



their sisters - but as yet have  
been able to render us no  
assistance - This past year  
has been the hardest of my life -  
I have had to defray all exp.  
Katie Pauline's & my own expenses.  
I give Pauline very advantages of  
F. P. Seminary & Katie boarded  
them with us - Mr. Pitman has  
accepted the presidency of Howard  
Female College, located here at  
Fayette - He offered to take Pau-  
line & give her all the advantages  
of the school for two hundred dol-  
lars - the usual expenses are four  
hundred - She is qualifying  
herself for a teacher of music,  
German & French - I prefer  
this to any <sup>other</sup> department as in  
this she can always com-  
mand a fine salary, as  
competent teachers are very  
scarce, while in my depart-  
ment they are numerous -  
She is quite a student & a  
great pride & pleasure to me -  
We have been ~~for~~ <sup>for</sup> three  
weeks at Uncle Dot Wilson's  
near Columbia - She is a

sister of Mrs. Curtis Burman.  
I there met with a Mrs. Broad  
formerly of Lexington, who told  
me much of you & the girls -  
so, of course, it was a pleasure  
to see her - I have been very  
busy getting Pauline ready for school -  
I have made our trunk & washed  
& polished & about got her all ready  
but a uniform dress which is  
black alpaca - I have made  
her a ~~new~~ lower skirt out of an  
old dress of mine but it is  
not nice at all, altho' I worked  
much on it - Would it be asking  
too much, Aunt Mary if I asked  
you please to assist me by giv-  
ing her a black alpaca for this  
winter - it will help me greatly,  
for I am pressed for means -  
to get myself a few respectable clothes -  
If you send Pauline this dress I  
could make it for her before I  
leave her which will be in about  
a fortnight - I would never ask  
this but for the following reasons -  
I expect to be married in a few  
weeks to Dr. J. C. Edwards of St.  
Charles - He is a physician, with a



advise you to cease your endeavours and not make yourself such  
a slave. - least your children think and tell you if you had not  
a child in the world you would do the same it is avarice as some  
of mine has told me. I know I made great exertion for mine  
child etc I could with economy and frugality self denial  
I could have spent all my husband made from year to  
year but my increasing family warned me of the future  
expense not a grain of sand to what would be need to cost  
in rearing children; I would have had with my experience advice  
all parents to raise their children with self denial industry  
and economy those who would apply themselves arsewards for edu-  
cation should do all I could to give them one but those who  
were not the answer as myself I would if a boy but turn  
to some trade or art him to work on a farm a girl if I was  
not able to give her a fortune for say a husband it is not so  
in paid with her home and but she would to support herself

and when I was done with what my  
neighbour further had gone that me to  
gather leave it to them, they enjoy the  
fruit of my sowing;  
I think any one ought to have the benefit  
of their labour my great enjoyment  
would have been to see something of  
the world. Travelling with my husband  
from my earliest recollection I longed  
for it. but in new thought we could  
afford it without staying at home because  
a habit and could not enjoy it  
now my bereavement and advanced  
age my energies gone my troubles all  
at present are from making any exer-  
tion; as even to I am require my efforts  
I could not leave home when surrounded  
as I have been with soldiers my labour  
just at least a number of days  
travelling down my post and  
hallowing in my pench since the  
regiments left my partners have  
had the fence pulled down  
uncamped on for a day or two  
then I

money I suppose, I expect he got little, if  
any. Corni and Green occupy Ma's old room  
Galli and I the Nursery my room upstairs  
is the spare room for the winter nothing  
is yet finished still a large number of  
men here. they will paint the library  
tomorrow and all the old house, the rest  
will only be chucked until Spring.  
Deely is at work on the front pavement  
and a man fixing the terrace, and clear-  
ing away things, the plastering is all done  
but the pillars in drawingroom, and the  
boneloir, and kitchen to be patched. so you  
see we are still not out of the dirt. I  
have told you all the news I believe Flew is  
better, but will not be able to return to  
school. Brutus is <sup>as</sup> much pleased as usual.  
All join in love with - regularly if widow's  
love to Minnie and tell her I should so  
much like to have her photograph.  
to send it to me I hope you and she will  
be good friends you should cultivate your  
social feelings more 'tis not right to be

so isolated, we need friendships in life,  
it's selfishness alone that makes us otherwise  
combat against the growth of the feeling.  
Carmi is at her Mother's, has been for a  
week, I would write to Pauline if I were  
you, words are easily given, and do much  
good, by a letter, I know 'twill be appre-  
ciated, give her your sympathy, speak feeling-  
ly as you imagine her to feel her loss, console  
her with christian faith and hope of the  
future life. these are testimonials that are  
but due to relations and friends toward  
each other. With love from all your loving sisters  
Mary C.

W<sup>th</sup> N. J. W. Colay.

the fellow is pretty saucy. I want you to  
send him my note with check enclosed which  
I have written for full amt, ~~etc~~ or write to him  
to send for the empty barrels, sitting in the Celler  
Entry, or back Celler for which he deducts \$100 on  
each barrel. In one case, I owe \$6,21cts in the  
other \$3,96cts. N. J. W. Clay,

Address. Gen. Mgr. Standard Oil Co. I think. Decide  
for yourself. How I am money in Richmond? I  
must have some. I cannot do without it.



Mrs. M. J. Warfield. Clay.

78 N. Broadway.

White Hall, N.Y.  
Jan 22



Miss Laura May,  
Care of Mad. Ogden Hoffman,  
No. 17 West 38<sup>th</sup> St. New York City,  
New York.

I will endeavor to send you a letter every week. You know how rare the opportunities for mail are so do not be disappointed in not getting letters regularly. I take this to town with me to-morrow morning. All are well. Good night, my precious Child, God bless you!

Yrs devotedly

M. J. M. Coley,

Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday night,

Dearest Leane,

I came over to Green's last Monday in my own carriage driving my own fine Males & driven by Green Jenkins who is an uncommonly fine driver. I really enjoyed the ride! I was alone & the mules pulled so steadily & Green drove so well & the day was fine. I did not find the travel over the hills, in Annie's pasture, disagreeable. I came over prepared provided with winter clothing & wraps in abundance & so far have only needed the lightest of summer wear of which I am scarce. I expected to be so busily employed as not to be able to go to town & consequently did not bring my best "bib & tucker". Now I find I have but little to attend to in comparison to what I had in the summer & am going to town to-morrow with Annie & will be

with Sally several days. If I have an opportunity of getting my crop from home I will do so for I absolutely need it. If not, I will remain in doors all the time. I am having my corn cut & giving eight cents per shock which is two cents higher than what is expected to be the common price. My corn is the first ripened in the neighborhood and being desirous of having it cut out of the way for the wheat crop, I would not wait for the general ripening. My second field I hope to have cut for less price. It is now thought that corn will be very cheap. If I cannot sell it for \$1.75 cts per bushel, I will crib it & sell it in the Spring & Summer, in some form. Harv has rented ~~Wm~~ Bennett's farm & Corie tells me, will move before very cold weather. Mary will then move her furniture down to my house & go to day, & pass a month with me before leaving for Ann Arbor. I feel quite anxious to see your answer to her inquiries which

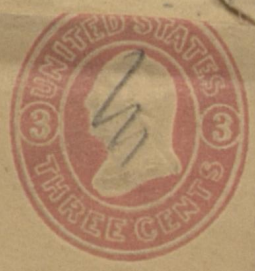
she tells me she has made of you. Annie enclosed your letter to me, which she had opened being desirous of hearing from you. I enclose her letter to you which will be as agreeable to you as if it had been addressed to you. The schedule also is rec'd. How happens it that you take drawing lessons? I think it is a charming accomplishment and I am glad you are learning to draw. I did not suppose you had any taste for it. I am glad you will have time to attend to it. It will recreate you very much I hope. In three months time, I suppose, Mary will be with you. There, no doubt it will be a pleasure to you & I know it will be a comfort to me to have you there together. I sent you a Card written at Mary's request, to let you know of your Father's desire to purchase of you, 50 Bbls of Corn, at \$1.25 per Bbl. I mention it again for fear you may fail to get the Card. I expect to be here for one month and will let you know if I alter my intention so direct your letters here to Mr. Bennett's care.

OCT 6  
KY.



Miss Laura Clay.  
Care of Mrs. Mary E. Foster.  
No. 26, West Katherine Street, Ann Arbor,  
Michigan

White Hall, June 3  
March 3



Miss Laura Clay,  
Care of D. M. Craig, Esq.,  
Lexington,  
Kentucky.

Wednesday morning

My darling child,

I am so anxious & uneasy about not hearing from you! I do not know why in the world Julia or Henrietta have not written to me unless you are ill & they wait to see you grow better. I would rather they had not written me at all, unless they followed up their letters. I try to divert my mind all the time, but my heart aches. I fear you are ill! I will come over right away if you are sick. I can arrange my business to do so. So I pray somebody to write to me. I wish you were at home, my child as I reckon you do. God bless you & me! If you are not ill after you read these letters sent you, send your Papa's to Brutus & Brutus to your Papa with the other letters I sent you by Will. The Irishmen are digging in the cellar to-day with snow six inches deep. Good bye my child. May all my uneasiness be dissipated this evening by Will's return with good tidings is the continual prayer of your devoted mother  
M. J. Clay

Dearest Daughter,

I have but a few moments to write you a few lines in. I sent you by to-day's mail your letter from Green which we took the liberty of opening & now I send Carrie's to you & some from your Paper which I want you to take care of for me & return them in your first letter, your Paper's I mean. The girls start to Washington City to-morrow & I send you your Aunt Anne. Love to Henry.

Yrs. devotedly

M. J. Clay.

Your Aunt is mistaken about Italy, I think.



Friday night.

Dearest Sam,

I send you two letters so that you may know all I know. Return them both when you need them. If you see your Aunt Caroline show her Mary's letter but not your Father's. I need your letter with Mr Williams bill. If I can, I will be in Sep. next week & will pay all I owe. You need not be disturbed about the little money you expend on your dress. I can afford it this year at any rate & mean to make an effort to make a great deal more money. More of this when I see you.

Good bye dear Sam

Yrs. devotedly

M. J. Cley.

Dearest Laura,

Your sisters have gone over to the Hop given Gen. Wilcox & Steff. You'll see them & hear all the news of home. I wish you were here to enjoy the beautiful flowers. I send you Asparagus, Lettuce, Onion, & Radishes. ~~Very~~ opportunity I have I'll send you something. We have promise of ~~abundance~~ abundance of every variety of fruit & vegetables. My farming progresses well. I am building fine kilns to build with & heating stone & heating it. The negro man whom I had at work on the Shop has fled to parts unknown & I now have an Irishman engaged on it whom I hope will get it done next week. I have not yet heard from your Father since he sailed. I expect to hear the last of this week or first of next. Annie is well & joyous. Bell has become so deaf, that I have brought Hanny up to play with Annie. You saw Corrie? She came over day before yesterday & ~~sate all afternoon~~ ~~sate~~ ~~all afternoon~~ & staid all night with me. Your sister's vine in town where Sally had been for a week. Your black silk sague can

no when he found. I send you two mentilles  
you can keep either or both of them if you choose.  
Either one is nice enough.

