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About the Institute

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

to get the fast-
 average (30 cts. m. o. per
 had) will try
 to rent 6 or
 8 cows and
 buy 4-6
 Latham ploughs
 and a horse
 with portable
 engine. I'll
 get that put
 up, my first
 at best baby
 some chest
 of fresh corn,
 well to be taken
 when they
 arrive.
 Please
 ask father to
 get a new
 coat for me
 he is a poor
 fellow.

Dear Mother;

I am tired tonight
 from my prospecting trip.
 just finished, but will
 write that you may not
 be disappointed about my
 letter. Mr. C. stayed
 away a week. Yesterday
 I reached Mr. on the train
 about 10 a.m., having made
 arrangements with Mr. C. for
 above yesterday and part of today.

With a living dog cart
 and ^{good} horse, I left Montic
 about 11 a.m. to look at
 the piney woods country
 on the R.R. 7-10 miles
 north of city. It is a
 fine country to live in,

would be just the place for
a fruit culturist or horticulturist.
The entire range is
open or free, but the
grasses are much inferior
to our prairie forage crops.
Lepidoptera there is however
good, water excellent and
abundant.

I should like to live
there if I owned a farm,
but the character of soil
and crops is such as to offer
no prospect for a farmer
paying for itself soon.

Fruit would require too
long, and while cotton
does well there, it must
always be a secondary consid-
eration with me. The whole
country is thickly settled
with white people. A part of it is

used as a health resort.

I looked over the country
and met a number of its
citizens. Lands are higher
than I expected to find sandy
land, - because of the thick-
ness of population. I sup-
pose it is a country too
healthy for a D. n. one has
just sold, or about to sell,
to move to B. - I did not
think of it in time to find
out. There is one thing
about it, - if father
should ever get to a white
country on the R.R. like this
the boys if disposed could
do manual work in
strawberry fruit or melon
growing and not be
unlike their neighbors.

I mean to come to

to be for sale. With love to all
from off on. Fred.

manual labor as soon as I
start for myself, viz, very
soon. I have about put that
country out of my mind as
an immediate consideration
but intend to visit it again
when grasses are at their
best.

I spent part of today
Sunday in Monty. and in
the country near, 2 miles
away. Am negotiating
for ~~pasture~~ ^{pasture} about 1 mile
of city which if I secure
will give me an opportunity to
sell buttermilk and as soon
as I can get a line of custom-
ers to sell sweet milk, - 10¢
pr. qt. is the prevailing price
here. Wild onion is the chief
objection to pasturage near the
city. Am trying to make such
arrangements as will allow me

I cannot see the probability
of it, when I see the probability
is what would be
do with his cows; sell
them, perhaps at a great
sacrifice - he has
better stick to a
Professorship of his
cows get it, I think.
How goes out all
ideas of seeing Mr
C's place, find things
too uncertain,
wrote him to get
out, but to be drawn
for every thing. I
am having turkeys
watched today & a
lot of cock snails
I expect a step
look after it. There
are turkeys waiting
to sell, have only 10
eggs. I think some
are laying but I
don't expect a
step up.
1890
the eggs, the
litter came Sunday morning,
Lennie likes to go for the wind before I do, & generally does, (though
can't go often now that they do all the feeding, & enjoy a
Sunday ride). Yesterday we had the heaviest rain I ever
saw, the front lot was a sheet of water, the hard wind
yesterday evening & today has dried off the surface, it is thunder-
ing at a great rate now, dark clouds have hung around
all day but in spite of wind & clouds the old Captain drove up
this evening to see your Father instead of sending for him, he
looks dreadfully, I don't think he will last much longer, never
saw any one fail so fast. We drove down there Sunday evening,
Minnie & Lennie had a parlor full of beams as we were
asked into the Captain's room, found Mrs Wick Hatch, Mrs
Harwell, Mr & Mrs Jimminy Komegory & their two little girls
there. Mrs Ben Hatch looks badly but Minnie looks very well
has just returned from Mobile. Lennie & your Father are reading
Latin in my ears & I feel as if I had no sense -
I think the Legislature showed very little regard for Gen
Lee, not to make an appropriation to rebuild his house. I
think it would serve them right for him to leave but I
expect it would injure the College very much. I have heard

boys have nothing
to help me. I
have a hand
takes off the
morning to
so good bye,
with much
love
Your devoted
Mother.

