

The Filson Historical Society

Mss.

A Bodley Family.
B668e Papers. 1773-1939. 9.33 cu. ft.
67

Correspondence, 15 July 1861-
25 Dec. 1861

Dear Brothers, All well. no news. Don't believe all the reports
you hear from Mrs. Melvin's Home Wood July 15 1861
troops have been always successful. A report of Gratz Brown's
death was circulated for several days. No truth and Loveto
admitted soon. Wm. B. W. H. W. Bodley

Dear William

I am going to write to you on
this half sheet of paper because I do not see
any better. I have a great lot of paper that
has some insurance stuff printed on one
half of the sheet. I shall use that hereafter
economy is the order of the day —

We had a large congregation yesterday
of highly respectable people — we had a most
excellent sermon very well preached —
but in the most solemn part of it, a number
of cars filled with soldiers passed by — we
can not see through our Church windows
but though pretty sure that they were filled
with soldiers we were not left to conjecture,
for they always set up a shout as they
pass — this stirs up bad feeling — so I fear that
the good seed fell on hard ground — and
these birds of ill omen carried them away.

I was able to go to Sunday school — I have
been very much exercised about a girl of
14, for whom I stood as sponsor — she is very
pretty and very pious — I wrote her a
long letter — she came to Sunday school
with such a bright sweet face — and said
her lessons perfectly — said she would try
this week to be good — so I feel encouraged
after Sunday school we had another relay
of soldiers who sang drunken songs for
the benefit of the children

As I went to Sunday school I called by
and read aloud to Gertrude a while - she is
getting on very slowly - the baby is a poor little
thing - They call it Frank Robert - when I got
back home I was pretty well used up - was
quite sick in fact, from an old pain that
I have when I take cold - yet it was a pleasant
Sunday - so many people fed - the Gospel for
the day was about taking the bread from the
hands of our Saviour and giving it to the
people - was not this our work to day? Harry
fed an hundred in the morning -

1861 We have Mr Basil Duke boarding up at Mitchell's
old place - some very quiet people live there - an
old man, who has just lost all his fortune and
his son and his ^{son's} wife - they owned the place
but it had to be given up with the rest of
his property - poor old man, I feel so sorry for
him - we are younger - and we have a home
and so many other things to make us happy -
Miriam keeps the garden in beautiful order

Mr Gill is perfectly enraptured with living
in the country says he never was as happy
in his life - if he were living in town
now he would be walking about doing nothing
to do - he has turned off all his clerks but one
out here he works in his garden - feeds
the pigs and plays with Harry - Ellen
made four pounds of butter yesterday - she
thought surely it must be a mistake so she
weighed it twice - she has two cows - old
Mrs Gill is much the same - Good by yours truly
Sara G Rodley

Frankfort July 18 1861

Dear Brother

I have just received your letter and find no bill enclosed, you probably forgot it.

The record was copied by the boys as soon as you ordered it & returned to the office they will see to it immediately.

I had a letter from Mr Waterman this morning & they are all well and the country beautiful & quiet.

Love to all. I do not need any money at present in haste

your aff sister
M Church

MJC

July 20. 61
and enclosing bill

The Filson Historical Society

M J C

Frankfort July 22nd 1861

My Dear brother

I have just received yours of 20 I send back the bills as soon as I can.

I had another letter from Kitty since I wrote they are all well and Mr Waterman in proving constantly, will be back by the middle of August at farthest. He sent his advertisement to be put in the Commonwealth.

William came in this evening rejoicing at the news of the repulse of the Federal troops from Manassas Junction which news was telegraphed to day but I do not feel at all certain it is true. He is a warm southerner and I believe would have liked

to be in Virginia if I was not
so opposed to them, I wish
you could have a talk with
him although I think he is
so completely prejudiced against
the North and confounds it
with the Union that he is
irreclaimable. the only chance
is his aversion to do what I disap-
prove to keep him out of the way.
to me the news of victory
on either side is distressing for
we are all brethren & I did
still hope for compromise.
God grant we may still
have peace.

Love to all at home & at
Elizabeth ever your devoted
sister M J Church

so this leaves the salary to pay debts - it is a great pleasure to pay debts is it not? we are quite proud of being so economical this year - though a ~~little~~ ^{little} ashamed of ~~not~~ ^{not} having been more so before

Don't you remember that I told you I was going to write on this paper perhaps you would like me to be "Economical some other way" - that need to be Hal's damper to my plans

there is nothing ~~like~~ ^{like} getting used to it - for your comfort however I will ~~tell~~ ^{write} you that I have only a few doz quires of this kind of paper

It is some of Courtneys extravagance the ~~most~~ ^{most} formal agent - with much love to Ellen and the girls - I am

TO ALFRED FELL, Esq.

as ever your affectionate Sister

18
AGENCY OF THE
Liverpool & London Fire & Life Insurance Co.

July 27. 61
Lane & Bowley
5 Princes Street

I have some little blessings that call for daily thankfulness - I hope I do not think more of them than I ought - only I ought to think more of the greater - windows running up and down upon weight - is one - plan by of good kindling and newspapers to make a good fire in a minute is another - these two I am constantly reminded of, this cold summer - for I wish the windows open every time I wish the room and shut when I leave the room - and when I return - when I rise at five I want a fire to bathe by - and, as Hal says when he comes home a damp evening "oh this fire is very grateful" Did you ever know such a cool summer? your opinion will be of weight now - you are getting to be that respectable individual - "the oldest inhabitant" if Hal is not young in anything else he is a perfect boy about weather - it is curious how uniformly he guesses wrong - as if Father says he thinks it is going to rain - the girls feel sure

of a pleasant walk and flying clouds
indeed I am much put to it to judge
of weather in this climate myself