Yrs. affectionately  
M. J. Cloy.

Love to Merrille,

M. J. Cloy

My dear child,  
I was so glad to get your  
letter last night assuring me of your being  
well. I was so anxious about both you &  
Brenton. My children right now to urge me  
about any thing for I yield to them at once  
the contrary to my judgment. I cannot  
from Brenton at all & I am so uneasy about  
him. I fear for his lungs. You will have to  
give rest for some weeks in recovery. I cannot  
tell unless I was with you & that is next to  
an impossibility. I spent yesterday with Belle  
McDonnell. I do not get my strength & even  
-77 & I try my means I fear for the purpose.  
I desire to try what recreation will do for me  
I rec'd a letter from your Papa last night  
which is the third one this week, enclosing 2000  
roubles for Gus which will lighten the dear  
child's debt. ~~3,000~~ ~~enclosed~~ your Papa's  
letter descriptive of his visit to the Emperor.  
I likewise enclose a check to you for money

to pay your school fee if any portion of it  
is required in advance for which send me  
receipt. The rest of the money you need  
I want her to look over  
your flannel petticoats & see how many  
you need & to buy what money you need  
& likewise buy you the flannel bodies you  
want. Perhaps you had better get bodies or  
shirts like those your Aunt Anne wears.

I recd a letter from Brother last night  
which made my heart overflow with  
gratitude to the giver of all good gifts.

Now that both of you have  
received I feel that I can bear all  
other things more patiently.

Good bye  
Yes dear  
A. C. C.

Miss Anne C. C.

White Hall Ky  
Sept 15



Mary B. Clay.  
care of Mrs. Maria B. Wierfeld,  
"The Meadows."  
Fayette County,  
Ky.

in Cincinnati & I do not doubt it  
would pay Mary to do her likewise, when  
she comes on home or goes back.

I am busy learning to make bread, pastry &  
biscuit & very much interested in it. Louis  
Jane & Tom Peyton are still with us & hope  
they will remain. Good bye to the rest.

Yours lovingly

M. J. C. G.

A happy New Year to all of you!

Dec<sup>r</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> 1869.

Dear Anne,

Cornie came over yesterday  
& Green to pass Christmas day with us.  
Cornie brought your collar & sleeves, & your  
Sally's collar & a pair which you thought had  
been stolen from you. She found them wrapped  
in some silk I think that you got for her  
so it was a Christmas gift to you indeed. Do  
you want them Expressed to you?

Junius Holloway sent Green a barrel of  
oranges & a barrel of peaches, so Cornie  
brought us a Christmas gift of them & Green  
a lot of partridges. Kate Peck is in Sep,  
for a few days & writes me to join her there  
as she was to unwell with a cold to  
come over — but — she leaves Monday morn-  
-ing, the weather is bad & Sister Ann is  
so troubled having many in her house that  
determined not to go. I will write to her  
to-day expressing my regrets &c. We have all

been anxiously expecting a letter from you  
& Mary relative to the farms. The time for  
renting has arrived & a great deal of work to  
be done in the way of fencing & ponds. Sally  
wrote to you both a few days ago about the  
farms particularly I think. We have heard  
nothing from your Father lately & I am very  
anxious for his success. Sally & Mr. Bennett  
will remain here until after her complements  
which I suppose will be in March. They have  
taken rooms at the school - house on the hill.  
It was a notice of Sally's which I think  
fearing she might not be able to get them  
when she needs them, I think Mr. Bennett is  
entirely uncertain when he will locate, de-  
pending upon your Father's success with the cer-  
tains & getting a bank to his liking, in which  
to deposit his money. Brutus is still much  
pleas'd with his grocery & his farm & is as in-  
dustrious as a bee. Annie is happy at her  
school - master evening. She comes home on Friday's.  
I fear she is not studying much. If Sally  
has been at the school - house it will be

great comfort to me. I am having my  
washing done in town getting & carrying my  
clothes when Annie goes up to school. I have no  
doubt I will find it inconvenient but 'tis the  
best I can do just now. I am to do the washing  
done by the women so beautifully done. I have not  
seen it yet & will be surpris'd if I can do  
lighter with it. Tell Mary yes! I am certainly  
coming to see her this winter just as soon as you  
& see get that your visit. I am busy making  
preparation for the visit. I would prefer visiting  
Cleveland in the Spring as I would then see it  
in all its beauty, which would give me great  
pleasur. I hope the weather is not so inclement  
there as it is here, as it will prevent your enjoy-  
ment I fear. I have not yet heard of the ar-  
rival of Eliza & Mrs. Tarter at home. ~~Dr. Llew~~  
Dr. Llew is very uneasy about both of them.  
Tell her all are well pleas'd with her sister's  
clock. Sister Anne guess'd it cost 80 or 100  
dollars, Sally 30 at the best. We saw one at  
Mr. Holloway's no better & not so pretty at  
\$ 50. I shall do all my shopping semi annually.



Obliged to you for attending to  
her eggs, and says please hurry  
him up, and tell him to bring  
them over just as he gets them,  
without waiting for the whole  
number. She would prefer him  
to bring the to the house, corner  
of Mill + Second, but if he  
will not do that, he can  
take them to Bennan + Swift,  
telling them to send them to  
her. She tells Corrie she will  
be delighted to see her at any  
time, and the sooner the better.

Give my love to all and  
write to me.

Your affectionate daughter,  
Leana Clay.

Novem 30<sup>th</sup> 1870.

My dear Mother.

It seems quite  
an age since you left, though  
it is only a week today. A letter  
came to you from Corrie on  
Saturday, which I read, think-  
ing she perhaps wanted some  
thing which I could get for  
her. She writes she is com-  
ing over soon to stay all night  
with Aunt Anne. Aunt Anne  
says she must come by all  
means.

My maroon dress is finished  
and is very pretty. I had to send  
to Cincinnati for two yards  
more of silk.

Edw left this morning for  
Ann Arbor and Chicago, to be  
away two weeks or a month.  
He will consult Dr. Palmer

about himself in Mrs. Lobb's  
as he has always done him  
good. Aunt Carry took me  
out to see Aunt Julia yesterday  
afternoon. She is improving.  
Maria was just recovering  
from an attack of neuralgia.  
She is taking medicine from  
Dr. Hamilton, and is in great  
hopes of benefit from it.  
Aunt Louisa continues much  
the same, sometimes better,  
sometimes worse. I go up  
to inquire for her every  
day or two.

Mrs. Macalister sent a note  
around a little while ago,  
to ask you and Aunt Anne  
to take supper tomorrow night  
with the Prestons, Jeffreys and  
Breckinridges. Aunt Anne decli-  
ned going.

I have not yet received an in-

itation to Miss Beck's wedding;  
I don't know whether they are  
yet out or not. I shall prepare  
a dress, so as to be ready. I shall  
make a short tulle, and trim  
it with black velvet.

I got Sarah to wash my clothes,  
and she does them beautifully.  
I am going to wear your petti-  
coats until I get them washed  
for you.

I am so sorry to hear you are  
still without servants. It was bad  
that Judith would not come.

I do not understand why negroes  
should be so unreliable.

When you see Sallie, tell her  
I have been expecting a letter  
from her. As soon as she receives  
my stockings from Cincinnati  
I wish she would send them  
over.

Aunt Anne says she is much

to write me how Mr. Foster's money  
has for I would be so sorry to have  
to move my plants out of the pot, they  
look so beautifully. We are delighted with  
the flow. Laura has determined to stay  
in her own house & Harriet Lawrence is  
still here now confined to her room with  
Rheumatism of the Muscles of her lower  
limbs. Julia is having a great deal of  
trouble with her servants & now thinks of  
selling her place & coming into Town. I do  
not know when or any thing about it. Aunt  
Myra will pass the winter with her. She  
is very glad now that Mary had  
not accept her proposition of living  
with her. She says she will be very sorry  
of making the same proposition to Aunt  
Myra now so I suppose she contemplated  
doing it. All are well & Annie & I enjoying  
being at home. Laura, you have never men-  
tioned how many females are in College?  
how many in your classes? How many you  
know & if you find any one of them agreeable

and omitted?  
How sister Anne  
ever social  
any thing to you  
about giving you  
the money to buy  
an Encyclopedia?  
Good by, Annie  
sends love  
Sunday, Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> 1879.  
M. J. M. C. G.  
Dear Laura,

I write so hurriedly to  
you last Thursday (I believe) that I do  
not remember what I said to you. I en-  
close a clipping from the Paris papers rela-  
tive to Miss Anthony. I told Mary & Lizzie  
that if she was criticised or noticed in any  
way by the Richmond papers I hoped they would  
send you ~~copy~~ if you. Mr. Bennett told  
me that he thought copies would sell for  
\$1.50 its per barrel in the field. O'Donnell  
writes me that he has not heard of any  
being sold at all yet & that he would  
begin to shuck his last week. I shall  
write to him to go to shucking mind. I will  
have to crib mind & wait for a parenthesis  
which I regret very much, but, it may be  
for the best. D. F. Tetter says he lost on his

crop of wheat \$4,000 by selling it from the  
Thrasher. I was at Mr. Woodruff's  
yesterday to make a call & found Ann  
Clay there spending the day. She said Cassius  
was holding his for \$1,25 it's & would then  
sell the? they told him they believed he would  
write for \$1,50. The papers say corn is ri-  
-sing in price. There is a great deal of rotten  
corn owing to its having been blown down,  
so the crop is not so large as was anti-  
-cipated. I have not heard from Mary or  
Lellie since I came home. I left Mary  
having her wheat put in. She ought to  
have gone & staid with her men as I did.  
It would save her money to do so. I think  
it will be quite to our interest my keeping  
the house on my farm for our own use.  
I hope Henry will allow Mary to stow her  
furniture there, without charge; but I  
could not be surprised if he does not.  
Elisha Walker has been dissipating & had  
a hemorrhage. Foster's Anna has gone out

with her to see Caroline & inquire  
for Elisha. He is better & I never  
saw Gertrude look so well. The baby has  
grown considerably & is like Elisha. She is  
sitting alone at eight months of age, but  
has no teeth. I wrote you that we have  
arranged the plants in the back parlor & they  
look so beautifully but already show signs  
of the effect of the gas from the stove. How  
does Mr. Foster prevent it affecting her  
stove? Does she keep water on her stove  
& in what? Our stove is the "Radiant  
Stove" & is very handsome. Every one re-  
marks on its beauty. I want something  
nice to hold the water but as yet have  
looked for nothing. It was so warm yes-  
terday that I let the fire go out. To-day  
all the windows and doors in dining room  
& breakfast room are open & all the doors  
in back parlor for the benefit of the  
plants. I took off a great many yellow  
leaves off all the plants. Do not forget to



EXINGTON  
NOV  
10

Miss Laura Clay, KY.