nothing from Reuben, hardly think he succeeded in getting
the place, I will enclose Fred's letter that you may see what
he expects to do, if he goes on his own hook I intend to let
him have my little cow & your Father has promised him
Hoplette, that is, he is to milk them, we do not give them
to him, we find it is hard to get 6 cows milked nothing
ought to be, it worries me terribly. I am selling a good deal
of butter 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs last week, it is beautiful too. It is eight
o'clock, Capt has sent up for your Father, out of 7 nights he
spent 2 at home when the Davies children were so sick.
Friday night Mrs Woody Davies & myself sent up with little
Willie it was the last night he needed any one, is much better
now. The baby was buried on Thursday, had congestion of the
lungs, there is a little girl still sick. Wednesday morning - Sent
here the boys were sleepy & went to bed so I put up & followed
their example. About 9 o'clock a terrible thunder storm & rain
commenced & we had a succession of storms until 8 o'clock
this morning, there was a short interval about 12 o'clock &
your Father came home, I never have heard it rain harder
and sure 6 inches of water must have fallen, expect the
creek as a sight several gentlemen have gone that way to
see it I expect, as the boys did not go to school they went
down too. I have another letter from Fred this morning, no definite

March 15th 1887.

My dear Lou

I have squeezed through hedges & run up & down ditch banks looking for turkey nests until I am very tired but want to write to you this evening. I kept the turkeys up & attempted to follow them when turned out, they woundered off as far as the line of hedges that is between the Wheeler place & Mrs Browder as you may know it was a chase we have 3 nests down that way & 2 near the house have 25 eggs, Ruben has been watching them but has been very unwell lately, does not stay in bed but lies around, today has had a little fever, has chicken pox, we think, is badly broken out in large bumps as Fael was that y mas, you remember? his throat is very sore too. I am afraid the other boys will have it too & stop them from school. They say Jessie wants them to have a Commencement at the depot, each has a piece to learn for the occasion, what else they are to do we have not found out, I think it will end in talk.

I hope you have had no return of a chill but are quite well now. I expect you would enjoy a trip over to Columbia,

suppose you could not do more than spend the day
Saturday or Sunday, if you go on Sunday ask Miss Hanning
to go with you to the Episcopal church, tell her you as
seldom have a chance to go that you would like to avail
yourself of the opportunity, she will not object, the church
is near there. Take care now & don't fall in love with Miss
"Grace Augusta" next door, she is a Presbyterian & one
dissenter in the family is more than enough for me, she
is very pretty - I am sorry the 4 Mr C's had such an
unsatisfactory meeting, it must have been quite a
disappointment.

I expect you would be glad for the Prof of Horticulture
to take you out often, explain & lecture in the fields.
I tried to get Wave to write you about his trip but really
the boys have very little time, they come home about
sunset & at night study for next day, tomorrow your
Father expects to give them some lessons in budding &
grafting & I reckon they will hunt turkey nests for me.
I have a paper with an account of the night procession
in Selma, will send it, intended to do so last week but
had not a cent stamp. The last letter from Tarshah
was from Mr Horne, he said he could not carry on
the same business another year but I don't think he
will return to the plantation, he thought Lucy was

taking whooping cough & I expect she was, for it has been some time since aunt M. wrote, I reckon she has been taken up with her.

We are having real spring weather but so dry that things can't grow, a shower would do us much good. Sunday is Mrs Cobbs day I hope the weather will continue good & we will have a full attendance. I had a letter from Fred yesterday, he says he will not have much more teaching to do this session, but I expect a plenty of other work.

Your Father has gone this evening to engage a cook as the month is nearly out & the girl I have will not stay longer, she is just able to get along without my showing her & now I must go over the same with another, she is an old woman, harder to teach than a young one but I must take what I can get & be thankful for that. Let me know if at any time you need clothing, socks, hdkfs, or cravats & I will send you some. We expect to have lots of ribbons soon to make into cravats, saw an advertisement & sent on for some, also some music, 150 pieces & songs, for 25^{cts}, won't we have music in abundance? I will not forget you when the ribbons come if any will do for cravats. There is no news in the neighborhood, every thing as quiet as

possible. I must say good bye now. With much love,
Your devoted Mother.

Thurman D.S. \$1.50
Mason A.H. 50
Wiggin J.R. 50

as state of mind quite about being able to make a living. Bolling said Belle was sick & Mary had
settle pretty down imagine her
some times better & some
times worse looking. Your
Cousin Boston objects and
at last says Boston, she is
too inclined to get better
to send him to
Livingston, wants to
but chooses that.
Boston says she will
not do it but she may
be persuaded. It is
best time to go right
I'll write with you
in love to you. I hope
your father will soon
your letter some time
next night.
Love dear
Mother.