One of the big things that I am much
thankful for is that Hal has acquired
a fondness for reading - It is true it
not my sort of reading - an essay must
be very good and very short if I could
him to read it - and poetry - he "will
read another time" - but sermons or
hymns, he will read by the hour
Is it not charming! here he has the
condensed wisdom and learning
of some of the first minds of the world
given in the most beautiful style -
and he likes to read them - now
I do not - there is something in the very
name of Sermon that I do not favor.
It is true when I get interested I
go through it, and am pleased - but
I always begin with an effort -
now the Life & Epistles of St Paul
is after mine own heart - I am
so glad that you like it - I am
sometimes tempted never to
recommend

a book again - because my taste is
different from most folks - that
is - my neighbors - they bring the
books back with cold commendation
and some times "it was a very
pretty piece" - the girls - that
is Effie Annam and Ella have
gone visiting this morning -
we have some pleasant Virginia
people living about five miles
from us - they come to our Church
count it a pleasant distance -
Mr Robinson is a cousin of Gold's -
somewhat Robinson of Louisville - Mr
Lockwood ^{Spokane of my University School mate} is a good man with a
pleasant wife they only come out
in the summer - Cap Shown married
a sister of William Kennet - They all
live near each other and form
a pleasant neighborhood -
Harry seems in good spirits - so
far this month - he has made more
than we have spent - by his extra
work - that is his agencies and some
little office in the board of underwriters

Sunday 28th July 1861

My dear Willie-boy
of your, your letter I have the advantage
of you I write and it seems more like a pleas-
ant chat - in consequence, your letter came this
morning and a nice long one it is,
I am glad you admire the beautiful scenery
cultivate a love of it, it is a great source of
pleasure,

I am very much interested in your flower col-
lections, shall you have them named or
don't you know the names?

I am sorry the chickens don't come up to
be shot, but am pleased to find your time
does not hang heavy on your hands, and
that you seem contented and happy, I expect
my boy finds ^{that} to draw on Pa^{'s} a much less or-
derly way of making pocket money than
earning it by the 'sweat of the brow' I think
there is no danger of farm laborers getting
very rich in Nebraska.

As to the revolver I think you had bet-
ter keep it, your Pa looks upon it as a pres-
ent from Mr. Munn to you, as he ^P sold the
other for what yours cost - less 12½ dollars

and that I contributed towards Lyons

I remember there was a Mrs Douglass ~~at~~
at Cleveland but I cannot place her - it was
^{I do not doubt} pleasant to be so recognised, and I think she
must have an excellent memory for faces - ^{for you have changed a great deal since then}
You say "was it not pleasant to meet one you
had known so far from the place of meeting" don't you
think it would sound better to say, "is it not pleas-
ant to meet one one have known etc." your sentence
seems awkward - and you know I wish you to D.L.
and so the Bishop has gone on his way alone
or rather without you - I am glad you did
not go by stage. I expect he was very sorry
to leave the poor invalid in her present weak
state,

I am much obliged for the interest Miss Liddiard
takes in you and hope you will second her
endeavour to make something satisfactory out
of yourself.

Mrs Lewis and family have returned
I am glad to have them back it seemed quite
lonely without them, Mr Lewis is joint executor
with some one, and has to go back to Cincinnati
on Wednesday -

You ask after 'poor' Aunt Louise - it is
all that, her boarders in consequence of the
times have been obliged to go home to their
several friends parents &c - and she has
not one now - she thinks if she can

bear up untill fall they will return which they
have promised to do - she asked me for sewing
and I give her what I can, your Pa supplys
her with a sum weekly untill she can do for
herself - she disliked very much to consent to be
give it, and asked to be allowed to consider
it a debt, that she might repay, if she could
I suppose Uncle William could not at this time
get anything to do, but he could keep sober -
Mr. Tom Brown is dead, is to be buried to day, I ex-
pect he leaves his wife penniless.

I am glad you laid in a stock of powder before
it was so dear, but dont spell 'laid' with a 'y'
'layed' as you sometimes do, and did this time
if you should feel like criticising my letter in return
please dont send me the result, but quietly prof-
it by my mistakes.

To morrow I believe little Emma is to
leave her school on her way to Louisville, she
brings with her two of the other teachers they
will stop here ^{with us}, but I suppose their stay will
be short, I never remember so cool a
summer as this, it is delightful, and yet every
sort of vegetation thrives.

Give my love to all, and good bye my
Willie. Pa sends love.
Mother

Wm. H. Fosdick P.S. I send you a refreshing letter
Nebraska from 'Dora'

1861

Frankfort July 31st

My Dear Brother

I hope before this you have recovered your strength enough to take the trip you spoke of soon, if you could persuade Ellen to take little Ellen I go with you it might prove beneficial to all, some of the rest might come to see us & the rest stay with Jimmie, do see if you cannot manage it. Mr Waterman's house is vacant & he is going to house keep in September before school takes up & he has Catherine the woman who used to live with them up there to take care of

the place so I could
send some of the new
folks up there & take
the girls here.

I enclose a note from
Temple to Willie which
he took over to give Mr
Pindell but he was not
on the car so I send
it also a note & pattern
which I immediately
me to send her by him.

Cousin Mary left last
evening & I hope will have
a good trip.

All well with love
yours aff sister
M J Church

Frankfort Aug 7th 1861

My Dear Brother

I have just received your letter and check, and sincerely wish you could be with us, it seems an age since I saw you, I think William will keep quiet unless the Government troops come into Ky then I think he will ^{not} stand that, although I try to convince him they have a right to pass through if necessary.

I hope all the time but can see nothing but clouds.

Edward had a letter Saturday from Kitty & Mr Waterman they expect to be back in about two weeks. I have been much engaged with cousin Mary who has been very unwell or I would have written before since ^(Jack's & Emma?) cousin's death

MSC - Aug 9. 61

William will see to the
Record he & Edward both
went to the office after
you wrote before & they said
they would send it at once

Love to all in haste

Your aff sister

M J Church

The Filson Historical Society

Dear William August 10th

I have several times
begun to write to you with
the intention of saying that
I had mislaid Jones' letter
I commenced an answer
it immediately - but did not
wish to send mine to you
without his - here it is at
last - send it if you think it
worth sending -

We are all well and busy.
No, not exactly well either -
for I do not know how it
feels to be strong and well
I shall enjoy that feeling in
Heaven more than those who
know not the want of it here

Old Mr Gill is dead -
little Harry is as frail as
a flower - I hope that he may
be spared -

Love to Ellen and the girls -

98x32 I am as ever your affectionate
Sister Sara G.

Sara G Bodley

Aug. 12. 81

Sent her to Jones (Dubuque)
on 17 Aug.

