



The Delwey Hotel,
Fourteenth and L Sts.

M. O. BROWN, } MGR'S.
W. W. BROWN, }

Washington, D. C.

April 3

1903

My dear Sonny -

We are now
making our last preparations
for our journey to Atlantic
City - Tom & Anne is strapping his
trunks and mine is all ready -
for the Porter to take down stairs -
We have had a very nice time
in Washington - and have met some
very nice people here - I
suppose Louisville is looking
fine now with its broad
streets - shaded trees - grassy
lawns & flower beds - but of
course here there is the
addition of the magnificent
public buildings -

I hope your interest in
the Sunday School has not abated
I look back upon my life in
the Sunday School in the old

Fourth and Walnut St - Sunday School
as one of the best and pleasantest
I ever had any where - You will
form very helpful associations -
besides the fact that there is no
finer field for Christian work
and advancement in your own part -
in Christian character than your
Sunday School - So I hope you
will cling to it - and not let go
for any other thing - Even if you
do feel a little tired Sunday morn-
ing and too lazy to get up in
time - Shake it off and go and
you will feel much better both
in spirit as well as in body for the
effort - You must let us know all
about your new suit - your father
sent you another check so that you can
have your money - he said you must
get your a hat & an Alpaca or Pongee
jacket - to wear for cool - With much love
from Mother
Frances G. Goodhue

Miss Cox or something like that it sounded. She said that she met you in Washington. She seemed like quite a sweet girl. I just saw her for a minute but promised to call on her before she leaves.

I had a very nice time at Ruth's. It was a cloudy day and when we arrived and had been raining. There were several girls in fact a trolley car full of them on the 11:05 train from Pokop. Edward, the brother younger than Henry met us at the station and carried our suit cases over. He is studying English & other things at Columbia. When we reached the house we found it full of girls about 12 of them who were sundaying with Edith, Ruth and I. Came in for some delicious chicken

& father's letter. Home safely to 444 Clinton and I enjoyed it very much.



My dearest Mother -

Well - here I am back safely at college once more - and it is very nice to be here too. This morning directly after breakfast Georgia, Ruth & I went out to pick flowers & we each got a large bunch of purple violets and dog tooth violets or adder's tongue - they are beautiful. Then we came home & prepared for church. We had a very good sermon on the text 'Be thou kind to one another'. After church as I was coming over to train I met Miss McLaughlin's friend

salad with nuts in it and some tomatoes. We had some the next day for luncheon too. We went down and met all the people. Some of them were quite attractive. That night Edith suggested to Henry that it would be nice for us to go to hear Oransfield in Beau Brummel. So we finally started off. We sat quite far back in the house but we could hear and see pretty very well. It was at the Oransfield. We walked home and as it was foggy all of the curl disappeared from my golden locks. As I had just shampooed I you can imagine how I must have looked.

The next day Edith and I took an early luncheon and went up to Columbia to meet Edward who took us around some of the buildings and then we went up to the Bronx where we wandered around for about two hours or more looking at the animals. We rode on the elephant up there and climbed up on the rocking rocks. We arrived home at about 6.30 had dinner and that evening the pastor of the Ingalianis church came to call.

The next day Edith and I went shopping and I couldn't find any shoes that I liked at Peersen's so I am going to send one of my old shoes down to Alexander's

on the Tram and also some
more up on the Trolley car
which looked as if they had
been especially imported for
founders. Every one seems
to have enjoyed the dance
very much but it rained yester-
day and spoiled the boat rides.

My penicillin is nearly well
of the measles and will be
out to-morrow or next day.

I think that it would be
very nice to go down to Point
Pleasant for a while this
summer. It will be as nice if
not nicer than Kent in some
respects.



and ask them to send me a pair,
or perhaps two - one patent leather
& one plain leather. I bought
6 pairs of stockings for 2 dollars &
some books for English. Ruth took
me around to call upon her
grandmother who is a lovely old
lady. Rich of Andrews her husband
is out in Louisville now.

That afternoon about 4.30
Dixie took us to the Trolley &
we started back here and arrived
safely. There were also several
other College girls on the Tram.
We saw some youths getting

Ruth and I are going over to take
some flowers to my Auntie
picked this morning - so I will
stop writing.

