't get either, as he well knew

or he would not have delayed asking for them till everything was settled. I won't tell you what I think of him now, for it is against my principles to abuse any one on paper - but do come once sometime before you go south that I may have the comfort of talking and crying with sister as I do used to say. You can imagine how I feel on the children's account - but I do hope he will keep his word to me and to sister Belle, and never take them from me. I believe that would break the cruised reed. He says "if I marry it need make no difference in our relations personally, or in regard to the children, except so far as such change may be necessitated by you" - which is

the only reference to the children in the letter and which is consoling as far as it applies to them. When he marries, his wife won't want them if she has common sense enough which I am magnanimous to grant, and I have begged him to write me his formal consent to my keeping them. Poor little things - they have a bright prospect - papa is eighty years old, and I a forlorn s. m. deprived now of the only protection we all had to look to in case of our outliving him - But surely my soul is sufficient unto my day and though a miserable sinner I have a faith in our Father in Heaven which a saint might envy me, so I will not turn my head crazy or giddy about our future.

Heartland th ~~mon~~ 21/8/10

Dear Grandma

Papa has begun to teach Buddie and Sister. We received the Postcard yesterday evening and are glad to hear Mary is better. Mrs Russell is to leave the hotel next week. but I cannot tell when she is going - perhaps to see you. Tell Tobias Daniel cat is dead. and when we came down we found Tobias cat shut up in the back passage. I am going to write a letter every day to someone. I have some Morning glorie seed for Mary of all kind. Cousin Sally is still with us. Papa lost the storeroom keys Sunday and they have not found them yet. You must excuse my mistakes for you no I never spell write. Cousin Sally and Sister are makin

I Grand
Bancroft
scake and some pie. I am trying
to write a long letter

Much love to all from your
loving grand child Mittie

Dear brickrigger I want a
letter

Mittie

M



Ligerville
Oak Forest
June 4th 1877
La

Dear Sister Louie,
I received
your letter the 4th inst,
One
of Aunt Sarah's cows, was
killed. Yesterday morning
the cow came up with
the others, and was all
right. But last evening
when she came up her leg
was broken. Mr O'Neill
looked at it. You no he
is a Dr.) and ~~the~~ she had
to be killed, and she had

a right young calf and
this morning they all were
cutting it up. Gowing Joe
found a insect in his leg
Some one had been steal-
ing cattle and, had shot
this one and, I suppose
she tried to run and
fell on her leg.

Tell me
when Preston's Birthday
is, so I can write to him.
I guess it is in this month.
Tell Aunt Lily I say
she must write to me
she owes me a letter. I
suppose the letters were
lost. or you look in
Grandpa's pocket and
you will find some—
"Gowing"

Sue says you and
Mama must write to
her."

Yesterday we had corn
for dinner and and black-
berries. they are very ripe
and sweet.

Aunt Sarah
had 5 or 6 strawberries
and that is all she
has had this year. I

would like to be
with you eating some.
Aunt Sarah says she
is going to put me up
a nice piece for when
we get home. write
will be in a very
long time I think
Oh by the way I

heard something so nice
about your ~~own~~
self. I don't think I
will tell you. You
would not tell me
more. But as it is
I bet it is a bad one
and one you made
your ~~self~~ to. Well I'll
leave I will tell you.

I was not in the room
not very near it but
I heard. Well I will
speak to Uncle Jim
Gibson that you were good
my to be a perfect Centurion
it is the truth if I never
told it in my life.

I hope
I have said a mye Billy
Sends much love to all
good by from with



Miss Louisa B. H. Gibbons



Care of J. D. [unclear] [unclear]

Forest
June 2nd

~~Dear Mr. [unclear]~~
~~I received your~~
~~letter of the 28th~~
~~and am very glad~~
~~to hear that you~~
~~are well and happy~~
~~and hope you will~~
~~continue to improve~~
~~and prosper in every~~
~~way.~~
~~I have not yet had~~
~~time to write you~~
~~with the lessons and~~
~~go on waiting for~~
~~the next time I send~~
~~you a letter. I send~~
~~you my love and~~
~~affection and hope~~
~~you will receive it~~
~~and be happy.~~
~~I am your affectionate~~
~~son,~~
~~[unclear]~~

The bank and I don't
think you would
like to visit me
in the bank -
I have been from an
old house here
I received some
letters to day from
Mamma and a few
of notes for a while
but she has a hair

W. R. VILLE
MAY
LA.

W. R. VILLE
MAY 2
LA.

Mr. James Wilson
Springton
C. D. Sumner & Co.



You must excuse my
writing and spelling
for I know it is awful
but I mean to
better some time.

Tobias sends much
love to ~~all~~

good by from your
dear Grandmother
Mittie G

Cal. 1877 - April 30
1877

Dear Grandma

As you
are not able to write
to Tobias or myself I will
write my way.
I went to Mamma and
Sister yesterday -
we all thought we
would go to Sunday School
but did not go.
and for got all about
it.

Yesterday Cousin Joe made
a sponge cake for dinner
it was very nice.
Tobias does not like to

Wear his sunbonnet and in them -
He is very much fucked Why dont Preston write
and sunbonnet. I see ^{Mamma} had
I have a few more since ~~you~~ ^{you} Dannie name
I left. What track they do
I think Laddie ort to put in the papers
write first. who wrote that piece
Sister thinks I ort to in the paper about
write first. Miss Beck it was all
the morning or right a story.
cold. I dont know what
I have taken all of would make her good
my flannel off. lookin.
Aunt Sarah has just went Dr. Gaster's Baby sick
gone to town. I did she gets all Aunt Louie
not have this letter ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ Greenwood.
redie. I hope to be at home
You please send me soon. I have blues to
the pass every week. say.
Aunt Lily ^{miss} Biddy says say any thing
wear his ~~sun~~ ^{sun} bonnet about what I have
stoppage every day. in my letters.
his boots make holes