

The Filson Historical Society

13 items

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Lillard Family Papers, 1801-1925.

Correspondence, 1850.

68x18

Jan. 9, 1850

Dear Father

Various circumstances have hindered me from answering before this, your very acceptable letter received sometime since Eveline was married and is at her home in Tennessee. Then we had to pack up for leaving a troublesome job. My feet were cold nearly the whole of two days, and the only inconvenience I have yet experienced from this exposure is a slight cold. I therefore consider my health better than usual; however I shall not anticipate the continuance of good health, lest I be disappointed. William and I are now staying at Mr. Grahams. Brother is yet undecided what he will do. I feel much solicitude concerning his future welfare.

I regretted exceedingly that your trip home made you sick. I hope you have entirely recovered. But let me administer you a cordial; (that is tell you some good news about my little Robert.) He has been growing larger, and handsomer every day since you saw him, and is pronounced one of the best children in Lincoln. He is now sitting in his cradle beside me prattling his infant language, and studying the ~~the~~ pictures in his book, which by the by is an old Almanac.

I keep for his especial benefit. One day in the course of his conversation he teased grand-pa very plainly - "You are incredulous, and laugh at me?" Well if you don't believe me come and see him for yourself.

Mr. Graham's youngest child is very ill - I believe the physician thinks it may recover. My best love to each member of the family - Write soon. My pen is so bad I fear you will not read what I have written. Accept the warmest regards of your daughter

A. W. Giffard

The Filson Historical Society

Sibley Missouri January 14th 1850

Dear Father

Your letter was received a few days since, and havent had time until to night to answer it. I have nothing either of interest or importance to communicate. On the night of the eighteenth of November in our absence, my house was broken open & money—watch—finger rings—breast pins—pencils and all of my cloth clothes—fine shirts and broke the locks of four of my trunks && the total loss will amount to considerably over a hundred dollars. I am now among strangers and in a strange country, and the loss that I have sustained I feel I assure you. I am living at present in one mile of the river, but where I'll live the ballance of the year, is uncertain, if I had the means I could purchase land cheap. I have got an idea of going to California in the Spring, that being the only ^{way} possible to get me a home, for it seems that I have neither friends nor the wherewith to make friends. We have had a very cold winter so far,—its now cold enough to freeze old nick. Mr Crosby was out here and purchased a farm at a high price—and then

returned home with the intention of
moving out here in the Spring - its the
opinion of some that he will be sick of
his purchase. Mr Hamilton have not as
yet made any purchase in land, however
I think he will between this and Spring
I wish you would make me a present to
one years subscription to the Review, if
I dont receive the benefit of it Aitemecia
I doubt not will. Corn is worth one dollar
and fifty cents a bushel. Pork is selling at
two dollars per hundred. John Sanders talks
of going to California - Christopher Hamilton
and many others of your acquaintance.
Friends and relations are all well.

Aitemecia sends her best love and respects
to one and all of you. Necessity will compel
me either to remain here or somewhere
else, at hard work, so if we should
never meet again on earth you will
have to come to see me, at any rate if we
should never meet again in this
world, let us try by the help of God
to meet in heaven where parting
will be no more. So farewell
Gen & Sillars } John H. Sillars

Abby Mc
Lund 15

10

Gen. C. Lillard
Lawrenceburg
Kentucky



The Essex Historical Society

Sibley Mo February 14th 1850

Dear Brother

I should have written to you long since, but was expecting a letter from you, and I havent got it therefore I will excuse you so. We feel quite comfortable here in our little doily, with a porticoes in front covered with beech. We are living near the river. Mr Hamilton have purchased a farm on the river, including a large house in Sibly, it being no tavern unless he choose to make one of it. I received a letter from Father yesterday and he advises me to leave the patch, thinking that rent is very high, - This is a mistake for my rent will cost me nothing this year, and by the next year I will have a farm of my own so, and as to money slipping through my fingers, I have got none. Father gave me an account of the death of one John Burrows, and the cause of his death so and seems to intimate that I am or will, follow in his foot steps, now I dont think that he has any just ground for such insinuations, unless it

is, because I have come to this part of
the Country with my Wife's friends
surely because other men indulge themselves
freely, (is that any reason that I should
It is my intention to go to California
in the Spring, provided nothing
happens more than I expect, for I have
studied it over and over and believe
it to be the best for me, and if I am
successful I will be able to get
a farm where I please - so set it
down that I am for California let the
cut go as it may. Artemesia is perfectly
willing for me to go, I expect to be
gone about two years. I have written
two letters to Father, notwithstanding
he grumbles at my not writing.
You will please write to me and
give me all the news of every
description. We have had a very hard
winter, with a great deal of snow.
Give my respects to all. Artemesia
sends her love to one and all to
S M Lillard } John W Lillard