The Filson Historical Society

Louis Aug 17. 1861

Wm S Bodley Esq Louisville Ky

Dear Brother

I have not received a line from you for two or three weeks. I have not written before because I was in daily expectation of getting a letter from you to myself or Sarah, who says you owe her three letters.

You have no doubt seen the accounts of the battle near Springfield. It was a determined & desperate one & altho a drawn battle, was, considering the great inequality of numbers, a great victory to the Federals.

Carlyle was killed fighting most gallantly at the head of his Company.

Every thing is quiet here and will be kept so. We are all well. Do write soon & often.

In your next tell me all about Mr Hannas will about which we have heard nothing except that he left a small legacy to Maria.

Believe me at a dead lock

Yours
W S Bodley

W S Bodley

H. J. Bodley
Aug 19. 61
Aug 20 "

The Filson Historical Society



R. Bowling
Aug 20. 61

Russellville Ky Aug 18/61

How Mr. Bowling

Dear Sir.

I received on
yesterday your favours of the
15th & 16th Inst, & least I
should be the means of inter-
fering with any trade which
you may be negotiating, I
hasten a reply. The enor-
mous levee tax to which
your lands in this are
subjected, together with the
fact that they are at any
time subject to over flow
constitute with me serious
objections to them. I could
not therefore consent to take
them in exchange for our Mis-
souri property at the prices
you offer upon them.

Indeed I should dislike
to trade for lands thus heav-
ily taxed at almost any price.

Your Texas lands are too
remote, & too near the frontier
to make them desirable at
this time - I believe I would
prefer risking the confiscation
by the Federal Government, of my
Northern property, to exchanging
it for lands so heavily taxed and
so remotely situated -

If you will permit me, however,
as a friend to make a sugges-
tion, I would advise you by
no means to make a sacrifice
of your lands under the idea
that they will be ~~sacrificed~~
confiscated by the Southern Confed-
eracy - No such thing will be
done - for Kentucky will as
certainly be a member of
that Confederacy as that its

Independence will be recog-
nized. ^{the Southern Confederacy} It will accept no
recognition not embracing it.

Of this you may rest perfectly
assured - I think I know
what I say, and only say it
to a friend, with no other
than the most friendly motives -
with a hope that you will
make no sacrifice of your lands
because of the apprehensions
you expressed of its being
confiscated -

Enclosed you will find
the notes you sent me, - I
return them because you may
have use for them

Accept my best wishes for
yourself & family -

Truly Yr Friend
R. L. Bowling

of it & about 200 ^{Chas. J. Bodley} ^{some} ^{men} ^{joined} ^{him} [&] ^{then} ^{brought} ^a ^{piece} ^{of} ^{Cannon} [&] ^{planted} ^{it} ⁱⁿ ^{front} ^{of} ^{the} ^{depot} - This was all done without a particle of noise or bluster - About seven o'clock Maj. Puckersidge, made a speech to his men (they never left this Amory) what he said I don't know, but I suppose they thought the Union men were in earnest & that "prudence was the better part of valor" - so they very quietly subsided & the town was more quiet during last night than for many a day & today the Secesh are as quiet as doves - A good deal of what I have written is reported to me, but I believe it all true - Hugs is very well - Best love to all

Affly,
C. J. Bodley.

Washington Ky.
Aug 22. 1861.

Dear Brother
I recd yours of 20th inst yesterday & in reply would state that I agree with you in declining Cook's proposition - If you can get property in Chicago close in or improved I would trade particularly the Mississippi lands. I think A. D. Hunt thinks Chicago will rise as rapidly as any point so soon as the War depression is removed - If you can get property which is not a drag on you (for taxes) & will pay its own way I think it would be very desirable - You ask about the War excitement - We came very near (from appearing) having a battle here yesterday - A

Report got in Circulation here that
our town Occupants, with some
aid from Garrison & others here
intended to prevent some Arms to
be used by Louisville train from pas-
sing this point, ^{this was conveyed to Camp} the town was
Very quiet until about four o'clock
P.M. Col Pramblett arrived with
200 Mounted Men as an escort for
his train - They passed very quietly
to the livery stable & dismounted
in about an hour or less several
of the "Recesses" became very im-
dignant that "Lincoln's Soldiers"
should desecrate our streets by their
presence - I understood that John
Pritchard told them that if they
would get him two men he would
"Clean the party out" - The two State
Guard Companies were immediately
by his directions called to their

Arms by the bugle when they
soon collected with some 100
or more of his friends - but after
sending several messages to Col
Pramblett requesting him to take
his arms and outside of town
& then they would permit his
arms to be removed quietly
Col P. replied very quietly that he
did not wish or intend to disturb
the quiet of the town, nor did
he intend to do anything dishon-
orable to himself or Command,
that the property belonged to
them & that they intended to
take it with them - I neglected
to say before that after Pritchard
had surrounded his bugle - the Court
house bell was tapped a few times
Col Pramblett left a small guard
with his horses at the stable &
immediately marched to the Sex,
Louisville Depot & took possession

Saint Louis August 23. 1861
Wm S. Bodley Esq Louisville Ky

My dear Brother

Last evening I received yours
of the 20th Inst.

I feel incapable to advise about the
trade of Texas lands for the property spoken
of except in general terms viz that almost
any thing is preferable to Texas wild lands,
as matters now stand.

In fact if Civil war continues much longer
no property will be worth any thing any
where in the land: what may yield some
rent, may have it swallowed up by taxes.
If you could get all in Louisville property at
low prices I would prefer it.

In answer to your inquiry, Howard Gratz
is strong Southern.

We have no new here. In business, scarcely
any thing is doing.

Our crops are fine & I doubt not we will
have abundance of meat & bread, unless it
is all destroyed or used up by opposing
armies.

Give my love to Ellen & the girls & write
often, if you should notice when this

Yours Bro
W S Bodley

The Filson Historical Society

No. 913
Aug. 24. 61

Ben Johnson

and Sept 6th

That such a law has been passed, scarcely, and that a Conductor on the Erie R.R. from New York who came up Saturday night told me that a Mr Wells told him with tears in his eyes that he had just heard of the loss of \$400,000 of Rail Road stock or bonds in Georgia which he the Conductor understood was in consequence of some law which had been passed against Northern creditors - Doubtless if I can do any thing to save my debt from confiscation (if there is a confiscating act) it will have to be done very soon & therefore I am exceedingly anxious to get at the truth as speedily as possible, which considering the importance (to me) of the interests involved must be my apology for again troubling you, thinking you may soon perhaps have the means of ascertaining for a certainty whether any law jeopardizing my interests has been passed or is likely to be passed.