Ann Arbor,

Michigan.

heard her say that she certainly was not  
going up this week I would have written to  
you Friday or Saturday evening so as to have  
secured you a letter certainly. Good by

Yrs devotedly

M. W. Gley.

Green sends his love.

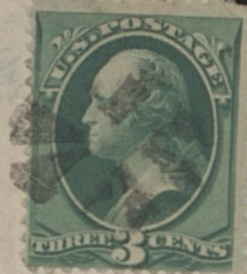
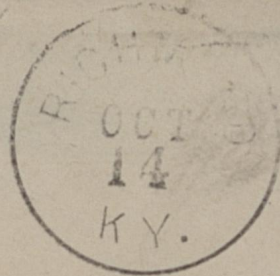
Madison County Ky.  
Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday, 1879

Dearest Laura,

You see I am still at  
Green's where I fear I will be detained  
until the middle of next, I get on  
slowly with the preparation of the ground  
for wheat. I commenced with two plows the  
3<sup>d</sup> of Oct. I have now increased to four  
plows & I do not think the first field is  
more than half plowed. The weeds or pop  
tail, is so high & thick that it makes the  
plowing very slow & the sun is so hot too, that  
it pulls down the teams very much. To  
plow at all I have a harrow to run over  
the ground to enable the plows to be run  
to any advantage. My field of course is the  
first one cut, yet in the neighborhood & it  
is not yet entirely cut. I begin again in  
the morning & I believe many others will begin  
also. Last Sunday I went in to Fannie's & remained

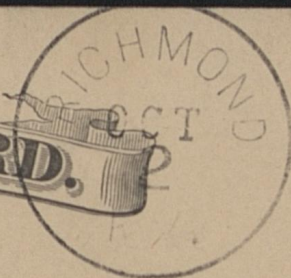
until the following Wednesday. Upon my return  
I found I had better have remained on the floor  
so have determined to do so until the crop is in.  
Lallie will make me a visit this Fall as soon  
as I go home which vacation she needs. She is  
very nervous & undertakes too much. She is not  
fit to teach her children & should not do it.  
It injures the children rather than benefits  
them & injures herself also. She ought to have a  
servant to attend to them or they should be sent  
to school. Lallie is teaching both Frank & Susan.  
Mary has rented her house &c. to a man by  
name of Cairnes whom Jas Bennett esteems  
as worthy & honest. Jas Gibson speaks of going  
to Missouri & the others do not wish to keep it.  
She is fattening 33 hogs for market & will  
sell all the Cattle on her place. She has bought  
100 cows. Cows will sell in the field for \$1.50 each  
per barrel of fat by the Register & Hogs at \$3.00  
per hundred. I have had no offer for mine yet.  
If I had hogs I would feed them & send my  
cows to market in that way. Mary will move her

furniture down here & then come over to Lexington  
stay with me until she leaves for Anne Arundel.  
Kear has rented Mrs Bennett's house & will  
move into it before bad weather sets in as it  
is ready for his occupancy without charge at  
any time not having been let the last year.  
Cornie went up to her Mother's yesterday to per-  
tains to-day or tomorrow. I hope she'll bring me  
a letter from you. I enclose you a letter from  
Caroline I rec'd yesterday. Sister Annis has not  
written to me yet, but Caroline gives me all  
the news. I'll send you two news-papers too which  
I know will interest you as they will give  
you all the news about home. "The Register" & "Lex-  
ington" of Sep. 10<sup>th</sup> Walker & we played Cards all  
the time I was in Richmond. I think  
she is more eager to play than Mr Bruce is,  
if possible. Good bye. I must write to Annis  
& Caroline to-day. I will send this off first  
opportunity. Cornie did not expect to go  
up when I left the house in the morning  
I suppose changed her mind; If I had not



Miss Laura Clay.  
Care of Mrs. Mary C. Foster,  
No. 26, Catherine Street, Ann Arbor,  
Michigan.





WRITE THE ADDRESS ON THIS SIDE—THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER

Miss Laura Clay,  
Care of Mrs. Mary E. Foster,  
No. 26 West Katherine Street,  
Ann Arbor,  
Michigan.

Dear Lewis, 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct. 179.

I am at Greens. Mary desires me to write you, that your Father wishes to buy 50 barrels of Corn from you, at \$1,25 it per barrel in the Field. She says it is low for it. I will send you a letter in a few days if I have opportunity of mailing it. I will have one ready to send to mail at any time. Mary has written to you, only directing it to Mr. Foster's care. I hope you will get <sup>it</sup> I commenced having Corn cut to - day. & will be very busy all the time I am here.

$$\begin{array}{r} 12 \overline{) 504} \\ \underline{48} \phantom{0} \\ 2 \phantom{0} \\ \underline{12} \phantom{0} \\ 0 \phantom{0} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} 4 \frac{1}{6} \\ 9 \\ \hline 1 \frac{1}{6} \quad 36 \frac{1}{2} \\ 6 \quad \underline{12} \\ 37 \frac{1}{2} \\ \hline 15 \\ 52 \frac{1}{2} \end{array}$$

— Mary Jane

Warfield Clay

of Anthracite & 300 lbs. of Soft Coal, I will see  
after a Store before I go to Madison; I have sent  
the Slip to Sellic relative to the Excursion, which  
you gave me. I feel that you are disappointed in  
Mr. Foster, is some way. Write me how you feel.  
I trust you will not be homesick; it is such a dis-  
tress. Mention every item you think of, never mind  
how minute. How did you like Prof. Jones? Is he  
a refined gentleman in his manners? Are the  
people you see pleased in appearance & manners, are  
they refined? Have you seen Mr. Perry & Mary Ann  
Kins? I have not had a line from any one in  
Albion since you left. I'll send them to you  
as I get them & keep a kind of Diary for you, in  
order to let you know as much as possible what is  
transpiring at home. Annie sends love & will write  
in a little while. She, Katherine, Susanna & Louisa  
Brown, she came to town for before yesterday, & is now at  
Chas. Westfield's, took a horseback ride alone, yesterday  
afternoon, to Annie's great delight. Good bye

Written by me  
N. M. Coley,

Friday Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> / 79.

Dearest Lewis,

Yesterday afternoon I rec'd both  
your Card from Toledo & Letter from Ann Arbor.  
I hope when you went to carry your letter to  
the P.O. you found my Card. I directed it so far  
right as my recollection served me & I do hope  
it reached its destination. I am glad you  
were so thoughtful as to send me Mr. Foster's  
full address as I was so inconsiderate as not to  
get it before you left. When I went to dusting in  
the back parlor I found your Algebra there &  
thought you had left it, by mistake, taking it  
out of your lunch basket, to put provisions for  
the stomach in. Well, that provision is a very  
necessary thing, as well as Paine's provender!  
Every thing that had transpired since you left  
that I could think of, I put on the Card I sent  
you, up to date. Since then I went next afternoon  
to Julia's, found Maria Dudley just leaving her Mother's

to go back to her own home & Julia is quite distressed,  
Julia wished you could have lived with her instead  
of going to Ann Arbor! How differently people view  
the same thing. The idea I speak of never entered  
Julia's mind, that you preferred your Mother's home  
to hers & if you desired to study more than to per-  
me in at home, you could hardly have preferred  
her home to study. Julia gave me her two chess  
-dishes saying she would never use them & Maria  
would use them & she would be glad to give them  
to me, if I could accept them. Also she gave  
Ann's her pocket hat saying she had offered it to  
you, but you preferred using black hats. Mr. W. W.  
accepted her kind gifts. Yesterday afternoon  
I went to see Eliza Woodcock & Mr. George  
Brend. Eliza looks much improved by her visit.  
I was shocked to see Mr. George Brend looking  
so ill. She was alone & sitting up. Dr. Whitney  
so Eliza told me, says Mr. Brend's heart is organi-  
cally diseased. She may drop off any moment &  
she may live for years. It appears to me that  
fame will be her fate. She looks so pale. Eliza said

there was to be an Opera performed last night in  
town & she hoped all the members of <sup>her</sup> family could  
go. Fannie Brend included as there was no one  
to be missing as Death came to all. But, when I  
saw Mr. Brend, I concluded at her wish, for  
she looks at Death's door to me. Eliza is devoted to  
the World & to this Life. Ellen Reynold was to see  
me the day after you left home. She told me that  
Mr. Preston had been seriously ill at the White  
Sulphur Springs & longed to be at home, for his day  
in his carriage with Ellen Reynold on the one side &  
Carrie Thornton on the other. She knew nothing of the  
operation to be performed on her husband's eye until  
she saw it in the news-papers; she immediately telegraphed  
to know when it was to take place & if he desired  
her to be with him. He answered "indefinitely postponed"  
"will let you know if I need you." Next thing she  
heard it was all over & he was visiting Boston at  
the fair show. He would be at the Springs in a  
little while & they would come home together & are  
expected to - prosper.  
I had my Coal put up day before yesterday, 6 tons

put up & it is my handsome as it will all be ready for use when I return. I shall leave all the flowers out & the key of the gallery with Sarah to put them up when it grows cold enough, Annie will be at Mr. Chereulle for two weeks & will attend to having them put up, in any case, before she leaves them to go out to Mr. Thropshier's, so I hope they will not be injured. Mr. Scott & Miss Bennett were married last week, Charlie Stolt & Miss Wether's, in the country, are to be married 21<sup>st</sup> of Oct. Burgess Hunt & Miss Gallagher are to be married in Oct. at Dr. Skillman's. He is forty & she twenty-nine years of age. I suppose Dr. Scott & Bride will be back in time to show in the compliment of the wedding party at Dr. Skillman's. I had a letter on business from Mr. Bennett yesterday which I wish to keep. He said all was well. His house had been filled with Methodist Preachers, but is at last empty. I hope to see May & Selia in a few days & will write of them. Annie sends love. Direct your next letter to Richmond, Care of Mr. Bennett's.