March 31st 1890

I was very glad to receive your letter yesterday & to
hear of the safe arrival of the box, am glad you enjoyed it & that
the shirt came into use as soon. I can't see why they should have
charged any express, I paid 1.00 to get it to Sturkville I thought.
I wish on this subject - your father says get a receipt from the
Agent in Sturkville for the amount you paid on it & ask
him if that was the charge from Gallows, send us the receipt
that we may show it to Mr. Folsom but don't let the agent know
why you want it. At 4 mos I paid 1.00 ^{on this box & sent} & Mr. Folsom said
that was the full charge to Sturkville. I think Mr. F. helps
himself whenever he can, or is very careless one of the two.

We had service yesterday, Bolling & Mr. Colby had sent word they
would dine with us, I expected Reuben & some from Beech, also
Mother's family, prepared as right nice dinner & set the table for
12 persons, Reuben came alone, as to fill up the table & for the
pleasure of the young people too, I invited Mabel & Mrs. Robinson
dinner with us, so Alice & Mabel had 5 young guests to entertain &
they all seemed to have a nice time off in a corner to themselves,
we old folks in another corner.

Saturday evening I was feeding my turkeys & saw Minnie Postels
phantom stop at the gate, I hurried in & found Blanche Nelson

was with Minnie's, had been staying with her a day or two, they
were at church yesterday each with a young man from Schuyl-
kill, the one with Minnie comes over often to see her, he is a little
fellow & reminds one of a fine dog, I call him "Minnie's pet". Bob
Collins is around here still, talks as big as ever, both Joes & himself
doing nothing. Next Sunday will be Easter, the boys & myself if
weather & roads permit will go to St. Michael's, dine with Beebe
& stay to the S. S. festival in the evening. We had a terrible looking
cloud this evening, I expected a cyclone, we did have a hard
wind & about dark a thunder storm but all is calm & quiet
now - except the grinnings, they are keeping a terrible fire.

Walton Brown who rents part of Freshington came up to do some
plowing in the garden today, he plows one day for the use of a
horse next day, can't see his horse now, the lot has not been
touched yet so I think we will be late getting anything planted
for the cows. You said you did not quite understand what
Fred wants to do - he wants to buy or rent some cows, rent
pasture(s) near Perotgorny & carry on the dairy business, I can't
see the how he could make anything at that, would have to
rent a vehicle & horse, pay his board & of course buy dairy fixtures,
churn frame &c. &c. when pasture gave out have to buy feed.
I do hope before the time expires for him to leave Mr. C's that
he will have of some place. Cannot be thankful to be in such

April 17th 1898

Dear Aunt
Mother

Up here. I have been thinking
how for some time.
It is nearly 11 o'clock & I have
just completed my morning round of house-
hold duties & will thank you for your letter,
was not uneasy as it was only a day later
than usual, thought you were busy. He then
did not come, Mother says she will be up
to Mr. Mullins' commencement. Mother stayed
with me until Saturday evening was in
bed all day Friday & I did not think she
ought to go home when she did but then
were there, & said she was up. P. in Father
is now home Saturday morning, spent 3 hours
in Parklawn, says the baby is a fine
fellow, his eyes are dark, I hope he will be
like his brother, she says she is trying to
let him cough it but she has not been
out of the front gate but once since he
was born & has almost entire care of him.

he will not cough at all. The contract question had not come up when your father left, I will send the Herald, it has not come for this week yet. I would go to West Point if you can leave your studies, might derive some benefit as well as pleasure from the trip. Your father met a Dr. Parson from Gainesville he says Gray Jackson is going to marry a "tipping fellow," Landon, I think is the name. I am so sorry work I could prevent it, she has not written to me for nearly a year, I can't see why quite and fooled by such men.

I had a letter from Fred yesterday he received from Texas an acknowledgment of his application with the promise that his letters of recommendation would be carefully examined, did not even tell him when the election would come off. He stopped at the Texas & Station last summer, said the director did not strike him as being a pleasant man to work under, he would like to get the place near the lake.

Your father was down at Newood yesterday

to see sick accounts, saw only Andrew & John, your uncle John was off working for his election, so hardly ever at home.

Old Mrs Frank Lyon was buried yesterday evening, this notice was sent here but we could not go on.