Very lovingly -

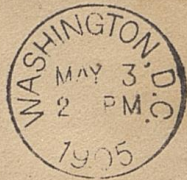
Your daughter
Grace -

P. S.

I used nearly all of my money -



The Dewey Hotel,
Washington, D. C.



Mr G. E. Goodruff
933 Second Street
Louisville
Kentucky

C of
Miss Clarke

LOUISVILLE, KY.
MAY 4
1230 PM
18 5

after he was married, so you
see there is some chance
for you to become quite
well off still -

Emma Rees came up
Friday to Elizabeth Williams
too - Emma is to be married
on the 25th and she wants
me to come down to her wed-
ding. Ruth has asked me
how over Saunders looked
I doubt whether Mattie will
think I ought to go both
places -

Last night the college or
most of it assembled over
by Rockefeller and we sang

[1905]



My dearest Brother -

It has been a
while well since I wrote to you
and quite a good deal has
happened since then for I am
back in college now. Mattie &
Father forwarded your letter to
me from Washington and then
I sent it back to them. I am
glad that you have had a
raise and I think that it is a
good idea to save as much as
you can. Ruth said that it
took Father about five years
to save a hundred dollars

and marched over to chapel it was
fun. I think that we are to do
it every Saturday night. The Seniors
& Juniors are going to begin to sing
every night on the steps. The seniors
sing on the Rockefeller steps and
the Juniors on Strong Hall steps and
the Sophomores stand & listen to ^{the Seniors} them
sing and then join hands and skip
along on each side of the Seniors
while they march over to main -
It is pretty in the spring to watch
them do it.

When I came from Wash-
ington I stopped over in N. Y. for about
two hours & went to see Helen
McLaren - She wants us to come
down to Port Pleasant this sum-
mer - for she knows the people there
and we could have a good time
sailing - swimming etc. I don't
believe that there is mud tennis
tho' there may be. Helen asked
about you.

We are going Washington
afternoon, about six of us so I will
stop here as I have some other letters
to write -

your loving sister,
Gae -

April 9 - '05

POUGHKEEPSIE
APR 10
1045AM
1905
N.Y.



Mr. Geo. Ezra Woodruff
933 Second Ave -
Louisville
Ky.

LOUISVILLE
A. R. 11
3:30 PM
1905

Mother and Gracie have gone
out among the stores, as this is the
last day; for Gracie returns to-morrow
I suppose by the time you receive
this, The President will have
visited L, and gone on his way
to Texas where he will hunt for
a month. After Gracie goes
we shall ~~went~~ ^{go} our way to A.C.
and stay for several weeks. Of
course we will notify you of the
change. We are glad to hear that
you are well. The old town is very charming
in the early Spring, I used to think, but
the smoke was not so bad then. With our best
love I am. Your loving father
Ezra Woodruff

Dewey Cott
Wash. D.C., April 3^d 05

My dearest son, we have had a
fine week for Gracie's visit and
we went all around the town
as well as the suburbs. I am afraid
it was just too strenuous for
Gracie but I know she will enjoy
the remembrance, when she returns
to the Simple Life at Vassar.
We went to church yesterday
morning to hear Mr. Greene
preach, but he introduced as

the speaker a lay missionary named Buckman, I think who gave a very interesting talk on China. From what he says the "Yellow Peril" is assuming shape; that the Chinese are awakening out of their long hibernation and rubbing their eyes, and asking questions of the missionaries, not especially that they may become Christians but that they may learn the source of the great power of the "foreign devils", so that they can also become strong. He thought

the awakening might favorably influence the million literati who really control China. These are the learned men who really constitute the great body of Chinese officials, and are the moulders of public opinion, and if they should become converted they could convert the hosts of the masses who follow their lead in all things pertaining to religion. You may live to see the renaissance of new China, and then heaven help the Western nations who have robbed and plundered her territory.

WASHINGTON, D. C.
APR 3
4-PM
1905



Mr George E Woodruff
933. 2nd St.
Louisville,
Kentucky

LOUISVILLE KY
APR 4
8³⁰PM
1905



The DeWey Hotel,
Fourteenth and L Sts.

M. O. BROWN, }
W. W. BROWN, } MGR'S.

Washington, D. C.