Mr Thurston's family I think are some 80 or 10 miles from Down Hill have not had the pleasure of their acquaintance though I heard of a Miss Thurston at a party of young people in August a few evenings since

Very Truly Yours
Ben Johnson

Wmego Georgia Co. N.Y. Aug. 27. 1861

Wm. W. S. Bodley

Louisville Ky 3 Dear Sir

Your kind favor of the 19th inst came duly to hand. - Allow me to say I sympathize fully with you in your views of the condition of the Country and of the want of support from this Administration towards the Union men of the Border States who I have never doubted would have saved those States to the Union without war if the Crittenden or any similar compromise had been passed last winter, but the fanaticism & folly of the times North & South passes all human comprehension. -

I much fear now from what I read and hear and from what you write that Kentucky is soon again to be a "dark and bloody ground" and the battle ground of this war unless it is forced over the line into Tennessee which seems determined you shall

not remain neutral.

It would seem that communication with the South by G. Speer or otherwise is now completely closed by Government & travel restricted to great embarrassment. It is not probable therefore I shall get any further communication from Kentucky & I shall be left in a state of painful uncertainty in all probability with regard to my interests there. The particular point on which I am trying to get specific information now is whether any law has been passed or will be passed by either the Legislature of Mississippi or the Confederate Congress (for both I believe are in session) that would a law under construction or have had) & if such law has been made shall be passed whether I can arrest the operation of such law upon the debt due me in Kentucky by taking up my residence (leaving my family here until the county becomes more settled) within the limits of the Confederate States and within what time that must be done?

In your letter you remark "if a Court got paid (which Mr. G. says I think you cannot) a removal South would not accomplish your wish." Great as are my wishes, ^{to} collect some money from my Southern debtors to meet the pressing exigencies of these distressing times, my removal South at this particular time is not contemplated for the purpose of getting pay of any debt, but for the purpose of making a law collecting Northern debts imperative upon me as an "alien enemy" & thus saving perhaps the best part of what I have for the benefit of my family if I do not myself live to have the use of it.

If you are at a point where information from the South is most likely to be obtained, I hope you will secure me for Kentucky you again, & asking a great favor that you will ascertain if possible whether a law directing law has been passed & if so whether (and in what time) I can save the Confiscation of my debt by going South. The occasion of this (see) letter after my former enquiry was so fully answered arises from the rumors we have

I have not used the check you last sent me so send it to you with my endorsement we did not know what kind of money will be necessary to pay his expenses with so thought best to get you to direct him and William Moffett says it will take about 30 dollars to take him there he has five so please let him have five more for me, I enclose an order on Mr Montgomery also which if you think proper you can fill up with 30 dollars on the sum Mr Montgomery mentioned he had collected for me last spring I think it was a hundred I more but which I suppose he could not send, cannot he pay it to William if he stays there?

I think Mr Waterman has a good prospect for a school and if Mr Sayre does not teach which is doubtful will have a good one. If he does not get boarders he will live with me as it will be cheaper and rent his house if he can, Mrs Burnley has sold her house and leaves next wednesday to live in the South as she has no other way to save her property they will probably live in Richmond, she seems very much distressed in leaving Frankfort.

These are terrible times but I still hope the prospect will brighten and we will again be a united people My mind will be much relieved for William to be

Frankfort Sep 3rd

My Dear Brother

I send a note sent
me by Charley ^{Bosley} last evening
to sign & send to you.

I hope the Williams got
off yesterday without hindrance
do write & let me know about
it. I feel much better satisfied
to think William is out of Ky
for they say we may have a
disturbance at any time &
I dreaded this Peace barbecue
next Saturday.

The house organized yester
day & elected officers but the
Senate will do so today.

Love to all in haste affectionately

M J Church

MJC

ant Sep 3. 41
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The Filson Historical Society

Saint Louis Sept. 3. 1861

Wm S Bodley Esq Louisville Ky

My dear Brother

Herein find receipt for renewal
of Life Policy, which please hand to Mr Owens
to be attached to my Policy.

No news except what you see in the papers.
Tremont's proclamation gives me a feeling
of security.

All pretty well and very happy at our quiet
home. My love to Ellen & all

Yours Bro
J S Bodley

The Filson Historical Society

MS
A
4 - 61

Chas S Rodley
Sept 11/61

Lexington Ky
Sept 11. 1861.

Dear Brother

I have just received
your letter of yesterday informing
me of the death of dear little
Steward - It comes to me to
deepen my sorrow in this the
anniversary season of our loved
dear ones last year, on the 5th
Sept we buried our two oldest &
on the 9th our gentle Annie - I
have no words which can comfort
you or our dear sister Ellen, except
the expressions of the sympathy not
only of a brother, but also of a
heart which has felt all that you
feel & which only can truly sympa-
thize - I had not seen Fanny since
I got your letter, but you & sister

Chas S Rodley

1861

must know, that she truly feels
your sufferings & I know she
would join me in this expression
of sympathy & affection - If it
were possible I would come down
though I know I could do nothing
which your kind friends have not
already done - Give my own & their
best love to sister & the girls -
May God in mercy spare you any
further visitations & sustain you
under this in my warmest prayers.

Your Aff. Bro

C. S. Bradley.

Saint Louis, Sept 12. 1861
Wm S. Bodley Esq Louisville Ky

My dear Brother

I have just rec^d yours of the
9th & hasten to reply.

I do sincerely hope and trust that Standard
will be revived and spared for a long life of
usefulness & happiness. Do let me hear
often from you about him.

I have a greater dread of Dysentery than
of almost any other disease.