Dear Anne,

I wrote to you a few days ago. As I expect to go to the country to-morrow, I want to write to you again, so you will know why you do not hear from me as usual perhaps. You know the trouble we have in getting the mail in the country, besides, I will, very likely be so much engaged & tired that I may not feel like writing at night when I come to the house & likely not have a letter written when I have the chance of mailing it, but I shall endeavor to keep one on hand. I rec'd a card from Sam, day before yesterday, telling me that he had bought my Sheep & Rams wags after I had learned it from other persons & saying Sam wanted him to divide the field of Corn he made. Last week I wrote to O'Donnell to send the Mules for me to-morrow morning early, which I hope he has paid & I expect to go out to-morrow. I have all my clothes & numerous other things ready

Letter Anne  
is writing to you  
to-day, send the  
account of  
your trip in  
next letter.  
I sent you  
letters to Rich  
mond without  
taking a note  
of the number  
of the sheets  
to-day, 11/19/99

to start to-morrow just as soon as the Mules  
have sufficiently rested, for I do not like to be  
late on the road. I do wish Sister Annis made it  
agreeable to Annis to stay with her. I would be so  
much better satisfied to leave her under Sister Annis  
care. Next May, if it pleases God that we all should  
be here, I hope it will please Annis to go to the Farms  
with me, as I shall necessarily go to the sheep-shear-  
ing. I pray God to prosper you in the undertaking.  
And then when you & May come home in June you  
will likely find us either at the Farms or about going,  
to attend the reaping of the Wheat Crop. I am so  
thankful that you are so much interested in every  
thing in Ann Arbor that you have not experienced  
the pangs of home-sickness & I pray that you may  
be spared its anguish, for anguish it was, in my ex-  
perience. I was perfectly silent when your first  
letter arrived telling me that you had not been  
home-sick. I will make every endeavor in my power  
to keep you from a knowledge of it. Fannie Lawrence  
& daughter passed the day at Sister Annis's Friday  
& I went out after dinner & we all walked up to

Marie Dudley's house, which was that day almost  
ready for the roof. I think it will be a  
beautiful place! The rooms are large, high ceilings &  
beautiful in proportion & form. The house is much larger  
than I thought it was going to be & much handsomer.  
The people here commenced building up the Phoenix  
Hotel. Mr. Brown was here Friday evening & says Mr.  
Brown promises her to build her a dining-room this  
fall, if it is not too late, but she told him he certainly  
could get up one room, if the Phoenix Hotel could be  
put under roof before winter. She expected Mr. Saunders  
last evening & hopes Mr. Brown will offer him induc-  
ement sufficient to cause him to live here hereafter.  
She was quite set out, by not receiving an invitation  
to Eliza Woodward's card party. Aunt Mary Winfield  
is expected at Julia's next Thursday. The report  
of increase of Yellow Fever in New York City will deter  
Fannie Lawrence from going home, for we indefinitely  
told, but that will make no difference to Julia & Lou-  
is as Lou is still in her own house & can make arrangements  
to stay there, for any length of time & there is plenty of  
room, for Aunt Mary, at Julia's. Yesterday, our Tom was

she was going to marry Jerry Norton, he ceased to speak to her, never took a meal in his own house, told his Wife he wanted Mary's photographs before her marriage, for he never meant to see her or to speak to her again, sat in his Office all day the Sunday before her marriage weeping. Said she had broken up all his plans. He had built up his newspapers for his daughters & they could conduct it as well as he could; it is worth \$10,000 per annum &c. &c. I have no idea that he ever consulted them to know whether it agreed with their taste or talent, but Mary crossed his plans & therefore he treated her in this manner & she knew nothing of his purpose for her, I very much suspect! Some people ride high horses. This evening Sister Anne forbid Annie to enter her house - if she rec'd visits from Roger Williams. Did you ever hear of any thing more ridiculous, to keep the least of it. I tell you, dependence on <sup>him</sup> ~~her~~ would be, ~~her~~ her her! Her temper uncontrolled, is her great enemy, to happiness. Annie sends love & will write to you very soon. We had

an explanation see  
 above to - might  
 from Mr. McCall  
 which was eloquent  
 & inspired. We  
 ceased to be angry  
 for the time!  
 Good by.

Yrs devotedly  
 M. G. Wiley.

Sunday 23<sup>d</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1849

I have a little time in which to write before going to Church to night. I go with Clea Warfield as Annie is going to hear Dr. Garry preach on the Holy Land with Dr. Bennett. Lelly Warfield is going to Allegheny City next Friday to visit Ben. Warfield & family to stay until about Christmas & then from there to St. Louis to visit Ruth B. Brink, unless Wm. Brink's arrangements prevent. His congregation are in debt & the Church for sale, and they no longer need a Pastor, so he must seek some other place. It is reported & I believe there is truth in the report that Sallie & Sam. M. Chesney are engaged to be married. I suppose Clea desires Sallie to go into Society awhile before the marriage is consummated. Do not mention this in any of your letters for Sister Anne is going on like something beside herself on the subject & would take fresh fire if she knew of it, in

her usual pay. I went to see Mr<sup>th</sup> Perry  
Stanton, vice Gentry, yesterday: found her looking  
well, not as agreeable to me as I had ever found  
her before. Her parlor is beautifully furnished, several  
elegant presents she had rec'd which adorned  
her parlor, but which at the time I did not  
know were presents. On the Mantel I observed  
a handsome china plate a present from Dr<sup>r</sup> Rog-  
ers costing \$35.00. A very handsome stand costing  
\$35.00, the style of ours, on which we put the keys  
Lemp, an elegant china mug of some of the fine  
China from Mr. C. Johnsons. I heard he had offered  
her an evening entertainment or a gett of China  
to cost \$250.00. He prepared the China. Julia sent  
her the Bronze ornaments on Frank's Library Mantel  
as a testimony of his regard & arguments of her. She  
rec'd other very handsome presents. Alice Warfield  
was here this afternoon from Mr<sup>th</sup> Bruce's. She has  
come to help on the preparations for the Wedding then  
which is to take place next Wednesday. They have  
made extensive preparations. Her wardrobe is quite  
handsome. She is to be married in a white satin petti-

coat & embroidered white silk overdress  
trimmed with a fringe of white flowers  
made by Mr<sup>th</sup> of Sep. All of her dresses are  
made by her. She with the three stranger Brides, must  
be on the three o'clock train. Miss Herdies, Miss  
Bishop, the daughter of the Gov. of Ohio, Miss somebody  
else. These maids are doped with Blue, yellow & blue  
with Pink. It is to be a large wedding & Alice says  
the whole family are delighted with the match.

I forgot to say that Mary Gentry was married quietly  
at her Father's house at six o'clock & walked to her  
own house & took supper alone. I heard.

In one of your late letters you asked me if I  
meant to keep all my mules all winter & when  
wintering I have forgotten to answer your query until  
I had sealed my letter. I answer, Yes: I will have  
73 acres of grass land broken up this winter for  
corn, suet peas & so require them. I am cutting  
all my corn this winter & hope to get good sale for  
it next spring. Oh! I forgot to mention to you  
how ridiculously Howard Gentry has been behaving  
about Mary's marriage. From the time she told him





Miss Laura Clay,  
Ann Arbor,  
Michigan.

going out to Julie's to live. That if Aunt Myra  
is sufficient for Julie & (she believes she is) that it  
will be more agreeable to her to remain in her  
own house. I think Mr. Smellards child has  
a good deal to do with Leane's determination, tho'  
I could not say so to any one else. I think it a  
wise step for Leane. Julie is having some trouble with  
servants. She is keeping fewer servants than she did  
when she & Frank were alone & expects them to wait  
on twice as many people & keep things up as  
formerly. Frances Leane's & daughter are still  
there & Aunt Myra. Mary Gutz & Jerry Norton  
are to be married sometime this month & go directly  
to their own house. He has rented a house on Broad  
way, above Charles Morgan's two or three doors &  
North Horn. Scott is superintending the cleaning up  
of it, for him & directly after the ceremony they go  
into it. You have heard that Alvin Bruce is to be  
married to a gentleman from Wheeling, Virginia,  
& they start to Europe directly after the ceremony.  
She met him at Chateaugue last summer. Some  
talk of Mr. Johnson & Eliza Woodward being

At Home, Nov 27/47.

Dearest Leane,

You see I am at our own  
dear home again. "Sweet, sweet home," "There's  
no place like home" to me. I got thro'  
with my "Wheel" the 29<sup>th</sup> of Oct<sup>r</sup> & came  
home the 30<sup>th</sup>. I drove up to Sister Anne  
for my key & the first person I saw was  
Auntie, rushing out to meet me. I had  
written to her the Saturday before that I  
should be at home by next Friday or Saturday  
& I hoped she would come in & stay some days  
with Sister Anne before I got home. So she  
had just gotten in from Massachusetts that morning.  
She came home before dinner & had every  
thing fixed for me for the night & directly  
I had dined I came directly home as I had  
to pay the driver & start him home with the  
Mules. I tell you, Leane, I did enjoy my  
ride home. A great coach to myself, with a  
fine pair of Mules in it & an excellent driver

it was luxurious! I discharged the men & he went off with the mules & I laid me down on the Sofa before a good fire in the dining room. I found myself very much exhausted after the strain of business was lifted & slept heavily. Annie went on evening things, sent for Milton to come & light the fire in the stove as he desired to do so and when I awakened I found the house being warmed by the fire delightfully. Annie & I were congratulating ourselves all the evening upon being at home and having such a delightful home as we think it is. Each day since we find the stove, now & now agreeable. The stove sits in the middle of the back parlor between the dining room door & blue parlor window leaving us abundance of room to pass all around it. We have the sofa out of the front parlor sitting just where the end table sits, the <sup>fire</sup> chairs out of the dining room, of course, beautifully arranged about the stove, for the present the center table pushed back into the Bay window, the two Chinese tables with ornaments in the fire & the other two with ornaments

under the Steiner & the back door locked for the winter. When necessary we will bring the flowers down out of the Gallery & arrange them in the windows & the furniture will be somewhat differently arranged. The Pipe of the Stove goes into the dining room immediately over the door & then directly into the Breakfast room flue & that keeps the dining room comfortable so far. The carpeting in the dining room. The whole house is affected by the Stove. I am using the chamber over the blue parlor & am delighted with it. I was working all yesterday afternoon with the flowers, transplanting a good many & cleaning them of decayed leaves &c. & was broken down when I finished. I laid me down & rested until supper, after which I came to my room or rather Annie's & sat awhile by myself quietly & went to bed early. I did not go to Church this morning. I was too tired. I hope the quiet day will rest me very much. Yesterday morning or day before Laura Rogers stopped at the door to see me. She looks thin but says she is stronger & better than she was all last summer & has changed her mind about

(5)