April 6 1906

My dear Sonny -

Our dear Grace
has left us - she went on Tuesday
the 4th and I have just had
a letter from her - saying she
had arrived safely and I
trust she will keep well and
be able to get through her
conditions and exams - for this
year - I think College life
is taking the conceit out of her
she was awfully disappointed
because she was not chosen for
the Daisy Chain - but I think she
will survive it - and if she
only does her work well she
will be too much occupied to
worry about anything of that
kind -

We are truly glad of your
"X" rays - as Carnegie facetiously
called "his first ten dollar

increase in salary when he first began his working career in the rail road office or yards, and I believe he began on less than you did -

Did you hear about Mrs. Noxam's husband deserting her - he went out-west some where - and found some bonanza or other and if I remember the story correctly - married another woman but as I have forgotten the details - I will not or can not say anything more - I suppose Katie's del. tree is a hell in Louisville - as she was so represented at Ft. Hamilton - to be -

Did you enjoy the reception given by your S. School teacher and what is his name? and did you meet any other nice people there?

We are still at the Levee but do not expect to remain here very



The Delney Hotel,
Fourteenth and L Sts.

M. O. BROWN, } MGR'S.
W. W. BROWN, }

L

Washington, D. C. 190

much longer - Your father is
very anxious to go to Annapolis
to see the Naval Academy before
he leaves Washington -

John Reilly is preparing for
the navy - as an alternate he
has a chance -

I saw Mrs Reilly - she said
Harry did not enjoy West Point
life and was glad to get out
of it - he is now in the Philippines
at Camp Wallace near Manila
in the Second Cavalry - Mrs R.
still lives in the same place in
Washington - and likes it very much
here - Margie & Hester are at At-
lantic City - where their Chicago Aunt
& Uncle took them for a visit - as I
have not seen them - Mrs Reilly
called on me and asked your father & me

to come to see her some evening -

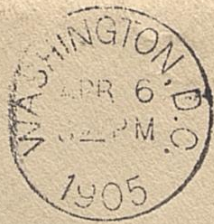
Washington is looking quite well now - there has been a very hard rain storm which has washed every thing on the street nice & clean

Did you see Roosevelt ^{while he was} in Leavittville - It must be very lovely in Louisville now and will be for the next month or two I suppose - Louisville has been compared to a large Park filled with residences and I think it a very apt comparison -

We will write and let you know when we are ready to leave Washington -

With much love and my very best wishes & prayers
Your devoted

Mother
Frances G Goodriff



Mr Leo C. Froehner
933 Second Street
Louisville
Kentucky

Cof.
Miss Clarke

LOUISVILLE, KY
APR 7
1 30 PM
1905

You have chosen your occupation
breeze to it. Think of it awake, and
dream of when asleep. Learn it from
bottom to top. Every bill you make out
make it out as if it was for the
President. Let it be the best you can do.
If you are wrapping up a box of Paul
do it neatly as possible; if you are
packing a box, pack it so that it could
go around the world without its contents
getting injured; if you are marking a box
learn to mark it so that it can be read
plainly, and so on through the whole list.
Whatever you have findeth to do, do it with
all your might. You know or should
learn, and I know from experience and
reading that often success attends or is conditional
upon the ~~smallest~~ ^{smallest} item of conduct, and if
you do not find success at once, you are
on the road he travels. Eternal vigilance

Devey Hotel.
Wash. D.C. April 13th/05.

My dearest son, your letter came
yesterday a little sooner than
usual and was very welcome
to us. I am glad that you write
us how you feel about things for
then we are able to sympathize
with you and are able to try
to aid you intelligently. I try in
all my letters to throw in a word
of encouragement so that you
may not feel that you are alone,
for you have our love and affection
always and nothing that worries
you, but makes us feel for you

and we suffer when you feel
badly. We are a regular barometer
for when the wave of depression
is over Louisville, the air in it
shows it. Of course we being older
see things differently from ^{what a} sanguine
youth views them, and I hope that
long before you reach our age you
will learn much philosophy which
will enable you to be like Mark
Tapley, one of Dickens Characters in
Martin Chuzzlewit. Mark was a fine
young fellow with ^{the} most bright
and cheerful disposition, and of course
he made many friends. He was only
a hostler or man of all work at
a country inn, but as I said he was
a great favorite. His landlady fell in
love with Mark and ^{if he married her} she would have

have become very prosperous and
even rich for that region, but it
seemed too easy for Mark. He could get
no credit for being jolly under such
prosperity. He was constantly wishing
to meet serious trouble so that he
could come out strong and show how
jolly and happy he could be under
the most adverse circumstances. In
the course of the story he emigrates to
America and when he and his employer
are about starving and when moreover
they are both down with fever in
their shack, at Leais Illinois, he is
still able to grin and write one word
on a piece of paper to his boys, and
this word was jolly! One might choose
a worse example than Mark, ~~for~~ to
follow. As the old preacher said at
Chautauque, "Count your blessings."