Sibley no
Feb 19

10

B M Lillard Es
Lawrenceburg
Kentucky

The Filson Historical Society

Feb. 28, 1850

My dear Father-in-law,

Sister Martha told me in her letter you would like to hear from me often, but if left to judge from your conduct, one would entertain a different opinion, since you rarely ever ask of me, how are you? I have concluded notwithstanding my last epistle has not been answered to write again, and tell you something more of my boy, who, I am determined you shall not forget. He is still healthy and growing, just 7 months old; weighs 20 lbs. and has two teeth. I do. He is quite stout, I think his form is very much like his Father. I imagine that when he is grown, he will look very much like his father in every respect.

My health is good, for which I should be exceedingly thankful. Through a letter I am informed Mr. Waller's health is bad. This I suppose accounts for the non-appearance of the Review. Some one told me Mr. Waller's sister children, had named a son Robert Lillard. I should like to know if this is true.

Have you called any^{one} to preach to your church yet? Mr. Combs who has been recommended to you has had a difficulty with Mr. Simmons, a man from

The South. Simmons is a perfect Yankee in the common
acceptation of that term, and I think is culpable in the whole
affair with himself and Combs. I expect I will pass through
your town in a few days, and probably may wish to hold
a meeting there.

Mr. Graham has sold his ~~store~~ goods in Coal Orchard
and contemplates making a trip to Mo. this spring in
order to find a location that ^{will} suit him ~~there~~ for a ^{long} ~~time~~
law, brother-in-law, and others speak also of moving
there. If Mr. Phil or Jennings have not yet gone East
for goods I wish you would request the one who goes to
get a cap, hat, or whatever is most fashionable for
children. I want a handsome one for Robert, however not
a costly one. I did intend sending by Mr. Graham but
as he has discontinued the mercantile business I have con-
cluded to get one in Laurensburg, as I probably may come
down when the weather becomes pleasant.

Do you know of any one that wishes to purchase
a slave carriage? We will sell ours very cheap. If you
see any one who wants to buy refer them to Mr. Graham
or myself. Present my best love to all your family. Pray
for me. - That I may exercise faith, and grow in the
Christian graces. In my prayers my dear husband's relations
are not forgotten. - For the present, accept an affectionate
farewell from your daughter

A. W. Giffard

Crab Orchard Ky
march 1

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Gen. G. Lillard

Laurenceburg

Kentucky

The Filson Historical Society

Sibley Mo April 1st 1850

Dear Father

Your letter come to hand some few days ^{since}, and havent had time to answer it until now. I have nothing of intrest to communicate consequently cant write much. We have had some beautiful weather for some time I am done breaking up my corn and hemp cround and am ready to go to planting corn. Mosby arrived here about a week since with a sick family. The health of the country at present is good. Land has fallen considerably since our arrival here. The Calafornia fever is raging here and numbers speak of going, and ^{among} them your prodigal son as he has been termed by his eldest sister. We have a fine son she was born the 18th of March and her name is Kit. Artemesia is a well as might be expected. It is useless for me to praise our little Kit suffice to say it is the prettest the most perfect and the smartest grand child you have. Kit has black eyes

Write so soon as you get this & your son
Yours
Gen B Sillars
J B Sillars

Sibley Mo
April 4

10

Gen C Lillard
Lawrenceburg
Kentucky

The Filson Historical Society

visiting you; for I cannot
yet leave Quehine. So Father, Dr.
Montgomery sends his respects, and
requested me to say he would have
answered your letter, but he is
absent to night on professional business.
Let me beg that you will each
send me a speedy reply for this
truly note, - Accept the best love of
A. W. Lillack.

11850
Stanford Apr. 18-50

My dear Father & Mother-in-law
Your very acceptable letters
were duly received; and I acknowl-
edge, I have not a sufficient ex-
cuse to offer for delaying thus
long to respond. But my apologies
I will present, and let you judge
the merit of each. While my
sister was so ill I felt but little
in an epistolary mood I do
assure you - I felt this silence
was far preferable to the painful
duty of communicating such
bad news. And thus I deferred
writing from time to time hoping
a happy change in her case would
occur: which, thanks to a merciful
Providence I believe has taken place.
She has been gradually improving
for two weeks, and this evening
rode out. Every symptom except
her pulse is favorable.