Nov 2. 1879

married, He says he loves Mary Greig  
as a daughter & now she has left him  
I suppose he feels that he must seek some other  
love. Eliza is making great advances to him & I  
reckon he will not withstand them. I have not seen  
any one except Sister Ann, Leam & Clew Warfield  
I have had no opportunity of selling my cows yet &  
I really do not know what to do about it, except  
have it shucked & cribbed & then I do not know  
when I will ever get sale for it. When I farmed to  
you I fed it to Hoops & thus sent it to market,  
which is the best mode of using it in my opinion,  
if hoops sold at a ~~high~~ paying price, I got \$289  
00, for all my grass this year. Grazing cattle does  
not pay, I'll get 330,00 rent for house & land  
New Year's day & \$52 00 for my fields so the year's  
rent will be \$671,00 rent for the farm. I trust  
I will do better the coming year. Yesterday, poor  
Alex. Adams was buried! Died of ~~man~~ delirium  
tremens! Was paralyzed a week before he died &  
could neither see, hear, nor speak. I believe the poor  
fellow was crazy from some cause or other. Perhaps

he has been affected by the bite of the mad dog which  
bit him some years ago. When I was in Richmond  
I heard that John Young had been again drinking.  
Mary brought Miss Anthony down to her farm & on  
to Green's to see me. I found her very pleasant in  
conversation. A homely woman of sixty years of age!  
Very well satisfied with herself & her doings. Her eyes  
disfigure her, they set as far off from one another as  
the sockets will allow, worse than cross eyes! were it  
not for that she would be good looking. Her  
mouth is like Clew Bell's & she reminded me  
off Clew all the time she conversed with me. It is  
said D. D. Bell & Sidney Seavey are to be married,  
I see Mrs Foster is mentioned as an <sup>able &</sup> successful Lawyer,  
at the Women's Convention in Madison, Wisconsin,  
this Fall. I expect she was attending that Conven-  
tion when she was so long from home this Autumn.  
Well, my head is tired & this batch of news con-  
tained in Sister Anne's & Annie's letters & mine will  
be enough for your digestion power for gossip  
for this time, so with heart full of love from Annie  
& myself I remain yrs devotedly,  
M. J. M. Cloy,



gotten 44 names of Ladies & 102 of gentlemen in  
Lex. & 54 in Richmond, of both sexes. We had to  
go to seek here for the Ladies signature & set &  
discuss the question before they would generally  
sign. I have sent for documents which I will  
try to distribute judiciously & hope to accomplish  
something thereby. My trust, is in the Lord of  
Hosts, to bring about the fulfilment of our de-  
sires, for pain is the hope, I think of its being ac-  
complished by Women's efforts. You will be sur-  
prised to hear from Mary how many have signed  
& who they were. Most of the women who did not  
sign were afraid of displeasing their Husbands. All  
did not say so, but implied it. Tell Mary to tell  
you about the little Quapp & her big bad, Mr.  
Meyer. Many Husbands signed, who would not  
allow their wives to sign, I believe. Miss  
signed — but — she did not believe in it. The  
woman above all other in town that I thought  
would first sign at once. Mr. Jeffrey wanted  
to sign but was afraid of his displeasure. Mr.  
Killman the same, Mr. Swift, Jan Holt, Mr.

Higgins, Mr. Ben. Bruce, & some others.

This morning I was astonished by Mr.  
W. W. Bruce coming here to sign. I did not go  
there because I thought she would be afraid to  
sign as he had refused. She said she told Mr.  
Bruce she would sign the paper. She likewise signed  
the letter Mary addressed Senator Beck.

She says Laura Bruce is opposed to Women Suffrage.  
I think it is Laura's policy to object to it, to  
carry favor with her Father. Sister Anne is  
still on a high horse with Annie. She comes  
frequently here but avoids Annie's room & never  
calls her name; invites all to dine & take tea  
but leaves Annie out, &c. &c. We all ignore her  
displeasure & I hope in time it will wear out.

Thomson has declined purchasing Laura's property.  
She will advertise it & if no persons offer to buy,  
she will put it up at Public Sale & withdraw it  
if it does not bring \$10,000. I think she will  
have all her trouble for nothing. In time prop-  
erty may rise again, but perhaps not for several  
years. I have not seen Caroline but once since.

The vegetable  
dish is Mary's,  
Only bring my  
Pitcher home,  
Leave all other  
Measure.

Sunday morning, Nov<sup>r</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> / 80.

Dearest Laura,

I hoped you would have  
been able to get home this <sup>last</sup> week and sup-  
posing you will be home early this week I hesitated  
to write to you not to fail to bring the Pitcher  
Lamp, my coffee pot I use on the Table, the salt  
cellars, all the silver, the steel for sharpening carving  
knives & to tell O'Donnell to write, by you,  
how <sup>all</sup> the Wheat is looking on the place,  
If the Wheat is all sowed & how much is left  
over? Every grain that is left I want carried  
to Potts first opportunity.

If the Walnuts are planted in the Barn lot? I  
want several hundred planted. Planted thick  
under all the Brush in the Barn lot & the  
Ewe lot also.

If the Crib roof is mended?

" " Stone is hauled & put on the Dam.

" " Fence posts between the two wheat fields has  
been finished setting?

" " Wire has been put on the Posts between the Corn field & Meadow.



I hope to be pretty well thro' house cleaning  
the incoming week & then I shall begin  
in the yard. The pavements are in bad con-  
dition & I expect to have trouble with them in  
the Spring. All my tub plants are not taken in  
yet, but it will not take many hours to fin-  
ish that job. My house man is excellent in  
many respects but not quick but he is far  
more thorough than the most of servants, so  
I am satisfied still impatient when I do  
not think. I expect Sallie & Sue Bennett  
over & two of the children this week. I hope  
I'll get thro' cleaning before they come for it hin-  
ders me very much to have any one in the  
house at such a time. I do so much myself  
& want the assistance of the servants I keep,  
for economy's sake. As our Mother used contin-  
ually to say, it is ~~the~~ economy which wears people.  
I could finish up the house in a day or two if  
I would hire other servants & I think that I may  
do it, for I am tired & cannot rest, until the house is  
in order, then it is trouble enough to keep it. I  
shall certainly look for you this coming week.

Yrs devotedly M. J. M. Coley. Love to Green & Corrie.

her to write me daily of Eliza's condition & hoped it would  
prove to be Measles, as I know Field Clap had Measles.  
This afternoon, I rec'd a Card from May, saying Dr  
Wheat pronounced it Scarlet fever & said her pulse was  
150. It is an alarming pulse. I so much fear, that Sally  
will have great amount of sickness, in her family all  
summer! So many children & I suppose every one will  
fear to have them enter their families, after being with Eliza.  
If I felt myself able to take charge of the children, I should  
write to Sallie immediately, to send them over to me, but I  
know I have not strength to take charge of them, if they re-  
-mained well & could not do any thing towards nursing  
them, if they were taken sick. Annie has not yet written to  
May Cushman to come, nor will <sup>she</sup> until we know Eliza is  
out of danger - but her letters to the other ladies have been  
sent several days. If you go up to Sallie's, please do you  
write, or direct May what to write as daily, of Eliza's condi-  
-tion, won't you? I feel very apprehensive. It is one of <sup>the</sup> most  
serious diseases & must ~~fetch off~~ leave most ill effects  
on the patient if they recover, if any other. They need most  
careful nursing for months, after they go about. I hope I will  
get a Card to-morrow. We can get mail on Sunday's at the  
Office, between 12 & 1 o'clock. Annie or I will go for it. Annie  
is just going to take a drive for fresh air. She is quite weak  
yet. When I got home I found she had had a Physician to see her  
& went to bed by his order immediately. I shall now write

to Black, I

will send you

letters to May.

Annie's got your

letter to-day &

she says I got

news from your

relatives to leave,

about 4. If you can

at Sallie's let me know

it. Dear P. M. M. M. M.

With

Annie's love

and a love. You must

stay for

the 26

of the 26

of the 26

of the 26

of the 26

of the 26

Dear Laura,

Annie was out yesterday, for the  
first time that she has been, since I came home &  
in the afternoon was well enough to make the Club  
here. There were eleven persons present & we had a  
very pleasant afternoon. Mr. Beanchamp, Hooker,  
& Winton were ready to do any thing to help in the  
cause. Miss Hamilton is willing to be active also as usual,  
as she has ever been, but she was not in attendance yester-  
-day, being sick. Laura Brown was here in the morning  
to inquire if Sallie Beanchamp could be here, that she & others  
were anxious to have Sallie deliver her speech she addressed  
to the Legislature last winter. Miss Laura & Mr. Spade were  
here two weeks ago, they both contributed each \$1.00 to the  
club, but were not willing to enroll themselves as members.  
Annie had now written to Miss Cushman that she was sick  
that she must postpone her visit until next Autumn as she  
was so sick then & did not believe she could be well eno'  
to see her by the 1<sup>st</sup> of May. Now, she has changed her mind  
& wants her yet to come. She has ~~also~~ written to Miss Phoebe

Cousins

to ask her to come to her aid & endeavor to help the  
cause & asked Mr. Long if she could not come &  
pass a week with us & have public meetings every day?  
She is bimal of zeal & will hear to learn that Rome  
was not built in a day & must labor long to accom-  
plish her desires. I took cold directly I got home &  
I have seldom ever felt more unwell than I did near  
all last week. The pneumonia is relieved a little,  
but I am far from comfortable with it. My cold is very  
nearly well: it is broken up & is only disagreeable from  
expectoration. I have been writing thus far on the table,  
but it was so painful to my arm that I bethought me of  
putting the writing desk on my left & I am much more  
comfortable. I think Annie has about given up the idea  
of going to Madison to try & get her fence put up, she  
knows we have no coal at Mary's, no oil, no provision of  
any kind & not much hope of getting hands to put up the  
fence, if she was on the spot. I have not strength to offer  
her any assistance & she has not will sufficient to bear all  
the difficulties. I believe, if I was situated as she is, I could  
try it, but I cannot urge persons to any thing. She does not  
like to be questioned, so I refrain as much as I can, do not  
know how she proposes to graze her stock &c. &c. Mary Warfield

has reached home, came by way of Richmond,  
Va. staid some days with Louie's Cousin & thinks Rich-  
mond a beautiful place. Jack Ford accompanied her  
home this she says, she expected to come alone. Ford's Father  
has purchased a fine farm about six miles from Sep. & he  
told Mary he expected to come to see his Father on business  
in a few weeks, at any rate, & make it convenient to do so  
then. Mary told me that she did not think Dr. Dudley im-  
proved at all whilst in Naples but she thought he commenced  
to improve as soon as he got to Savannah. She left them in  
Charleston but they have left that city & gone to some other  
place, will be home in a few days as it is proper for them to do  
so & Maria very weary & homesick. Maria writes her Mother  
that she will spend the summer with her, not prepared to go to  
her own house. Dr. Dudley expects to spend the summer in  
the Adirondack mountains, if well enough, I reckon. Mary  
is glad to get home. Clara Warfield is offering her house for  
sale & proposes hereafter renting a house, one of a number,  
that Mrs. Bruce is putting up now on 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Sallie  
McChevy proposes taking one of the houses also. It will  
end, in this taking the one house, I expect, & living together.  
I rec'd a Card from Mary Bennett telling us of Eliza  
being ill with scarlet fever. I wrote to her at once & begged

May. 14<sup>th</sup> /84.