Tell Bro G B that H. C. Hart started
to Pike's Peak last Monday three weeks ago:
we should have heard of his arrival three
before this — but expect our failure to do so
arises from the detention & stoppage of the
mails between this & St Joseph

Hart failed to raise the money he deemed
to prosecute the work & went out to Pike's Peak
to see what he could do there: and if nothing
better to sell it out

Give my love to Ellen & all. Do not fail to
write me regularly while Standard or any
one is sick, in particular

Yours affly Bro
W. S. Bodley

The Filson Historical Society

J. S. Bowley
Sept 1861

We have no public service to day - so Harry - Minnie and Laura have gone over to the Presbyterian Church, where there is a prayer meeting - the difference in politics is breaking up the Churches all through this country - a Church that was struggling to live when its members were united falls, of course, when help refuse to help - we are trying to keep the day in good faith though we do not feel it as if it were Ash Wednesday or Good Friday shall it seem natural to place 'Our Country' next in importance to 'Our God' - with love to Ellen and all for whom, among you I have prayed to day - I am ever your affectionate sister

Sara G Bodley

Tell Liz I will write soon

(Mrs Harry G)
Sarah G Bodley Homewood Sep 24th

Keep this sunny

Dear William

I read the piece that I have copied and send with this for my souls morning report, and I said to myself "I will send this to William - It ^{was} nowish in food to me, and so I think he will like it" It is curious to remember how that, the subject of religion was the subject of discussion between us before I was married - That I used afterwards, to write to you about it, until once you wrote me a letter that I did not like - I suppose I did not know how to answer you, so I stopped the correspondence - I dare say that you have forgotten

all this, for women have more eyes in the back of the head than men have - And now again this great theme is the head and front of our Communion - and Oh how different it is! now I feel that I am writing to a Brother indeed children of the same Father - of the same household of faith - yes, it is with us, as once before at a certain wedding - the good wine has been kept for the last -

I feel very sorry for Jimmie and Mary Vick - My first impulse was to write to both but it has ended in writing to neither - I sometimes think that I am too ready with my pen and my tongue - Give my love to them - May they both be ready when they are called

26th I did not finish my letter the other night - it was written after all the rest had gone to bed - so I concluded to follow this example - I did not think it wrong to finish it to day - though it is really holiday employment to me - How completely holiday has lost its original significance! This also is a holy day - a day to make one think - I wish you could have the article that I have just copied for you to read to day - however you have the Plain Commentary which is really better - I owe much of the power of digesting God's word from it - that is I learned how to think so that now my daily lessons are a feast -

Louisville Oct 4th 1861

My dear Willie

I do not feel quite so lonely as when I last wrote. Pa is home again he came Sunday night on the Mail Boat. Maybe I was not glad to hear the gate slam and his key put in the door. He is much improved by his trip, I don't know that I can say any thing new or interesting of your Eastern relatives, they are much the usual. Aunt Mary got tired of the Emmas in a week, they seemed to have fixed themselves as boarders, and Aunt M. told little Em who was going to Providence to make some business arrangements that she could not with her large family accommodate ~~her~~ ^{them} for any length of time, and she must provide for her mother in Providence. I suppose you know by this time ^{that} the secessionists have succeeded in throwing the war in Kentucky, I expect there will be stirring times in the Old State, troops continue to come in in large numbers, I hope the Union troops will do better here than they seem to do in Mississippi, what a miserable state of things exists here to be sure, is it quiet about you

place, I read accounts sometimes in the papers of the Indians making trouble, I see the Cherokee have voted, to join the Confederate States provided they will pay the annuities heretofore paid by Uncle Sam - I guess they will have a good time getting the money,

I have one bran new item of news that will surprise you a little, Miss Mamie has a little daughter! born last Wednesday, as Nettie says Pa's got four childrens now, the little girls are wild with delight, and many a plan for the future is formed in which Baby figures largely,

Aunt Emily's baby has been very sick the remains of the diphtheria can his case are worse than the disease itself, the rest are all well Aunt E is almost broke down though,

William Fosdick is still confined to his room Louise says he is very weak indeed what a time she has poor thing,

Katie Lowe, died last Sunday does it not seem hard, Mrs Lowe had had so many bereavements, Charley Gardner told me he had received a letter from you - You ought to write to Katie Granger and then you would learn of the little items about town - she seems to keep herself posted, Gen. Anderson has his head

quarters just down our street, in
the house fitted up by Mr. Mathus, the
States Telegraph wires are brought right in
to the house,

He came back safe from the
Salt river expedition, he looked pretty
well used up, they had worked very hard
digging entrenchments etc

How do your clothes hold out, you
will have to replenish when you are when
needed I don't think we could get any to
you, what times have fallen upon us, to be
sure - I used to think when it was talked
of the slavery question some day deciding
the Union it might be in our grand
children's day perhaps, and to me here in
the midst of it - it is a strange thing
to see the troops tramping through our
streets, I fear there is much suffering and
bloodshed in store for Kentucky, although
I think it will not be about Louisville
and it will be for the interest of Ohio, Indiana,
and Illinois, to keep the conflict as far from
their borders as possible, and they will try
to keep it as near Tennessee as possible, I
don't know if you get the papers I send, I
did not get those you sent me,
I am very

Glad to hear that you continue in such
good health, have you grown any taller?
I was reading ^{Pat's miss Mamma's} your letter, in which
you speak of your (study 'problem' near
the pig-pen - when Nettie exclaimed -
I expect he got fleas,

I hope the family at Prairie Home
are all well, give my love to them, and
good bye my darling - and may God send
Liberty and Peace to our country
Pa sends his love to you and
will write in a few days,

Wm L. Gosdick
Nebraska City

Soul. N.Y. Co. 7. 7. 1861.

My Dear Son,

Your letter was duly received, I should have answered it before, but that your Mother's letters give all the news,

Since you left I have given up my Agency and am out of business

Not feeling well I made a trip East, visiting Providence New York Wilmington & Washington, I found all of our relations well, and they made many inquiries after you and Mother, I enjoyed my visit very much, and could have enjoyed it longer stay. I was absent three weeks & I had not heard of the strong news at home.

At Washington I saw part of the Grand Army say about Eighty thousand. The whole number there being Two Hundred Eighty Six thousand but they would not allow me to go over on the Virginia side. It was a grand sight. I rode eight hours and was never out of sight of Soldiers and Fortifications. Indeed I saw so much, that I cannot say I saw anything new. I. I. I. Fortifications and Munitions of war. My stay in Washington was only two days. For in that time I had seen all that was to be seen, save the Public Buildings, which I had seen before. And as to hearing anything I might as well have been with you.