68x18

now my other exercise -
When Geo had recovered sufficiently
for me to correspond with pleasure,
I could find no letter paper about
the house and had brought none
with me from Mr. Grahams, so
I requested Dr. M. to bring me some
in town, and lo! Stamford would
not afford the kind I wished until
new goods arrived. This evening
I went down in town determined
to purchase paper of some description
and write you immediately, and
while there, Dr. Montgomery handed
me a letter from you. The address
in your handwriting astonished me;
for I wondered why you had not
written to me: and the postscript
grieved me. - I was sorry that
you had been misinformed, and
thereby suffered uneasiness concerning
us. True William has had measles
but recovered very quick. Robert
and myself are enjoying usual
health. Little Polly is a fat, rosy
faced fellow. I have written
you many pleasing things respect-
ing this child - But to

from myself a faithful his-
torian, the unpleasant must in their
turn be recorded - I had to tell:
my child is beginning to resemble
the children in point of character.
He desires now to rule his mamma,
and employs various means to this
effect: He scratches, fights, and pulls
my hair; scolds and cries, and in
fact he is becoming much like others
of his age - And oh the dirt he finds
while for clothes, and mouth, while
scampering about the floor on
hands and knees. But with all
these symptoms of our fallen nature
he is becoming sweeter, and dearer
to me as each setting sun adds one
to the number of his days - I know
Robert's only living grand parent will
be proud of him! And why should
you not? The only child of your own
dear Robt. Oh how often do I gaze
upon this interesting boy, and think
of his beloved Father; and if no other
cause prompted me to love the orphan I
would for my dear Husband's sake -
I cannot appoint any time for

Sibley Mo May 9th 1850

Dear Father

Your letter of April 1st
was received some days since. A

It was my intention to have been
off for California some time ago, but
cold weather have prevented it - on
the seventh of this month we had
quite a snow storm, and this morning
a big frost. I have packed up every thing
and am ready, and its our intention to
start the twelfth. I have four animals
(three mules, and am going to pack
them light, and by so doing we can
get through in 70 days - the man
that we are going ^{through} ^{with} has been through
three times, and have never been
longer than 70 days. This is the last letter
that I expect to write before leaving,
when you answer it direct your to Sacramento
city. Elizabeth Sanders was married
last night to a Mr Childs and they
speak of going to Ky this summer.
I saw Thos Freeman Blackwell and some
other of the boys. My respects to all
Gen &illard. J H Lillard
try and collect that money in Nickman

Wibby ma
May 11

Gen C Lillard
Lawrenceburg
Kentucky

10

The Filson Historical Society

Stanford May 15, 1850.

Dear Father-in-law,

lest you should become uneasy about us I shall write, although I have nothing very entertaining to write. Your little grand boy and I have enjoyed good health until the last few days we have been laboring under bad colds. Roberts seemed to be taking an alarming turn last night, alarming to any one who fears croup; however it was soon checked by an emetic. When I heard my dear child coughing hoarse, & breathing with difficulty I remembered that children often die suddenly when thus attacked, I felt that I had not altogether thought of him as a ^{beloved} son, but had in my heart ^{belonging} claiming him as my own. Oh I fear I will love him too much.

Sister is also suffering from the ill effects which this damp weather has produced. Last Thursday we went to see cousin Esther Newland, the lady who has had consumption so long. Dr. Montgomery while in Louisville last winter selected a good quality of cod liver oil (There are various qualities; and some are just so offensive as that I sent sister Martha. I did not then know of but the one kind) for her, she has used nearly 5 bottles of the stuff, and really I never have witnessed such improvement.

in any one afflicted with this disease. The poor visitant what
has been to Crab Orchard several times. When she commenced
the use of this oil every one that saw her, thought it
impossible for her to survive more than a few weeks. She
was evidently in what we call the last stage of consump-
tion. I therefore advise you if any of your family are
threatened with a disease of the lungs to make them take
cod liver oil.

You recommended the red sulphur springs of Bu-
to Coaling. The very thing Dr. Montgomery had been speaking
of. He contemplates visiting Va the latter part of next sum-
mer and taking Sister to a number of those celebrated water-
ing places. I also have been talking somewhat of accompanying
them, and should like exceedingly to have you with us.

When shall we expect you to make the promised visit to
Lincoln? I suppose as soon as the clouds and chilly blasts
of winter have blown by. Summer in a few days will be
ushered in upon the preceding steps of winter without an
intervening spring. At any rate, we have enjoyed but little
spring weather, like winter that we have experienced in years
gone by.