I went just now to look after my sitting chickens, two have hatched nearly all their eggs, yesterday I took off one with 15 little ones, have 18 growing nicely, as I think myself fortunate, the weather has been so favorable for them, no long rainy spells. Chickens are doing poorly, winter terrible, I don't intend to set any more, had rather take 10th a day for my eggs.

Capt. & Misses went your father went to visit him at the freight train this morning he wants to buy a cow but I am afraid when he hears ours are all fat & high priced he will not take one. Fuchs has a fine little beef calf.

We have no more servant yet, Dad's went him for sick & has not returned yet, one of her

Brothers were here yesterday, said she had been
"greatly down" but I make allowances for them,
Johnny & I divide the cooking & other work
& it keeps me busy. I met here I had to stop
turn out one old nest & fix a new one, the
hen had to leave, the the chickens were stop-
ping on the shell. I hope soon she can hatch
them out, oh foul are so much trouble. Old
John Die Doe is working in the garden today
& occasionally I have to stop in & see if he
is carrying out your Father's orders, considering
our house are some our vegetables are doing
pretty well, have squash with some large
leaves, snap about to bloom, peas blooming,
radishes not quite large enough to eat, cabbage
& tomato plants waiting to be put out, it
is cloudy & I wish it would rain the garden
needs it. Your Father digs away a little every
day, plants the seed & occasionally plants
some one to prepare ground not planted.

and only excused sitting out. Mr Davis continues to have sickness
in his family, since the measles, three of the children have had
long spells of fever, Willie is quite sick now.

Our aunt Melinda does not speak of coming down this summer
but I hope she will, have written to ask her. I am anxious to
see the baby. Mrs Gibbs & Uncle Waver dined with us on Sunday,
Brother was too unwell to come & Alice stayed with her, there
were a good many boys & girls from Benintown, friends of
Minnie's, & Grace & Josie Collins. The young men gave a dance
at Mrs Robins's Friday night, they came down to it, stayed
over until Sunday night, the ladies girls were among the
number, also Mrs Love.

I had a letter from Fred today, he had heard nothing from
Fanny, seems much interested in getting up & I at Annapolis,
has gotten acquainted with some young ladies there, he & another
young man walked two miles with two young ladies to attend
a sociable at Mrs Leighs, she is Mrs C's nearest neighbor,
Fred likes her very much & often mentions being there for Sunday
dinners, or at night, says she has been very kind to him as well
as some other ladies near by. Ruben did not come Sunday as
expected, I fixed up a nice dinner & had only two besides
ourselves to enjoy it, had a large dish of fried fish, quite a
variety with us. Fanny continues sick, greeted my Fanny's Grand

here, now into the woods with him & skinned about half his basket, another seems here, she's
May, carrying but he
reached out & caught a
bird, let it go, & he
they say the turkeys
in the woods today
& Bob thought they
would save their
heads as they grow
through trees &
stopped, the most
reasonable thing Bob
ever did, I believe.
Can't get this off
this evening so good
bye. With much love
from all that
Mother

May 2nd 1894

Yesterday passed without my writing, was sick all
day, up this morning but feeling very weak & badly hope tho'
to feel better as the day advances. Your Father has gone down to
see a school of New Cypres & the boys at school as I am all alone,
fortunately the we have at last succeeded in getting a house
girl. I make her some new sewing stops. The turkeys tho' under her
arrangement, are not doing well at all, I lose 2 or 3 every day,
may be she does not give them enough to eat or perhaps they are
just at the right age to die, often do when they begin to get
well feathered. Yesterday old Mr Dan Rose dropped in to dinner,
your Father told him he was about to ride off but he did not
mind that, stayed very long. The evening before Mr Prosser
Haines was here lecturing, he is a candidate for the senate
against Mr Inge of Yacumboro.

Today I hurried through my morning's work & Wake took me
up to Mother's before school that I might go on town with her to
have a dress fixed, of course she spent the day, Mrs Hatch invited us
to dinner & Lena & herself were more agreeable than I ever saw them,
she had a new cook as Lena had the benefit to make for dinner,
she succeeded well too. Alice spent the day there with us, she is
as large & unconcerned as ever & thinks Mother has nothing to do but

to spend money on her. Alice wrote that she would move into her
new house this week, wants Mother to come down & try and see her.
I had a letter from Fred two days ago, no news from Jennie yet.
There is a photographer at Gallows, the boys & myself will go down
tomorrow & try to get our likenesses, but if he does not succeed with
one any better than how Jennie did it will be throwing away
money. I would get her Lee's permission to send for prints if you
can get better ones, it is strange they don't make a contract with
a house that will furnish good materials.