For saying what you saw in New York & Philadelphia papers,
one might as well be out, as in Washington, to hear news
You can not learn what has, or is going to take place,
in Washington, unless you see it. Orders come for
Regiments to move. They strike their tents, and go
towards Chain Bridge, so far you know, and nothing
more, unless the Maj. or Phil. papers inform you the next
day. Cross at Chain Bridge, this side. I should
think they could sweep and destroy it in no time. It
might have been necessary once to have done so, but that
time is past. They cannot take Washington. But the
Bridge can, and will be used, to enable the Army to
visit the South, and I hope soon to hear that the visit
is being made.

I am afraid the War is to be fought out
in this State. That is in the lower part. I am in hopes
the enemy are as near at this time, as they will ever
be. They are now the other side of Green River, some
Eighty miles below. General Tucker expected to have
come direct to this City, but fortunately, some Cais
on the road were displaced, and so he was prevented,
If he had got here, our City would have suffered. For
Indiana, Missouri, & Ohio would not have been satisfied
until they made him leave, and I think would have
killed him out, and in that case there would have been
great destruction of property. I was absent at the time,
but Miller says the whole City was under great excitement
There are about two thousand Indiana Missouri and
Ohio troops in the State, and reports say, there are Thirty

Thousands on their way from Washington, besides what Statist
is passing themselves. Sea Granting belongs to one of
the Home Guard Companies and leaves to day for the Mouth
of Salt River. There there are Fortifications. He expects
to stay 4 or 7 days, when their Company will be relieved
by another.

In regard to your coming home, Mother and
Myself think if it is convenient for all parties, that you
had better stay for the present in Nebraska. I do not
think it safe for any one to pass through Missouri
at this time, and if you were at home there is nothing for
you to do. I don't want you to get Winter dress but for
the present I think you had better remain. In regard to
your clothes, Mother will write you. I do not know how
your funds are. I have lost the account you sent me
so please send me another one and show me exactly how
your funds are, and I will then inform you what to do.

Mother says "write Willie that this day
10th of October — Twenty years ago, Father & Mother was
married. In other words this is "our wedding day." We should
not celebrate it as the Gilpin family do —

And now to close
Give my best respects to Mrs. Gallop, and all the family,
(for I feel as if I knew them, though I never saw them) I
shall certainly see the Bishop if he comes near our City. And
with Mother and my best love for you wellfare

Your affectionate Father
W. Gossett

Frankfort Oct 10th 1861.

My Dear Brother

I received your note Tuesday evening too late to answer you by the evening mail but in time to write to Charley I send the bill, I put the letter in the office myself, I did not write you the next day as I was very busy, I thought you would get Charley's before or at the same time with mine but I am sorry I did not as I have just received your despatch, I will write immediately to Charles, but hope you have received his before this time.

M J E Oct 12 1861

How I do want to see you
all, do write me if you have
made any exchange of land
as Charley told me you had
a prospect of doing.

Love to all in haste
your aff sister
M J Church

The Filson Historical Society

All well

Frankfort Oct 22 1861

My Dear brother

I have intended writing you yesterday & this morning but wanted to be able to tell you what Gen. Combs would offer Edward to take the place which Mr Haydon had in his office, but received your letter this afternoon & will send this answer in the morning, with the enclosed bills.

Mr Bolling wrote Edward that he wished to see him Saturday, & he went as soon as he left the drill, he then told him that Mr Haydon had left the place (to act as Secretary to something in the army I believe) and they wished him to take it.

M. J. C., Oct. 23. 61

Mr B. thinks he will get about 15 dollars a month for the first until he understands the business & more afterwards he is trying it this week & will see how he can do, I am fearful it will not agree with him as he has been delicate all the summer and indeed would not have consented to his leaving his studies under any other circumstances, and he seemed so anxious to do something to help that I let him try it. I think by his being in the office I can get some writing to do we have had none lately. Tell me what you think of it. My Taxes are due what must I do about them?

I have only heard through Mr Gray that the boys had arrived in Greenville love to all
I have no more paper your devoted sister
M. J. Church

Frankfort Nov. 3rd 1861

My Dear Brother

I received your letter yesterday, and Edward took the brief and filed it in the afternoon, he also took over the summons, but could not see the deputy Harry, ^[Judd?] is not in town, he will deliver it in the morning.

We were gratified to hear of your appointment, Mr Speed had told Edward ^[Charles] of it the day before you wrote, He says Mr Bolling introduces him ^[Edward] to all the lawyers who come into the office & generally as Judge Bodley's nephew: he is very much pleased with his situation & Mr Bolling with him and says he will get 25 dollars a month from the first as he understands the business so quickly he is getting accustomed to the confinement

and I do not think it be injurious
to his health as I feared at first
he comes home at 5 o'clock & saws
or splits wood till dark for exercise,
then ^{Mr. C} studying at night.

^{Nov 6, 61}
I heard through Mrs Hunt
who had a message from Mr H.
that Nannie ^[Triggs] is in Georgia with
Mr Triggs ^{at Greenville Miss?} & that William
is with him & his son William
on the plantation, being only a
verbal message that is all I heard
but feel glad he is there.

We will all be so glad to
see you when you come up, and
I wish you could bring one of the
girls. Tell Ellen I say she must
live high for her cough, that is
nourishing high seasoned food
for I have always thought her
coughs were like Mamma's and
proceeded from debility of the stomach
with much love to all ever your
affectionate sister

M J Church

Sara G Bodley

Nov 15. 61.

to prepare for my trip and purchased
to the amount of ten cents whilst
I was gone - I would not even go in
to a store - a lady asked me to go
shopping and I told her I was afraid.
"Keep one from temptation" must not
be said without doing.