good spirits when you are tired
and feeling badly. One of Grace's friends
gave her a little motto, "Cheer up!"
and I pass it on. Another motto "Pluck
wins. Imitate Mark Tapley and be
jolly under all circumstances.
Patientia et perseverantia. Labor
omnia vincit

I think I had better stop or you will
not finish reading my lengthy scrawl.
Hurry up and order a nice Easter
suit - a real nice one and send the
bill to mother. I think you will feel O.K.
with a new suit.

We are enjoying ourselves nicely, the town
looks beautiful, - flowers and leaves everywhere
and our hearts rejoice that we have a son
who is doing the best he can. May our
Heavenly Father keep you, may you grow
in grace and in the fear of the Lord, and
may his word be a lamp unto your feet.

Your loving father
Cyrus Woodruff

2
may enable you to espy him
when you least think it, and oh!
when you catch on to the skirts
of happy chance, never let go.
Like Jacob when he wrestled with
the angel of the Lord, never let go
and you will win out with the blessing.
Old Jacob was certainly patient as
well as foxy. He served seven years
for Rachel and when Leah was
palm'd off on him, he quietly served
seven more for Rachel. And when
his father in law gave him only certain
colored cattle as his share, Jacob took
special care that the cattle should
breed only his colors. He was very cunning
was Jacob, and paid Laban off for
cheating him in the matter of Rachel
very nicely

One homely adage says:
Don't cry over spilled milk.
Never waste time looking backwards.
I can tell you right now that your
friends, Riley, Honeycutt and Audler
will be Lieutenants serving in the Philippines
or some other hole ~~for~~ ^{for} the next 20
years, and that's no joke. ^{Conrad} Ennis told
me last fall if he could see anything
^{like} he would gladly leave the Army.
Stam's father was a Lieut for 25
years before he got his Company.
So was Honeycutt's, so was Malcolms.
There have been 3000 or more new
appointments of 2^d Lieuts since 1897.
Of course the first appointees got their
captaincies, what will become of the
ruck of the last half and the ones
now appointed. There is nothing in
sight for them for many years.

Of course one can say there
may be a war, and suppose there
is, if it makes promotion, somebody
must be killed and crippled and the
newest man may be the one
before he has been in the service
a year. I hope and believe
that you will be able to
call on those boys in Manila
in your private yacht, while
they are still Lieutenants.
I write thus not that you
do not see the greatness of
your present opportunity
or are not aware of your
privileges, but because I know
that you lose a little of your

I sent you a couple of
Geographical Maps. After looking
over them give them to Cousin
Carrie. I think she ^{and Attala} would like
to see them.

Father



The Delney Hotel,
Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, D. C.
APR 13
9³⁰ PM
1905



Mr George E. Woodruff
933. 2⁵ Street
Louisville
Kentucky

LOUISVILLE, KY.
APR 14
9 - PM
1905



The Delney Hotel,
Fourteenth and L Sts.

M. O. BROWN, MGR'S.
W. W. BROWN, MGR'S.

Washington, D. C.

April 15 1905

My dearest son, I shall take a walk about the town this morning probably to the Smithsonian institution and before I go will mail you the March copy of the Geographical Mag. I think you will enjoy looking at the pictures and afterwards you can give them to Cousin Camie and Attie. Mother has gone down town to get something for Grace.

We think of going to A.C. soon after Easter. Really if it were not for the very warm weather this town is about as good a place to spend the time in, as any. There are so many conventions and gatherings that the place is almost always crowded and by such different crowds too. The R.R. men are building sheds for an exhibition of appliances and the D.A.R.'s and the Congress of

of women and many others
come and go but the town goes
on forever.