I suppose you are having strawberries by this time, we will not have
any one but is covered with weeds half as tall as I am, dewberries
will be very scarce this season. There was a grand barbecue
tournament, & ball in Dayton yesterday, Charley & Bob Collins
were to ride, Bob had already founded one of his Father's horses
preparing for it in Fannettsdale. I have a note from Miss Anna
Stons, they have all been sick there, Willie Waver has been one best
two weeks with fever the others with Lou Grippe, I thought that
was over with when this winter was over. It is clouding up, I hope
we will have a good shower, our plants need it, we have three
long rows of tomatoes set out & looking well, also a good many
cabbages plants out. I had to put this down here, the boys have come
in with news from the tournament. Bob Brown took the first prize
Howard Davidson the second & a few from the third. Joly Price

MAY 2, 1870

Dear Ben

There is one thing I
omitted to say & it is of too
much importance to wait. Fred
told me at Yonkers that perhaps
you would be confirmed whenever
an opportunity offered, now I
don't know that you will have
^{me} few times but if you do wish to
be confirmed I would like to
know for this reason - the Bishop
usually comes here just before the
College closes, but if Mr. Cobbe
knew there would ^{be} any candidates
a little later he would I think
get him to delay his visit awhile
& give you an opportunity.
I will be very thankful if you
have considered the matter &

made up your mind to take the
step, of course you know it is a thing
to be considered well, not entered into
lightly but prayerfully & with a
sincere determination by God's help
to serve him faithfully the rest of
your life. I would be truly thankful
if my children were all christians,
real, true christians & earnestly do
I pray that God may fill your
hearts with love for him & help
you to love & serve him, all of
you. With love

Your devoted Mother.

P.S. I have not mentioned this
before because I had heard nothing of
the Bishop's arrangements & hoped
you would be home but was afraid
to depend only on hope.

be a nice sort to have to help me sometimes all the time, but the birds it cost me. I must
 not. I'll try to find.
 Mrs. Parker has a
 beautiful coat with a
 back & sides & as many
 top. I like that bit
 you better say it
 is too heavy.
 Dennis is ready. I
 want a top, please
 excuse these hints.
 scratch now when for
 you are one. They
 you as careful & into
 much work & that
 I don't intend it to.
 With much love to
 Frank & family
 Grandmother
 Mother.
 Your father has
 returned. He is
 better.
 Friday May 23rd 1890
 I fully appreciated your last letter but delayed a day later
 to write because I had so recently written to Fred, suppose you both
 have the benefit of my letters as you are so near together. Fred spoke
 of trying to get board on the campus but suppose he didn't as
 neither of you mentioned it.
 Our neighborhood was saddened yesterday by the funeral of Corinne
 Poole, we all feel as much for the poor parents, the last of their three
 children taken from them, & she almost grown. I think I told you
 Mrs. Tom Poole & family moved to Birmingham to keep boarding house,
 they made an entire failure & returned home about 2 weeks ago.
 Corinne was taken with a chill the night she reached home &
 had a spell of fever. Mrs. Poole is sick in bed & he they say has
 given himself up to Morphine & Whiskey too. All the Episcopal
 ministers were at Convention as was some the Methodist ministers
 from Limerston officiated. A good many from Farnside came
 up among others your aunt Bessie, Miss Graham, Eugenie Bellus
 & Reuben, dining there in a "dinner". John Selden & wife Lottie &
 Jerry Pelcom. I invited all home with me but no one came but
 Bessie & Reuben, they had put Eugenie's dinner in their buggy so
 that they could stay to dinner. Bessie invited Lizzie & Waver to
 the L. I. pool on our Powell's creek today, to my surprise your

Father let them take holiday & go, gave them his cart & horse &
they were much pleased to be able to go. I reckon he thought
they are so closely confined at home that he would let them
have that recreation. John & Miss Lou were in another row & she
said he should not go, actually ~~being~~ ^{supplied} your Uncle John without
letting Bessie know a word of it, to come home John was behaving
badly, your Uncle John was in Montgomery as a delegate to council
& she to send him such a dispatch! If I were in his place I would
dispatch her as soon as I reached home. Bessie is terribly worried
with her, she has only two more weeks to stay & I am glad for Bessie's
sake. Your Uncle Wade was the only delegate from our parish as
as Mother was left alone she took refuge with us last night &
night before, will stay tonight with Mrs. Hornegay or go to Demopolis.
Adele was taken sick yesterday at the church, this morning they sent
for your Father in a great hurry saying she was having enormous
spasms, it is dinner time & he has not returned, I think she
must be very sick. Tell Fred Seibel how he was at home, writes
Minnie to tell him, do pray to stay until she comes up, that she
never wanted to see any one abroad in all her life, he was gone
before the letter came, I don't know when she expects to come up.
Henry I am thinking of buying me a light buggy with a top, if
your Father can trade off the old one he will let me have what it
brings & I will add enough better money to it to get one, want it