Give my love to Ellen and the
girls - to Elizabeth and hers and
believe me ever your
affectionate sister

Sara G Bodley

Homewood

Nov. 12th 1861

Dear William

I was picked up
by a whirlwind and shaken
and deafened and bruised &
stunned for nearly three weeks
or in other words I have been
on a trip to the East

Harry had to go and he made
such a poor mouth about going
by himself that I sacrificed
myself on the conjugal altar
and went with him - now
the worst of it is, I shall get no
reward for my sacrifice for
if it was to do over I would not
go. I think Hal was mistaken
about needing me and as for
me, I had all my gorgeous
castles of "the East" prostrated
not one thing as grand or beau-
tiful

as I expected to find them -
Have I been a hashish eater
without chewing hemp gum?
I am afraid so - - - -
When we returned we found you
letter. This at least was a healthy
excitement to be glad for our
Brother - Is not God a helper
of those who trust in Him? perhaps
you will say "I trusted so little" - yes,
~~with~~ more than a grain of mustard.

It was not for nothing that
I had been reading about its
being necessary to teach people
to help themselves - for when we
went on to beg for our Church one
of the first things that was asked
"what have you done for yourselves?"
and the only answer to all our
prayer to God for help, was
the offer to lend us the money
they are very thankful for this
much

and I hope it may not be
like borrowing from the Egypt
ians - I am sure we mean to
pay - I found the girls all
very well and very glad to get
up back - Effie had worked
them like everything - she even
made them play dig cellar -
They gathered the apples - shucked
corn to fatten the hogs, so as to
give the old man time to dig
the potatoes - and Miriam had
to add to her other work to cover
the flowers every frosty night
so that I might see some in bloom
when I came back - Oh I am so
glad to get home - though not yet
recovered from the trials by
the way - I hope to go into the
garden when the sun has warmed
the earth a little to day - tell Ellen
that I spent a dollar and a half to

Saint Louis Nov 19. 1861
Wm S Bodley Esq Louisville Ky
My dear Bro

I returned on Saturday from
an absence of 2 1/2 weeks to the East.
I was in Washington, Philadelphia
New York, principally on business
of my home Company.

On my return I found your letter
and was truly glad to hear you
had been made a Sr City Attorney.
Intines like three \$1000 a year to
a man of large family, is a great
thing. I was also glad to hear that
Eddie Church was doing so well.

I think him a very fine boy
We have no news here.

Sarah went with me East & came
back very much fatigued & quite
unwell. She is about again
We are hardly settled down at

AD B
Home yet, but very glad to
get home. Nov 14 61

Give my love to Ellen & the
children, Oursly, Eliza & family
and to Maria when you
write

Ellen & family all well

Yours truly
H. A. Roddy

The Filson Historical Society

Stoughton - Dec 2nd /61,

Mr W^m Bodley. Louisville Ky,

Dear Sir. I have offered ^{me} by way of tuition, a land warrant calling for 120 Acres, for the sum of 90\$, As I know nothing of this species of property, or of the "public domain," I write for advice, Also by the same person, 160 Acres of land in De Kalb Co Missouri close by railroad and a few miles from county seat, at 3\$ per acre, What do you think of either chance?

All well except colds

Love to all

Respect. J. A. Waterman.

J. H. Waterman

Dec 4. 61

and n 5. n

The Filson Historical Society

St Louis Dec 4. 1861.
Wm S Bodley Esq
Louisville Ky

My dear Brother

I rec^d your letter
E. Wilnot has removed from
his former place of business &
I have been endeavouring to
find out where he is, but so far
without success. I will continue
my inquiries I hope soon to
find out by inquiries among
those who know far sooner I
can reach him will endeavour to
collect the note & remit.

We are all well. No improve
ment in business matters

Enclose renewal of life Ins to
be handed Mr Bodley to be attached
to Policy. With much love to all

Yours in haste J D Bodley

H. J. Padley
Dec 6 - 61

The Filson Historical Society

Maria Church

Frankfort Dec 9th 1861

My Dear Brother

I have intended writing you ever since you left us but have been so much engaged nursing the sick & being sick myself that I have scarcely had time to do necessary work. Lucy was taken with ulcerated sore throat a day or two after you were here & I was not out of the room for three weeks & then Virginia had an attack of Pleurisy is now better will be out in a day or two, the rest of us have had colds Kitty & I had very bad ones we are all better and hope to enjoy your visit which you said in your letter to Mr Waterman - you would pay this week. I am glad you are coming so soon as cousin Mary Hanna was very much disappointed

98X32

she did not see you before as
she wishes you to write her will
Cousin Jack begged her to make
one after his death.

Charly & Fanny with the baby
were down to see her a few weeks
since they sent for us to see them
there as they could only stay the
afternoon. Fanny looks much better
than when I last saw her & Charly
very well. Give a great deal of
love to all the family & at Liz?
also I have your aff. sister

M J Church

Martha S Bodley
Dec 13. 61.

Louisville Ky Dec 12th
1861

Dearest Father.

Mother received your most welcome letter of the 10th. I am sorry you think you will have to stay all week for we miss you so much but of course if you think it necessary to do so we will have to submit with as good a grace as possible. I am glad you will be in Lexington a portion of your time where you may see Brother Hugh. Give my best love to him and tell him I am exceedingly anxious to see him again and that I think a gentleman of leisure as he seems to be might write a little poem to his sister. Tell

98X32

lets me
at Mrs Church
at Mr Thurstins
missing son
my of typhoid
we expected we
e you out
way to Frank
on the same
suggested to go
support at her
son Anderson
note you in
- was sent
in in sending
- to you and
- and brother
- loved daughter
Martha

him also, that I shall expect a
Christmas present from him and
One that I would prize above all
others would be a nice long letter
giving all the news and whatever
else he may think of interest
either to him or to me. I am
sorry to hear that Aunt Maria and
family have been suffering so
long with colds. Tell Aunt Maria
she must be sure and let with-
ing interfere with the promise
she made of visiting us Christ-
mas for if she does she will mar-
the ~~only~~ pleasure we had in
anticipation. Aunt Fannie
and Mary spent evening before
last with us Aunt Fannie
has had two quite severe attacks
of cough, caused from indiges-

tion
quite
Mary
every day
let her
he says
is cause
Nelson
Malin
it was
I ever
half to
well as
I would
to go to
as to
service
last even
pleasur
complac

expect a
in hair and
ze above all
- long letter
nd whatever
of interest
me. I am
Maria and
ffering so
nt Maria
nd let with
the promise
y in Christ
he will mar
had in
Annice
ring before
Annice
were attacks
in indiges-