Dear Sam,

I wish you would tell Black to make the old lews so I can sell them off without being at the expense of handling them again. He has my book in which the directions are given for tanning their skins. I left it with him. It is my Scrap book, the lays Book with Brown cover, in which clippings are pasted. I wrote to Mr. Bennett last week requesting him to sell my Wood & hope he said it to Black to ask you or Mr. Bennett to furnish him with twine & bags to carry it to market. I would like to hear the money for it & am very sorry it bears so small a price. If I can get more by writing I would wait for it. I rode out to see Dr. Dudley this afternoon, he looks much better than I expected to see him. He is so glad to get home & regrets ever leaving home, was no way bit tired by it. He said nothing about going North. Eliza & Meta are making us a visit & I find Meta

very pleasant. Annie is making every thing very agreeable to Miss Crenshaw who will stay here until the 23<sup>d</sup> I believe. Debra Crenshaw comes for her, I think. All of Annie's acquaintances, ladies & gentlemen have called frequently to see her & paid her attentions beside. The Ladies carrying her to the races, the gentlemen sending flowers &c. She is about Belle Bennett's age, I judge & is very elegant & lady like, quite good looking & dresses well. decidedly refined & <sup>mixed in</sup> well cultivated society. She is invited to a reception at Mr. Loughbridge's next Friday evening & will receive other invitations I think. Minnie Gentry, who is about her age has Miss Brown of St. Louis visiting her & she must likely will entertain her & the Prestons will entertain Miss Brown. Annie Mitchell has a friend Miss Ely from Cleveland visiting her & I suppose she will entertain her & Miss Crenshaw will be entertained by all three, I expect. I must close of course. I am truly, & cordially yrs. I wish to go to the Farm as soon as Miss Crenshaw leaves.

A. J. W. Gray

LEXINGTON  
MAY  
7 5  
10AM  
A

Miss Laura Clay  
Whitchell St  
Madison Co  
Kentucky

May 18<sup>th</sup> / 84.

Dear Laura,

Miss Crenshaw expects to leave here next Friday evening & if she does, we will go over to the Farm as soon after as possible for a few days, if not longer. I hoped May would be here earlier this week than in her letter, she speaks uncertainly about the time, or coming at all. All are well & every body has called to see Miss Crenshaw & she is having a very pleasant time receiving receptions & cards. In great haste, with much love. I hope Black has attended to breeding my mare. I do not want my Weifer dead up.

Devotedly,

M. J. W. G.

Miss Annie  
it is half past 8.26



another fine gentleman in our employ who says  
 carried a gold headed cane, wore patent leather  
 pumps in the house, a gold hunting lady's  
 watch, a gold seal ring, a diamond breast pin,  
 & handsome cloth clothes. I dispatched him in  
 three days & next morning a silver smith  
 came to us reporting that a <sup>very much of a</sup> ~~man~~ calling him-  
 self James Wilson had come to his Shop, offer-  
 ing a gold hunting Watch for sale & saying he  
 was in my employ & as he had had so much  
 robbing going on he thought perhaps he had gotten  
 Annie's watch again. I told him I had dis-  
 missed a man calling himself Aaron —  
 two days before answering his description. It was  
 not Annie's watch he had. I have no doubt  
 he had stolen every thing he had. We are  
 now without a man servant & getting on  
 very comfortably for the time. I have not heard  
 from Forbes since I got home, so do not know  
 how things are getting on, on the Farm. Has  
 my cow, no calf yet? I expect Joel Johnson  
 is the only applicant for the cow that has the  
 money to pay for her & I do not want her to  
 go to any one that cannot pay at once for her

Dear Sam,  
 I rec'd May 8  
 last letter &  
 if my candle  
 was not full  
 I would pay you  
 for the fine  
 watch I had  
 as part of  
 my gift of  
 the night he  
 left. All are  
 well. Annie  
 joins  
 May 21/85.  
 Dumbly  
 N. York  
 I am  
 to leave for 3 years  
 with some relatives who  
 has of course to see  
 my mother, Mr. Brown  
 & a number more

Enclosed please find check  
 for Peter & one for Cassius Forbes. Forbes's  
 is due May 1<sup>st</sup>. I deduct his rent which is  
 \$3.33 1/3 its for month & grazing for his cow &  
 horse for ~~four~~ about three weeks, I guess. You  
 can tell you when he gets his fence put up.  
 It was not put up until I left Madison.  
 Peter Meser's money is due 5<sup>th</sup> of May at night  
 give him his either the evening of 8<sup>th</sup> of May or next  
 morning & first opportunity let him know you  
 have it for him as I told him it should be  
 there ready for him on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May. I owe  
 Forbes six dollars for Peter's board, which must  
 be added to his check (& rent of house, loss of time,  
 I know he lost some time making his garden as he  
 told me he was going to do) and grazing of cow & horse  
 must be deducted from the \$16.00 I owe him. Tell  
 Forbes he must make out his bill every  
 month hereafter & send it to me for of course

I cannot send him money until I know what is due him. I must will go over there I think the Sheep will need sheering as I wish to get it done. I do not see Forbes any thing for setting & for he has been in my regular employ all the time I was in Madras & I get paid pretty much, if not altogether, up to the 1<sup>st</sup> of May. Arrange that if there is any arranging to be done for you. I write Sallie something of the robberies committed on us by one of our dining room servants. I write now of what followed since. The boy was arrested by Policemen for breaching in Sydney Play's out house <sup>Friday night</sup> & stealing a silver watch & Chain & clothing from his miss. At that time the Policemen knew nothing of our robbery, but the evening before, which was the evening before I came home, Annie had brought to her mind that we had suspected Henry Hill of taking our diamonds. So she went to the Policemen in whose hands she had put her business to have an eye on Henry Hill who had been in our employ. To whom he was arrested a Policeman was sent to interview Annie

& Henry & his Trunk was brought to our house in the afternoon of my arrival. In his Trunk was found Annie's dressing <sup>case</sup> key, a key that fitted her Chest of drawers, a number of her Handkerchiefs, a quantity of her printing paper & envelopes, a dozen pins of cuff buttons, a pack of cuffs & a number of other articles among which was a good sized bundle of keys. After being knocked down several times with the Policemen's help knuckles he told him he would give him Annie's watch & tell him where the Chain was & where the money was & give him up my Umbrella. The Policemen told him he would give him just 3 mins. to get the watch. He ran, reached to a hole just over his head in the Watchhouse & produced the Watch. He had sold the Chain, but the Policemen recovered that & brought them up. He had spent the money buying clothes & paying his board. Annie was called to the Police Court to testify against him & I went with her. We have to attend another Court & then I suppose he will be sent to the Penitentiary. His appearance to me could not indicate villainy in any way, but I believe I am easily deceived. We had

May 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday / 65.

Dear Laura,

Annie went to the Office after Church, & brought home your letter to <sup>me</sup>, which I started myself to answer, as soon as we partook of Lunch. I am so fortunate to I feel in having you pass thro' my Farm to notify me of what is going on & to make suggestions. Yes, I will give the Cattle up my Clover field. There is no grass on the Jenkins pasture. I told Forbes to keep every thing off of Jenkins pasture to give it a chance to grow up as it was so trampled by the Cattle all winter. He must be very careful not to let the Cattle run on the Clover pasture when it is wet, or threatens to rain, at night. Charge him about it particularly, if you please. I have just rec'd & answered Mary's letter yesterday. I got it the day after it was written in Ann Arbor & it was four days after you wrote to me from Richmond before I got your letter. It is shameful neglect, on the part of the P. O. agents! I am very anxious to sell all the stock off the Farm, that are in order, for I have overstocked. I shall guard against it now

strictly hunched. I hope Featherstone will find  
some fat wethers, Ewes & yearling wethers to suit him  
in my flock. His brother went over last week to look  
at some cattle about Tipton & said perhaps he  
could go look at my sheep & I told him of yours,  
also. I saw your Aunt Caroline & Laura last Monday  
day the first day I felt able to go out. Laura had been  
complaining of a bronchial affection caused by a dis-  
ordered stomach notwithstanding which I thought  
she looked better than when I last saw her. Caro-  
line looks decidedly better & so does your Uncle  
Ellis. The house is sold in which Caroline lives. She  
keeps it for the year for which it is rented. Sister  
Anna offers her house to her again, but Caroline  
is very undecided about accepting it. I know no  
idea what Caroline will do. Caroline says it al-  
most decides her to go back to her Farm. She  
will decide nothing until she sees her son Ellis.  
For myself alone could I determine. It would be  
to my selling myself as a slave to Sister Anna, to  
occupy her house, in her life-time. I would not  
advise Caroline about. I think her son is the on-  
ly one to do it. Julia is not quite well. Sister Anna  
is about as usual, threading the streets day & night.  
Priscilla Bland is a great sufferer & is kept pretty  
much under the influence of Morphine which is

(3) a great blessing in cases like hers. <sup>May 24, 1885</sup> Your Aunt  
Marie has gone back to Bonnville with less regret  
than she has ever expressed before. She seems fond  
of Harriet's present Husband. Many of the places  
about town look beautifully. Mr. May Dudley's  
& Anne Tilford's notably so & Mr. Hen. Meyer's. We  
have no further news yet about Sallie Fannoubery's will,  
but suppose will hear something in a week or ten days.  
Frank Smith, who married James Tribble's sister,  
has bought Bradley's place, the handsomest in town, I  
think. To be sure it will be shorn of much of its beauty,  
as a building lot has been cut off each side of the resi-  
-dence. Smith gave \$12,000 for it. He could not have  
put it up for that sum of money. Property of that kind  
is selling cheap. Mr. Jeffrey wanted it for that price with  
all the ground attached to it. Sydney Cley has commenced  
adding to his house, but from what I hear of his archi-  
-tect I judge he will not have it ready by 1<sup>st</sup> of Sep.  
for them to go in. Did you have a good rain on  
our farms yesterday? We had a fine rain in Sep. That  
-nesday & all night. I hoped it had extended to Amelia's.

May 24, 1885

Your Aunt Julia is <sup>(4)</sup>not quite well but I suppose it is a passing ailment, she succumbs very readily to any derangement. She writes her note now & sees yet. He had a horse of Wick Preston's in his stable, which did run & win a brilliant race in Louisville. She goes from Louisville to Cincinnati thence to St. Louis & on to Chicago. I hope he will have a success somewhere. I shall look for May week after next. To-morrow week is the 1<sup>st</sup> of June. I do hope that her shroets can be brought to the scales next time Smith comes for shroets & that mine & hers both can go. It is time she was selling her fat hog too. I don't think that it will be well for May to go to Ann Arbor next Fall. A head is needed on her Farm, surely. Both of her men have too much outside business for themselves, to give attention to her interests, is my opinion. The sooner she gets home, the better for her interest. I know it is more to my interest to go to my Farm often. Good bye. I suppose you got the Check for Forbair? Annie joins me in love to you. Devotedly M. G. M. G.

Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> 1892.