with 1895 letters

Friday May 31st

My dear Son

I expect it is time I was writing, have forgotten where I sent off my last letter to you. We have been busy the last few days making flags & fixing up dresses for the boys commencement, nearly all day I have been sewing silver stars on a "swallow tail" broad cloth coat for "Wave to wave as Yankee Doodle", put red stripes on a pr of Reuben's white pants, will borrow Mr Bledsoe's beaver, put around it a band of stars & his dress will be complete, wouldnt you like to see him? School closed today, Tuesday night the performance comes off. I will send you a program if I can secure ~~one~~. I had a letter from

aunt Mr, she has come ideas of coming
down with Elvira to spend two weeks
among us, but what must Mrs
Perine do but take herself out there
for a long visit, I begged sister I - to
leave her with Mrs Harris & come
any how it will be such a good
chance to have company. I am so
sorry tho' her visit will be over before
you come.

We too have had very cool weather, the
chickens looked so drawn up that I
expected to lose a good many & turkeys
to but strange to say I lost only 3
little chickens & no turkeys, fed well 3
times a day using red pepper night &
morning, kept the old turkeys up &
of course the little ones were hatched a
good part of the time. Your Father
went to Greeneboro today to hear
Commissioner Kold speak. The boys

MAY 31, 1890(?)

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say there is no graduating, only graduating
at their school. Much obliged for the
Programme, do you know which boys
will deliver addresses or does the choice
remain a secret until the time of
Commencement? If the boys furnish
cake for the anniversary of their society
would you like me to make & send one;
or do you all put in so much money
& buy the cakes? I had a letter from
Mary Jackson she says Temple sent
home a perfect report, they were surprised
as he had not been regularly to school
in so long, belongs to the Scientific
corps as he intends studying medicine.
Lewis is hard at work blacking Reuben's
boots, we are to put white tops to
them for him as an Englishman. On
one piece he represents science, will wear
a kind of loose black robe & carry a
roll of maps under his arm, in the

some piece Wave represents agriculture,
wears green & carries a sheaf of wheat.
What I dislike about it is that we take
all this trouble & the admittance (25^{cts}
for grown folks, 10^{cts} for children) goes to
theudson. I would like it applied to
our church windows. All this week we
have been expecting Mr Moorsette
to look at our jerseys hoping he would
buy one but he has not come yet.
I received your letter this morning, reckon
you will be busy from now until
Commencement is over, after examination
I expect decorating the chapel will
occupy your time. I have many things
on hand today so must say good bye
with much love

Yours devoted

Brother.

June 15th 1890

My dear Son

No pens yet as I have to use a pencil. I was very glad to receive a few minutes ago your letter of yesterday, we all regret not seeing you as soon as expected but I have thought since you mentioned spending part of the vacation at College, that you would study better the first part while you were in the habit of study & then too it would be better on account of Fred's being in Starkville, I hope tho he can keep that place until there is a chance for a professorship some where, he seems to be getting on as well with the paper as the former editor & I hope can stand the confinement of office work.

As you have decided to stay I am glad you can select your own hours for work & by that means take care of your health. About the citizens clothes, had n't we better send the money & let you buy to suit yourself, than try to send from here? if so how much do you think you would need, would you get a suit, or buy a few pants & an alpaca or some thin coat? You can decide better what you want than we can. You did not say what your work

would be. I am very glad you got through with your
speech as well, know you felt relieved to have it over.
I great many of ~~our~~ friends have been asking when
you would be home, had a letter from aunt on this
morning begging me to go up, stay with them & have my
teeth fixed, wish I could but see no chance of getting
off, the little imp I had in the house went from bad
to worse, yesterday was so outrageous that your Father
took a strap to her & she went running home, no
news of her this morning, of course we will not see
her again, it was best for her to go, we could do nothing
with her & having to put up with as much from her,
made Sarah misbehave but I think I can straighten
her now. We have an old man hired to attend to
the lot, a poor stick but better than none. We began
hauling hay from Mr Sharps, the first load they
returned minus a tire & did not know it until
they reached home, Lewis went with them the second
trip, put on the "tire" in the road, wrapped with
hoop iron, went on, took on a heavy load & in the
same place the front wheel tire rolled off, they came
on without, until they reached the church & there the
felloe broke, Lewis borrowed Mr Davies wagon, put the