When I was writing you my experiences
as a boy factotum in Mr Buckley's
book store at 103, 4th St. I told
you how often I tried to better
myself; and my reason was that I knew
well enough that I could never do anything
with him. He was agent of Sunday School
Society, the Am Trade Soc, the Am Bible Soc.
and got a salary himself and of course
cut my wages down all he could to make
a showing of economy for his employers.
At last when I was 16. I quietly quit,
and took my last months wages to pay for
a quarters schooling with a Mr Spencer.
But I soon found that I could not afford
to be without work, so I began work at the
Journal office, then edited by Mr Geo Drentier
a great man; I worked at night and went
to school in day time, for several years.
With our best love for our dearest boy
I am your loving father. Ezra Woodruff



The Delney Hotel,
Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, D. C.
APR 15
2 - P.M.
1905



Mr George E. Woodruff
933 2nd St.
Louisville
Kentucky

LOUISVILLE
APR 16
3 30 PM
1805

who have been building for hundreds
of years, but give us time and we shall
soon surpass them.

We hope you are paying attention
to your health. Do not neglect your
set up. I remember that I acquired a
good carriage by my own determination when
I was 15, and you have had line upon
line and precept upon precept. Don't
grow stoop shouldered. Keep your head up
and your eyes to the front. You can do it
if you keep trying. Try, try again, and always try.
You are doing nobly and the world is
behind your feet, but of course you cannot
climb in an auto. Climbing is the only way
step by step.

Your mother is sitting near and reading
the paper. She will write to-morrow.
With our best love and prayers, I am
Your loving father, E. Woodruff

[1905]

April 16th
Severy Hot. Wash. D.C.

My dearest son, although I have
nothing especial to say I think
I will drop you a word to let you
know we are well and still
in Wash., where we will probably
remain until after Easter, as
the A.C. Hotels have their prices so
highly elevated that we will be
just as well off here. The weather
has been good and overcoats are
things to be discarded.

You remember the plan for the
beautification of Washington which

was on exhibition when you were here 3 years ago. The President is determined that the new buildings shall all conform to that plan and there are three new ones going up now. The Agricultural building; the new Museum and the new municipal offices. They do not build very high here on account of a harmonious sky line, so they take lots of ground space. The Museum is 600 feet front and the Agricultural is 750 feet long. You see at that gate the space South of Pennsylvania Avenue will soon be covered. There are also two office buildings for

the Senate and Ho. Representatives getting started near the Capitol ^{each of} and these occupy a whole block when there is the new Union R.R. Station, an immense undertaking which will revolutionize the city R.R. Depots. But when you consider the great sewage system and the filtration plant now being completed you will see that this is bound to be a great city indeed, - when it is ~~finished~~ ornamented by scores of great buildings and has good water and drainage. Everything is so new in the U.S. that we cannot compare with older countries

WASHINGTON, D. C.
APR 11
3:30 P.M.
1905



Mr George E. Woodruff


933 25th

Louisville
Kentucky

LOUISVILLE, KY
APR 12
9 30 PM
15-25

John Sheens, who succeeded to the firm, upon the death of Mr. Healbert, in a few years. John was a fine fellow and took in both his brothers, Joe and Charley Sheens and they are all rich now. Of course John was worthy of his opportunity. It may have been my fault but certainly I tried, but my opportunity never came in those days. You need not mention my little recollections to any one. They are only meant for your instruction, - that you may learn from my failures to have wisdom to know your opportunity and use it, when it comes.

Dewey Hotel Wash DC
April 8th 1905

My dearest son, your letter came and it gave us much pleasure to hear that you had had a raise.  You know they talk about it being necessary for a boy to enter business at 14 or 15 in order to learn all the details of the concern from the bottom, and in consequence very few of that class ever know anything about the top, because their minds are crystallized about the details and cannot grasp the larger things of

of business, so you are not a moment too old. You can learn all the smaller points in a very short time and then with a university training you can understand the great laws of supply and demand much better than one could understand the subject without a training.

I remember very well that I began business at the bottom with a wage of \$1.50 per week. 45 per year. I worked for the same man for six years and at the end of that time I was only getting \$4 per week. Of course I was furious

and made many efforts to change for the better; but it was the old story, a boy without friends. I always found when I tried to get a place in a larger business where I would have more opportunity that the place had just been given to someone else or that there was no opening just then &c &c. My excuse was good enough on their part. I recall that I once asked a wholesale grocer to give me a job and he told me that he had just given a place to a schoolmate of mine. This schoolmate was

Mother has gone out to some store to look at the new goods.