tion. But she is getting to feel
quite well. The doctor says
Mary must take two short walks
every day the first one she took
led her here to spend the evening
he says also the pain in her foot
is caused from neuralgia.
Kelons brigade passed by on
Monday the day after you left
it was the longest procession
I ever saw I think it was a
half hour passing. all were
well armed and well clothed
I understood that they are
to go to New Haven on foot
so as to become inured to hard
service. Deane and I took tea
last evening. We spent a very
pleasant evening. Uncle William
complained of feeling very un-

well. Aunt Mary told me
she had heard that Mrs Church
still now staying at Mr Thurstons
had lost a very promising son
who died in the evening of typhoid
fever. His remains are expected on
Saturday. I suppose you met
Mr Watts on your way to Frank-
fort as she went up on the same
train she was telegraphed to go
immediately to Frankfort as her
brother Mr William Anderson
was very ill. The note you in-
closed to Mr Delphe was sent
to him. All join in sending
a great deal of love to you and
all our dear relatives brother
Hugh in particular.

Your devoted daughter
Martha

St. Louis Dec. 15th 1861.

W. S. Bodley Esq

Dear Sir

Finding that I could accomplish nothing by remaining in Miss: I returned to this place. From the enclosed card you will perceive that I have gone to work again. As my two sons are now compelled to attend to business, though their education is not complete, I am enabled to attend to any affairs or commissions that may be offered, and will undertake any that are reputable & profitable.

I wish to employ you in a big lawsuit. A. T. Burnley deceased, executed three notes of \$ 8,375 each dated 9th February 1859 and due at 1, 2 & 3 years, favour of Mary Anne Montgomery & Allan Eldridge of Binghampton New York. On the notes interest from date at 8 per cent. Suit by attachment was instituted on the first note, and reply bond given. On that note, two payments have been made \$ 3000 15th Jan'y 1861. & \$ 3000 on 15th Jan'y 1862. The debt was secured by mortgage on land.

Gov. C. J. Morehead was agent or trustee of Burnley, and made an agreement with me

A. Russell

hold certain funds of Burnley as security for the debts, on condition of obtaining a continuance for one term. Burnley died last spring leaving his wife & Mr Crittenden Executors of his estate. The notes & mortgage are on file in Miss. As Montgomery & Eldridge reside in New York, their suits both the attachment & Bill in Chancery, are dismissed and cannot be prosecuted with effect. I presume Burnley's land will not be forfeited as it belongs to his children. As his wife and children reside in Ky, it seems to me that a Bill will be maintain against them for this debt in your courts.

Mr Crittenden at one time seemed to be willing if M & E would take a claim against James Eldridge of some \$13,000 to pay the balance. I wish you to see him or Mr Burnley, and learn what they intend doing.

Mr Montgomery & Eldridge owe me about five thousand dollars, which they cannot pay, unless they get something from this source. As I am in need of the money, you will appreciate my urgency in this case. It is for pecuniary as well as professional considerations. I suggest to file a Bill in my name, attaching the funds to the extent of

for
trav-
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my
w
to
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ed
all
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my debt and also in the name of
M. & E for the balance.

Let me hear from you promptly.
I cannot come to Louisville.

I hope you will make some
use of my cards.

All well, except some
servants. They are new and well.

My kindest regards to your family
Yours truly

A Russell

Under the circumstances of the country
I am willing to give time by partial
payment, and new security: in short
to do the best I can.

W.B.

A. Russell

Dec 19 - 61

and " 25. " Sep 1883

The Filson Historical Society

St Louis Dec 18. 1861
Wm S Bodley Esq
Lemerville Ky

My dear Bro

I am just in receipt of
yours of the 17. Inst.

Herein you will find \$11. with
which please pay Mrs. J. A. C.
against State Bonds, send
me receipt

As news here. All pretty well.
They are busy making wreaths
to trim our little church
for Christmas

My love to all

Yours affly Bro
W. S. Bodley

AJB

Dec 19. 61.

The Filson Historical Society

Frankfort Dec 19 1861

Dear Brother

I received your letter yesterday and the bundle of shirts also - and will be with you on Tuesday if nothing happens to prevent, our colds are getting well Edward attended to his part and I will get the butter to morrow, or next day in market.

We expect Nannie Carter to morrow and Molly, will go to Lexington with her the next day.

Kitty Reynolds went to Lexington a few days since I left all well at Charley's Mary's arm is getting along well.

With much love to all & hoping soon to see them ever your devoted
sister M. J. Church

M J Church
Dec 21. 61.

The Filson Historical Society

Lexington Ky
Nov 21. 1861.

Dear Brother

I recd yours of 19th
& am glad you had arranged with
Bk of L to your satisfaction -
You can just arrange the note
at maturity as you suggest, with
will suit me. When you see
Mr Clarke you can write me -
I am very sorry to hear of Ann's
accident & hope she will be
over it as soon as you anticipate
but I had found that generally
sprains were more serious than
they are supposed to be at first.
Kirkend's little Henry is not so well
last evening & today, but we hope
nothing serious is the matter. Give
our best love to Sister & the girls &
Children - Slept very well
affly in haste C. S. Godley

98732

C S B

Dec 24. 61

Wrote him a —

The Filson Historical Society

Dec 25 1861

C. J. Bodley

Lexington Ky
Dec 25. 1861.

Dear Brother,

I enclose two notes
which please call on the parties
to collect & send me a check
for the amt - I suppose they
will be promptly paid if not
please advise me. I send an
authority to send me, whom you
will please select, to hire out the
two servants Emily & Lucy - the
former is with H. J. Spott & the
latter with W. K. Thomas - Tell the
person that you employ that I under-
stand that Thomas wishes to keep
Lucy next year - Tell the Agent
that good houses are the first object
& good pay the second in finding houses
I wish Emily's wishes consulted as
to her home - Tell him to take

The notes payable to C. S. Godley
must be, - I am sorry to trouble
you at this time, when I suppose
you are busy, but you must put
up with it, - though will of the
package for him (see)

A. J. J.
C. S. Godley

Lexington Ky
Dec 25. 1861.

I hereby authorize
to take possession of &
hire out for the year ensuing
the negro woman Emily & the
negro girl Lucy who are held
by me in trust for Mary H. Hunt
Chas S. Godley, Master