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load on that & reached home about dark, all day yesterday he stayed at the shop trying to get Frank to finish it up for today but I doubt if he has it ready by tonight, to begin hauling tomorrow. We had heavy rains yesterday & I think there will be some this evening. The young people are busy today decorating the baptist church for Miss Carrie King's marriage, at 3 o'clock today, it will be steaming hot if it is not raining by that time. Your Uncle White continues sick, your Father was sent for at 3 o'clock this morning to see him, it is after dinner & he has not returned, they are such poor nurses up there & he like the rest of the family sends for a Dr & takes half the medicines ordered & thinks that ought to make him well. It is time to dress for the marriage, must finish when I return. Your Father came just in time to drive me down to the church, left White with some little fuss, says he is the greatest fuss maker he ever saw & imagines himself much sicker than he really is. The church was decorated very prettily that is the pulpit & all around it, the marriage was a very tame, short affair, Mr Hunt is very brief. The brides

& grooves came in unattended but not at all abused.
they return to New Kings for her to change her dress &
leave at 6 o'clock on the cannon ball for a little
trip. Your Father says look at clothes in Starkville if
they have not what you want he thinks you might
run down to Meridian & get them very reasonably at
the large establishment of Mary, gives him some
idea of how much money you will need & he will
send you a check. Give much love to Fred for me
tell him I will write him in a few days. I expect
he has spent this week pleasantly - Miss T. sent
us a paper in which mention was made of her
being elected assistant in English, I suppose she
is much pleased to be able to remain in C. & work
with her great friend Miss C. I must stop now
& try to send this to the office, with much love ever
Your devoted Brother.

Cashion Ala. July 12th 1890.

Dear Ben -

It has been some time since I wrote to you & Dad & you must both take this as a letter for each of you - as your Mother is such a good correspondent - and she I suppose keeps you well posted as to affairs at home & the neighborhood -

Since your Uncle White's death I have been about very little - The poor fellow was in excellent spirits when he came - thinking the trip would be an advantage to him. None of us considered him so much ailing as he really was or had been - At least none of us - but your Uncle Wane who was on to Richmond with him. He succumbed rapidly after taking a

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a fresh cold - had a chill and then quickly followed with violent congestion of his lungs -.

Mr Brissau who come out directly after words for little Alice only stayed one day. I was very much pleased with the old gentleman. He is very quiet & affable & really a nice old gentleman. I only wished he could have remained with us longer. Mother has taken her trouble badly - Jon boys might write to her - it would be well if only to direct her mind a little from home matters -.

This neighborhood loses another today, as Mrs Britton's wife was buried this evening near Spring Hill - she was the wife of Sam Britton at the Windsor Place. She died & no one was present except Miss Belle. - Mrs Britton has been sick for a great while, & it was only surprising she held out

to this time - She had only been back from Bladen Springs, a few days, to die with her friends -

This past week there was a Sunday school celebration, down at the old "Faylue Place" both Baptist & Episcopal - together in fact the whole neighborhood. It so happened that Wase was quite sick the night before - so only Llewellyn of our family attended - They had quite a barbecue & big dinner for old & young - Beef - Shool - Mutton - Vegetables - Cake - pies - ice cream - and melons by the quantity.

The Young folks are now practicing for a Tournament to come off the 31st of this month, and at the time - they expect a grand Barbecue & dinner - Judge Mumpkin come up from Mobile & brought his daughter Bell

& Mrs Oliphant with her little son -

I have been quite busy getting in my supply of hay for another season - You know I sold 4 bulls - Sutton & 3 younger ones - have 3 more to see now - The whole country is full of grass & Melilotus - never saw so much - Mr L.W. Collins has two mowers continuously at work - I think tho they have allowed the grass to get a little too old - I should have preferred to have had rain cut 3 or 4 weeks ago - Before these last few rains - the small grasses - like berarda suffered very much - & the corn on the ridges all showed it was not making - even turning yellow - The rains have brightened up every thing now - I never noticed at this season - such a fine bloom on cotton - and really