My dear Mother,

I am glad to hear through Anne's letter that you are well and out visiting. I have been so busy writing my paper for Dorosis that I have not had time before to write you a letter, but I went promptly on Monday and insured the house. I insured the house for \$5000 and the out-buildings and furniture for \$2300, the horse and carriage for \$300. I had not thought of insuring these, but Mr. Cochran suggested that I should, and that he would give what he calls a rebate when they were not there. I insured all for three years, and had to pay \$65<sup>50</sup>/<sub>100</sub>, of which I paid \$39 out of my purse, and the balance with a

check on some of my trustee  
money which I had not paid  
over. I wish you would send me  
a check for the \$39, as I shall  
need it at once. I expect to go  
to Frankfort next week, and it  
will be an effort to me to get  
all our <sup>\$ 65.50 for</sup> C. & S. work done, as I  
have no <sup>Insurance for</sup> opportunity to see any  
one to <sup>3 yrs.</sup> consult with. I went to  
see Aunt Julia yesterday afternoon, af-  
<sup>July 1892. Paid,</sup>ter returning from Sorosis, but did  
not see her, as she now sees no one  
after 5 o'clock. Found Clara feeling  
badly; Maria thinks she has never  
fully recovered from malarial  
fever, and Maria thinks Aunt Ju-  
lia is not well.

How much did you pay Aunt Annie's  
servant Maria for washing? She is  
doing my clothes, and I do not know how  
much to pay her. Lovingly your daughter,  
Laura Clay.



attend to his Mother's Harvesting & they cut our  
Wheat a few days ago. It was very thin & low,  
but the Clover, very fine. We are needing seed very  
much. Spurkin says our Fox is keeping very well.  
We had Fox Crows to-day. My excellent Cow  
gives us an abundance of the richest Milk, the  
Crown is dotted, The country looks very beautiful.  
The drought has not yet affected the grass. I have  
not left the Farm since we reached here as Anne  
attends to the marketing <sup>& house</sup>. I attend to the Gard.  
& every thing now is looking beautifully. I do not  
like to hear the Cows intercepting the view of  
the Turnpike but as I need to do it, I will not  
refuse. The <sup>other</sup> cows all around can very well com-  
pensate me for the loss of that one for a few  
months only. We feel the loss of Jerry & Puss  
a good deal - but we will soon get accustomed  
to it. Susan was down to see Martha once &  
says they are both satisfied very well in town.  
She goes out to look & her to work Gardens & are  
fully employed. They have bought a Horse, Will,  
I have given you all the news & my paper is filled, so  
with much love, & good bye. Devotedly M. M. C. Gay.

Bennett

Dear Laura, July 4<sup>th</sup> 1839

How are you standing this  
great Heat? & how are you getting on with  
your Hours? I heartily rejoice in your getting  
rid of those disagreeable Panels. Write me when  
you think you will be able to join us in Med-  
ison, if you join us at all, this Summer. I do  
not think you will be through with them,  
before Fall. The Hours painters some three weeks  
painting the outside of my Hours & as you have to  
paint two hours inside & outside & hang paper every  
where it will take you until Fall to do it. You  
must pity me what you are doing. I quite miss  
my entertainment of looking on the progress of

the progress of your improvements. I am glad you have such agreeable boarding at both houses. I suppose you are enjoying the society of Laura Bauer & Ellen Payne both, as they are pleasant people. Write to me at once & tell me if any part of your work is finished. Will you have to reset your Parsonage on D<sup>3</sup> Street? Annie thinks you will. I think, whenever you have that nicely cleaned - it will <sup>be</sup> sufficiently good. It surely needs cleaning, quite as good as better than that across the Street & John can clean it thoroughly for you. Get a Butcher knife for him to do the work. There is no doubt it will be

best to reset the Parsonage, in the yard. Did you look at Wall Paper in Cincinnati? Mr. Bennett & Lillie dined with us to-day & Lillie remains delighted, attending to the Farm. Annie is attending to the Housekeeping, here & having all the Carpets taken all the carpets & cleaning up generally, very much interested & a great help to me, as the great heat. I feel very much. Ozbry's is enjoying his Pony very much & rides beautifully & Mr. Bennett & Lillie come down very frequently. They dined with us to-day & Lillie is now out on the Farm & Mr. Bennett enjoying the good air, out of doors. I have been busying myself having dock cleaned up around the house of which I never saw such a quantity. I had it dug up immediately around the front door & the remainder from the house to the yard gets moved into the ground. I have been attending to cleaning the yard ever since we got here & Annie is thoroughly cleaning the House. They could not hire a person to do it & had not a servant to clean her own house until our arrival, so she was glad to get Emma, Green comes home to

LEXINGTON, KY.  
MAY 24  
10 P.M.  
85



Miss Laura Clay.  
Whitchell P.O.  
Madison County,  
Kentucky.

with the house. I hope she will continue  
to enjoy it for many years. She is a good ten-  
ant I have heard. How you had all the  
paving done? How you put in a new iron  
gate for Mr. Wickliffe & a shell Parment?  
Write me every thing about your improve-  
ments for it all interests me so much.  
All would send love if they knew I was  
writing. Eliza Bennett Smith has a daugh-  
ter & Smith named it for Eliza Bennett  
Smith. They were disappointed in its sex -  
which astonished me, I supposed they  
would have preferred a daughter, as the  
Smiths had but the one son. Will I have  
written very hurriedly whilst all our nap-  
ping. Lillie sends love & says come on  
over - but I know you are right to  
stay until your work is finished if possible.  
He altho' I am naturally to love you  
here so much. I am almost sick to you.  
Devotedly yr M. J. W. Hey. We all miss  
you so much. Lillie just now tells me that  
all of them will stay all night.

Dear Laura, Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 1899. <sup>Bennett</sup>

When can you go to come  
over? I am sick to see you & you must  
write to me, telling me when those good-  
for-nothing workmen will get through  
their work. How you interested your  
brock well on 2<sup>d</sup> Street & cleaned that  
Parment, if grass? I just long to see you &  
have you with me. Lillie & her young lady  
visitors are spending the day here to-day &  
I have enjoyed them very much. Annie  
has been cleaning up the house all over & it

does look so nice & great; the old blue dining-room carpet looks very nice indeed in this dining-room, all the paint in the house has been beautifully washed & the room prettily papered & the yard partially cleaned, so we are very comfortable. Your room is nicely cleaned the carpet having been taken up & cleaned ready for you & I am anxious to have you occupying it. The apple trees are loaded with fruit & we have had a delightful fall of rain which was greatly needed. Green Clay is with his

his Mother still having come over to have attend to the reaping of his Mother's wheat & he cut out a very poor crop of Wheat but a fine crop of Clover. Our Wheat is thrashed likewise. The crop is good - but injured by the drought. We had a good rain a few days ago, which we needed indeed. I do not like my corn in the present position at all. Another year, I will not allow it to be planted in Corn, in certain points. It absolutely troubled me some. I felt suffering by it. I now enjoy my Farm as much as I have enjoyed it this year. Every thing looks beautifully. Sally has gotten through a great many weeds & all the Stock looks well. I send this note to Ed by Sally to have it mailed. She & her young lady visitors Miss Stone & Thomas are here to-day spending the day & I have enjoyed them. Annie attends to every thing in the house which is a great relief to me. Do write to me at once & come over the first day you can. We are so glad Mrs. McIliff is so much pleased

"Bellows," Med Co. N.Y.

July 7<sup>th</sup> 1899

Dear Laura,

I was so glad to get your note & its contents this afternoon... I miss you so much & will count the days 'til you join us. Annie is busy as a Bee, cleaning up here about the house & I am busy in the yard cutting out Plantain. I never saw so much of it. Sally kept the Sheep in here, all winter & the ground is over run with Plantain. I hope to get it all pulled out by the time you get here & perhaps before. We were so glad to get your letter this afternoon. I expect Annie will return to Virginia through Lex. in order to get a view of your house. I am glad Mrs. Wickliffe is enjoying your house. I am so glad she got it, instead of the Pencks. I think she may continue there as long as she & Mrs. Berryman live, near each other. I have heard the reason she left the house she was in

just above Mrs. Burymen on Short Street, was  
because the house was so much out of repair, &  
I have heard also that she is a very exacting  
woman, however, that will not trouble you.  
& you will have two first-rate tenants, I hope.  
I am glad Cunningham is getting through his  
work. I like him very much. It appeared to me,  
that he was three weeks on my house & I supposed  
he would be as long on yours. The country looks so  
beautiful to me & I never saw my Farm look  
prettier, still, I do not like Corn on my front  
Pasture. I will put ~~the front~~ only a portion of  
Corn in it, next year, & plant Wheat on the  
entire portion, whether it will be profitable or  
not, I will indulge myself, so far. I never saw  
the country look so beautiful & I do enjoy it.  
The children are enjoying it, as much as Sam,  
& Annie also. Sally is here every few days. She is  
triumphant of enjoyment in the country. The Wheat  
crop was very poor, but the Clover fine. My Farm  
looks well & Sally is so much interested. She is here  
twice or thrice a week. Green Clay came to Ky.  
to assist his Mother in her Wheat crop & is still

(3)

July 7, 1899

her & Mary has invited the young ladies from Louisville, to come down with Helen Bennett to spend several days, with her, in order to entertain Grace. She is travelling up once a week to Red. Country life is very distasteful to her. She is very weary of it. Annie & I & the children are rejoicing in it. Annie is keeping house & cleaning up & repairing all the time, & she appears very happy in seeing the children's enjoyment. I expect Annie will go by Lex. to Virginia, to see your houses, though I have never heard her say so. I am all anxiety to see them. I only wish you had asked a better price for them. I am glad you only rented them, for one year, at that price. You will find that they will <sup>rather</sup> give you a better price, than to make a move, so, perhaps it will all come out right, afterwards. I am glad you have comfortable lodging & boarding, & that you expect to join us in two weeks. I count the days as they pass, for I miss you very much. All are in bed. The children are just wild with delight in being in the country & having a good time in every



(4)

way, Dobny has his saddle & Pony & rides ad-  
mirably, right at once. Annie is attending  
to the marketing & the Table & we are all  
very comfortable. Hoping to have you with  
us in two weeks & not be disappointed y<sup>r</sup>  
devotedly M. J. M. Bley. All are in bed, but  
myself, so I'll read awhile & then, when I  
feel like it, will go to bed, (Sat. afternoon).

I put a revenue Stamp on this letter as  
I did likewise on the first one I wrote you &  
supposed it was all right - but - this letter was  
ret'd this afternoon, saying it was unlawful  
to use them. I do not know why the first letter  
I wrote you was not returned also. Do write me  
again next week, I long to see you & have you  
with me. Devotedly y<sup>r</sup>

M. J. M. Bley.

I have just rec'd this note from Standard Oil  
Co. in Dep. I have no Checks on Northern Bank, I  
wish you would bring me ~~me~~ a Check Book when  
you come over, if I have any money there. I have two  
empty books in Celler & so told the man which  
I have always ret'd. & now wish them ret'd. You will see



Miss Laura Clay,  
78. N. Broadway Lexington  
Kentucky.

July 25<sup>th</sup>/99. Mad. Co. Ky.