The town is looking pretty the tulips pansies, hyacinths are all out. the crocuses are about gone. I suppose you have about the same season in L.

We are quite well and I enjoy our advantages very much. It is the most expensive living we have tried and will soon hunt up a less expensive home.

We join in sending you our best love. May our Heavenly father guard and guide you and I am as ever your loving father
E. A. B. D. D. D.

It may take you years² to get your start but you are on the right road. Learn to run and not be weary. Do not grow faint hearted at the long weary road. Run it few step by step. I remember when I have been marching for hours and was growing very tired, on looking ahead at the white dusty turnpike as it wound up one long hill and on reaching the top only to find that it then went down a long stretch into the valley and up another hill. I frequently felt that it would go on forever, but as the

hours passed monotonously, the
welcome order of halt came and
in camp one got rested for the
next ~~morning~~ ~~day~~. So grit your
teeth and throw your whole soul
into your daily tasks knowing
that rest and reward are at the
end of the days work.

"Granliden"

Lake Sunapee

We went out to Annapolis
yesterday. It is a quaint old place
with several picturesque ancient
houses. Charles Carroll who signed the
1897-1905
Act of Independence, lived there. They are
building a new statehouse as it is the
Capital of Maryland and there is a
St Johns College also. Then the Govt
is spending a million in improving

the naval school. Annapolis is
about 40 miles East of Washington.

We had a letter from Grace
this morning. She is well and happy
among the throng of Vassar girls. She
seems to have the power of making
friends, although she cannot become
acquainted with a thousand girls.

We called on Mrs Reilly one evening.
The girls were at Atlantic City and
New Hampshire
As we did not see them, Johnny is
going to school and is growing tall
He army is in the Philippines.

We saw Maj Webster and his daughter
Frances who is now 15. She is quite
petite and rather pretty.

WASHINGTON, D.C.
APR 8
4-PM.
1905



Mr George E Woodruff
933. 2^d St

Louisville
Kentucky

LOUISVILLE, KY
APR 9
9-PM
5

becomes the mighty monarch of the forest - although it may bear the scars and marks of many storms and winter frosts - it has attained its full stature -

After you have saved up a few hundred dollars or perhaps a thousand - you might ask your Uncle George or Mill about the best way to invest it and they may give you an idea of something better than a Savings Bank

Do not forget to let me know how much your Spring Suit costs as I want to send you a check for the amount for an Easter present - also include your hat. The best.

Remember your faithful services will surely be recognized - sooner or later do this of good courage - God will strengthen their hearts. Love loving Mother
Frances

[April 11, 1905]

"The Dewey Hotel,"
Washington - D. C.

My dear Samy -

Here we are still in Washington - where we have decided to stay until after Easter.

We have been corresponding with several hotels in Atlantic City - the Glasgow among the others and find that most of them are filled up for the Easter period and your Father thinks it wise to remain here until after the Easter holidays as we are comfortably fixed and April is a beautiful month in Washington -
You must not be

discouraged - but cultivate
a spirit of hopefulness and
cheerfulness - and they remember
the old but true saying,

"Perseverentia omnia vincit"

You are now undergoing an
apprentice's ship - which after
your freedom and joyous
College life - seems hard
but it will not always be so
other avenues will open up
to you - if you are faithful
in your work and true to
yourself - Honor and ^{work} will
count - and do count in business
if any thing - more than in any other
avocation of life -
Every honest effort goes toward

building up character - While
growth in good principles
form what is called rep-
utation - You will find,
that character and reputation
always tell - and are the only
sound foundation of happiness
as well as success -

So try and be content - and
do not hasten - to be rich -
but cheerfully jog along, content
with doing your duty to the best
of your ability - and hope +
pray for better things

Some development does not
spring up like a mushroom -
but rather take the oak tree
for an example - how very slowly
it expands + grows and after many
years of quiet steady growth - it



The Delney Hotel,
Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, D. C.
APR 12
4-PM
1905



Mr Geo E. Goodruff
933 Second Street -
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Kentucky -

LOUISVILLE, KY
APR 13
8 30 PM
1805