July 12, 1890

there is a good showing of matured
bolls - bottom crop - and less damage
from boll-worm than we have ever
noticed. Some of our farmers have
secured a good crop of oats. &
have a good many seed oats round
over from last season & did not sell
them as the price was so low - 40 cts -
for best proof oats. - The corn crop
will yet prove a good one altho, the
rains have been somewhat partial.
I can't see much prospect for the
sweet potato crop, at any rate so far,
it is not promising - very backward.
Another crop which commenced so well
- i.e. the Turkeys - almost every one ex-
pected to raise Turkeys by the hundred
but if they succeed in the tens they will
now be thankful - out of a possible
beginning 105 - we have two left - of that
showing - but some later hatched are

dosing better. & we have about 20 to 30.
today, I was surprised to see one of
our hens walk up to the post gate
with nine young ones. - Evidently some
one has had them very closely watched,
the hen had our mark distinctly on
her & was quickly recognized - I hear
a neighbor has another hen marked
the same way, with four young ones.

John Mather has but few chickens
what with the mules or small & the hogs
so large they have gotten the advantage
of us - The few chickens left to tell
the tale I observe are severely afflicted
with warts on their heads about the
comb & over the eyes - even putting
out the eyes - The world renowned
remedy "Kerosene" has relieved
one or two apparently - I can't say
positively - whether it is - "post hoc
or propter hoc".

I had hoped you would devote
all your leisure time & study to accom-
plish yourself in chemistry - as it is

a branch so much in demand and no good Chemist stays out of employment long except voluntarily - it is also a highly cultivated profession.

You have yet time however to do anything in that line you may wish - & two or more years yet may accomplish a good deal.

We have not heard from And this week - hope he is not sick - We think his paper has greatly improved - I write instead of your Mother this week - She sends love to you both.

We have had two little dorkies to come up every morning to help churn & clean up around the house - & yesterday our cook took a severe attack of the "drumps" & left - Another has promised to drop in this evening - I am in doubt however. Waver is up & better today - as I judge from symptoms at the dinner table. All join in love to you both -

Yr Mother - 

Nov 28th 1891

My dear Son

I hope you spent a pleasant day yesterday with our Columbus friends, our guests since Mrs L - gave you a nice dinner, it was a beautiful day was it? I made preparations for all of Uncle John's family & some others besides but had only Uncle Wm & Mrs Vance to dinner, Mr Cobb always goes home to take Thursdays dinner with his family, stopped a few minutes to get a fowl I had for him. How glad I would have been to have had all my boys at home, but as I could not, felt truly grateful for our many ^{other} blessings, the sermon was excellent, even the baptists were much pleased, their minister requested them to attend our services & a good many were there, even "Mrs Charles Collins", usually it takes the Bishop to bring her out, speaking of

the Bishop, our assistant Bishop, Dr Jackson of Va, will be consecrated in Lebanon, I hope we can go over. Monday our Governor will be inaugurated, your Father wrote "Have to go if he wanted to, we have each military school will send a company but of course Waver would not go in that way for I suppose they need the best drilled boys.

I want to tell you about the corn salve, I wrote I would send boy with directions, intending to take out a little to keep for my self. I had to go visiting & asked your Father to fix it, told him exactly what I wanted done & he did exactly the opposite as you did not get the boy with directions, maybe the you remember it is to be used night & morning for three or four days then soak the afflicted warm water, if it cannot be picked out with the finger nail repeat the treatment.

Reuben, Mary & little John rode up Sunday evening, stayed until it was time for John to take the train to Danvers, took him

to Galtion & they kept on home. Johnny & Beebe were then in Montgomey but they expected them home some time this week Miss Anna Baptist stays there as company for Iabel.

I am sorry you were defeated but under the circumstances you expected it I reckon. I have not had any word letter from Fred this week, he said in his last that he was giving all his time to the Station work, with out his letter as you have not heard from him.

I send yesterday a letter from your Grandmother to Uncle Waver, she said aunt White was better than day but "a few nights before they thought she certainly would die little Alice is quite well again. Uncle Waver seems to get on very well all alone, I don't know whether I wrote you he had a' procum suppur, 3 O procerum, Alice enjoyed it very much, he is getting to be such a big boy now, weighs 125, I tell him he will have to stop eating or he will be as fat as Tom Collins.

I have a table cover for you, suppose I may as
well keep it now until you're, if you have
no holiday & can't come home I can send it.
Waver will I expect have it done in two weeks.
Your Father wants early dinner so I must
stop now & fix the table. With much love
Your devoted Mother.