Dear Laura,

I have been so unfortunate as to lose the key, of my Writing Table & foolishly expected from asking Annie to furnish me with Pen, Ink, Paper & Stamps, until to-day. I never minded you so much as I have done this Summer, & sometimes, have felt nervous about it. I do hope, you will be able to come over now, in a few days. Do write to me directly, how much longer you will be detained in Ky. My ~~will~~ will entertain a large concourse of married people this afternoon & another gathering of young people, this evening. To entertain Cley & his Wife. Dabney has been visiting Annie for a few days & will leave to-morrow for Pied Virginia. Brutus & Lattie, Mr. Bennett & Sally, dined with us yesterday, & I believe all from Myri's. Cley & his Wife Frank & Susan & Dabney were here the day before. I never see the "Bellevue" look so beautifully to me, as it does this Season. Lattie is here every few days, which is a great pleasure to me. Eliza has a daughter a week old & I cannot

you the young lady's card. Eliza is getting on

very satisfactorily, & Mr. Bennett looks quite well.

I am glad to say Brutus & Sally go to Europe this

Fall to remain a year. I suppose the two sons will

go with them. Except to go over to Mary's for an

hour or so, I have not been off the Farm, since

we came over, nor felt the slightest desire to go.

As soon as the weather is suitable to go home,

I feel like going home. I suppose Annie will

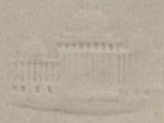
leave as soon as she does usually. Debney is here

only for a few days, leaves ~~for~~ to-morrow, I think.

Do write to me at once & tell me how long it

will be, before you can come over. Devotedly yr's

M. J. N. S. S.



Jan'y 5<sup>th</sup> 1880.

Dearest Lewis,

Only a moment to write,  
to say, A happy New Year to you, & a God  
bles you! I wanted to have put you a home  
made Cake & some little things as a souve-  
nir of Home but have not been able to  
do any thing of the kind so enclose you  
five dollars to us as you choose, for your  
own pleasure. I will write in a few days or  
rather when Lellie leaves & tell you & May  
what she has been about, if any thing, surely  
has stay here. Good bye. May will tell you  
all the news. In great haste.

Devotedly yrs.

M. J. Warfield Cley.

Miss Laura Clay.

Ann Arbor.

Michigan.

Petitioners for the 16<sup>th</sup> Amendment. I will get  
some Paper fixed by our next meeting & give  
to the members for them to get signatures & we will  
send them to Mrs. Spencer, who says she will present  
them every month till Congress adjourns. I see in  
the Feb. No. of National Citizen<sup>a letter</sup> from J. W. Arms  
strong, Shelby's Station, Kentucky, written to the  
Women's Suffrage Association of Washington D. C. who  
says, he believes a good deal of interest might be  
aroused in behalf of the Cause in his section of coun-  
try, if he could get some publications for distribution.  
He is a well wisher to the cause of Women's freedom.  
The Editors do not say whether or not they sent  
him any tracts, He says nothing about sending  
any money to them. I'll write you again in a few  
days after Sally leaves & tell you of all our doings  
& conversations, whilst she is here. Meg Woodfolk has  
my Petition paper & is trying to get subscribers to  
it. The Men sign; but will not allow their wives  
& daughters to sign. Mean creatures, brutes!  
Sister Anne still holds out against Annie. All  
are in usual health & spirits. Love to the children.  
Yrs. devotedly, N. W. Westfield, Ky.

March 15<sup>th</sup> 1880.

Dearest Children,

I enclose you a letter re-  
ceived a few days ago from Green. I am glad he  
is soon tired of office holding & hope he will go to  
work in earnest & be content to make bread by the  
sweat of his brow. But I have no faith in his  
doing so. I really do not know whether or not  
I have written you of our Club meeting & organizing  
in our parlour the 7<sup>th</sup> of March. Mrs. Bright,  
Cheneault, Heemilton, Miss Hoyt & Annie & myself  
were all there congregated. Mrs. Dr. Meyer came in  
after the meeting adjourned, but she came ready  
to do any thing that I wanted done. Mrs. Theodosia  
Lockman was confined to the house with rheumatism  
& could not come. Mrs. Swaney's child was sick; Mrs.  
Lucy Lancaster is on her back for a month. Mrs. M. B.  
Lancaster's husband would not allow her to come,  
Mrs. W. M. Bruce had company & could not come, Mrs. L. P.  
Milward had sickness & other sorts of griefs. Mrs.

Bruce, Freyer, Bright, Hamilton, Hoyle, Cochran, all  
subscribed for "the National Citizen & Ballot Box"  
& to-morrow I send for them. I write to Mrs. Hill  
now for the money promised us, May, sent a news-  
letter of the Ballot Box just rec'd & asked her if she  
would subscribe for it? She ret'd answer that she  
would attend to it, so perhaps I'll hear from her  
to-morrow. I believe that Dr. Lacey will prevent  
Mrs. Lacey joining the Club. It meets here next  
Tuesday week again & will see how matters stand.  
Dr. Cheneault is considerably opposed to Mrs. Cheneault  
having any thing to do with it & so I expect we will  
find a good many masters standing in the way of  
the enlightenment of their Slaves. Are you glad  
we have no Master? I rec'd a card from Sallie,  
Friday, saying she & Mrs. Bennett, Sue Bennett & per-  
haps Mrs. Sem, Bennett, would be over Monday to  
hear Beecher speak here Monday evening. Just see,  
every body running to hear that old Whore lecturer.  
I hope Sallie will not go yet. She had better spend  
her money trying to put down such villains. I  
mean to write to Anne Dilpad to-morrow asking her

to aid the Women's cause & ask Margaret Woodfolk  
if Annie Craig will contribute any thing  
to the Cause. I, truly believe that James Bruce is  
coming round. I sent some papers to Laura Briggs  
to read a few days ago. She sent them back, saying  
she could not read them until after Lent. At  
our next meeting, I will ask all that come to sub-  
scribe to "the National Citizen". I think it would  
be more effective than any tracts & a good deal  
cheaper too. I wish I had fifty dollars to send S. A.  
Spencer. She is a worker indeed. The Women's Suffrage  
has laid off an immense deal of work to be done  
this year. I do not think they can accomplish it.  
Annie is very much interested in the Cause.  
The man I think of to see it, the bigger it appears  
to me, Women are persistent, & I believe it will be  
accomplished after awhile. God's will be done!  
I will send to Mrs. Brodie's friend a Table as  
soon as I receive a P. O. order for 4.50; what shall I  
do with the money? I wish she could sell all of them.  
I have written to the Millions whom she mentions,  
asking them to subscribe for "the National Citizen" & get



Miss Laura Clay.  
78 N. Broadway, Lexington,  
Kentucky.



Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup>/88.

Dear Laura,

I got so fidgety from not hearing from you or of you & expecting you twice every day & looking out for you & therefore staying at home that I wrote to O'Donnell enclosing a short note to you, to know what was keeping you as you wrote me on the 5<sup>th</sup> ult. that you would be home in a few days after.

I was so sorry to hear of my ill luck with my yearling lambs. I will send down early in the morning & see what I can get for the skins & retain one for the a ewe's meat.

I wish the heads had been left on & perhaps they are. Green came on us very unexpectedly. Unless Green asked at the Toll Gates if he could carry over a barrel of Lime free of charge I would be afraid to send it. I will send some window shutters & a door to Green to inclose his porch, which I think will answer well.

I will send the same if possible. Why  
did not you write me something of your Barn,  
how d'ye like it? Last night Sister Anne & I  
went to Maria Dudley's & there found Minnie  
Gretz, May Norton, Anna Diddleke & Mollie Desha,  
all studying their lesson in English Literature for an  
examination. All of them expressed great anxiety  
to see you & have you join them in the study.

Maria is in fine spirits and is enjoying  
her new home evidently very much. Mollie  
Desha is staying with her during Dr. Dudley's  
stay in N. York for some weeks. Julia has given  
each of her children a Shetland pony & Sister  
Anne gave the saddles & bridles & the children  
are riding them with great delight. Sister  
Anne very devoted. All our well. Annie will  
write to you about some corn; says of course  
you can have the stone. She knew that Dozier  
was getting a little more wood. We bought &  
paid for it, as we came over to Lex. Hoping  
that you may be home soon I am

I hope Lelia's is devotedly  
& Sue Bennett  
will come over N. J. Warfield Clay,  
with you.

White Hall B  
Sept 20



Miss Laura Clay.  
Care of M<sup>rs</sup> Laura Rogers.  
Lexington.  
Kentucky.

Monday afternoon.

Sept 11<sup>th</sup> 44.

Dear Mother, I have just returned without  
 seeing you which I so much regretted.  
 Do write me what arrangements you  
 have made about a piece of land  
 had here yesterday & very anxious to find  
 her little daughter Belle to Mr. Williams  
 school, if she only could get boarding for  
 here. I have been in her situation myself  
 & I told her perhaps you must have  
 would take her. She is fond of you  
 & the more the merrier, so ask her  
 if she will board Belle Bennett. The  
 child of eleven years of age I do not  
 expect would be any trouble. Mr.  
 Bennett would be very grateful to her.  
 Tell her I did not know she meant one  
 of her mountain maids to be her cook. I  
 am very anxious to know how she is pleased  
 with her & all about her every moment.  
 The wishes for [redacted] truly then [redacted] child



one of the things I have been thinking  
of with regard to you is to get some  
to you when you are at home & if you did  
not get them so you must have them now.  
Buy them & I will send you the money  
if I can get your name & address  
and then to you first opportunity. The girls  
will be going now soon. I have sent you a draft  
of \$2,550 in payment of his indebtedness to me  
so I hope if he can do that much already he  
will be able to pay his whole indebtedness in  
less than three years & make something besides  
you. He writes me that Chandler had sold out  
all his interest in the oil wells to his part-  
ner & Green's rights were secured by con-  
tract. He ~~is~~ that Green's salary will  
be increased. I was so glad to hear it.  
I will send you some of your old chemis-  
which I have had mended for you. Your  
Aunt Anne will pay you as much for  
of every kind as you want. Keep piling on  
clothes until you are comfortable. Be certain  
to keep your feet warm & dry. Can you

not wear your shoes? If you can  
do get a pair at once then whenever  
it rains, I shall all the time be waiting  
about your thoughts. You cannot help  
being happy if your thoughts are  
happy. I am so anxious to hear from  
you. I hope you need not  
write by Mary. Quintus writes for all  
will with him before that you see  
his his in his spirit. Love to  
about just as you desired by  
for the sake of the children but not  
all his interest in the oil and his  
our of every night was secured of  
that. ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~  
to recover. I was so glad to hear  
I will send you ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~  
which I have been much ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~  
about that with you as much as  
of every kind as you want. But being as  
either that you are comfortable. As usual  
to keep your feet warm and dry. Love you



White Hall Ky  
Oct 24



Miss Laura Clay,  
Care of M<sup>rs</sup> Laura Rogers,  
Lexington,  
Kentucky,

Miss Laura Clay.  
Care of D. M. Craig, Esq.  
Lexington,  
Kentucky.