My best love to brother Marions family, Mr. Jennings',
Mr. Child and every member of your own. How does the
black-eyed Robert come on? Is he still a stout looking spile?
And what of my little pomesake? Tell her mother she must
send me very soon a full account of the young lady's progress
in the numerous baby accomplishments in which she has
been a student.

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y child?
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Roberts hat fits very well, and I am much pleased
with it - Write soon, and let me know when you are
coming to see us.

Affectionately your daughter

A. W. Gillard.

The Filson Historical Society

Stanford June 11, 1850.

My dear Father,

Your highly acceptable letter was received just a week ago, and would have been answered immediately, but for my indisposition - the effects of cold. I am sorry you have been too unwell to visit me. Do come very soon if you can, and stop at Dr. Montgomery's. I am at present staying with sister. Caroline is almost well, but weak, however she sometimes rides 5 or 6 miles a day on horseback. - I am very anxious to come down to see you, but William is absent in Tennessee, and unless I meet with some one going down in the stage I do not know when I can come.

Mr. Graham went to see Mr. Waller about six weeks ago - and sold Mr. Gillard's interest in the Review to Mr. Thurman & La Rue for \$1,000. They were unwilling to buy it, but Mr. Waller told them unless they did he would have nothing to do with the Banner, and they being solicitous to have Mr. W's cooperation in the Banner consented to take part in the Review. I intend that this note, and every thing else Mr. Gillard had before marriage shall, if necessary go to settle the note you have against him. I think that is all he was owing any one when he died. -

One year has elapsed since my dearly beloved

husband was called from this sorrowing world to fairer regions
beyond the dark valley of death, and oh what a year of misery
to me, an orphan and widow. No earthly being knows the anguish
that fills my desolate bosom and when I reflect upon my incapacity
to bring up a son in the way that he should go, my spirit sinks
within me, and oh how difficult to hush the pining thought, why
was not his Father spared!!

I can truly sympathize with Anna Deelman in her
present affliction, where will she make her her home?

Robert is very well, and I think if you would come ^{to see him} he would
give you some very sweet kisses. My best love to every member
of the family. May the Spirit of God dwell with you, and finally
may you all be reunited in Heaven is the prayer of

Your daughter

A. W. Lillard

P.S. I should be very happy to hear from Miss Ann Whitley. Tell
sister Mary I think she ought steal a few moments from her
duties to tell me something about the young lady. Even now
while writing Robert is in my lap and almost every moment
beating my face and hand with a spool of thread he has.

A. W. L.

Augth 13 1845

Dear uncle

Just remember more than four months have elapsed since I have heard a word from any of you why this total silence I know not for in the mean time I have written severar letters and would have written others if I had of been able. I have never heard a word from Mr Lillard since he left home. The wether is extremely warm, great many deaths here this season, it is very sickly indeed Mr Mosby died the 11 of July Poline has been very sick ever since his death, with the Bilau fever. Mr Mosby died with the tipus fever. Tell Mr Lock Gilpin Mr Lillard left me power of attorney to make him a deed to his land and if he is ready I am. I receiver a letter from Mr silver tooth of Wickmon county Kentucky stating that he had collected Mr Lillards money long since but did not know where he lived or whether there was any communication between the Banks of Missouri and Kentucky or not I answered his letter for Mr Lillard had just started a day or two before his letter come to hand he stated he would check it on if he could but I have never heard any thing more from him whether he is going to keep it or not I do not know I wish you would write to me if you know any thing about it Mr Lillard told me that he had

~~that~~ written to you to get the money and send it to
me I wish you would write and let me know whether you
have it or not if you have it is all well and good -
little bestine is quite well she ways 14 pound at five
months old sits a lone. give my best respects to all
tell aunt to write to me all write if you please when
ever I get a letter from Mr Lillard I will write a
gain I am a looking for one evry mail.

This from your lonesome niece
Artemesia Lillard

7
1871

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Sibby mo
Aug 45

Gen. C. C. Lillard
Lawrenceburg Ind. Mo.
Kentucky

post haste

ADRES

The Filson Historical Society

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Clinton Ky Sept 12th - 50
Gen^l Christopher Lillard

Dear Sir

After my respects to you and your family I feel it a duty from the long acquaintance and friendship that has existed between our families to perform the painful duty of informing you of the decease of your brother Capt D M Lillard of this County he departed this ~~his~~ life on the evening of the 9th inst after a severe attack of ~~phlog~~ fever during his illness he frequently spoke in terms of friendship and regard for you for near two years past he had entirely abandoned the use of ardent spirits and died a leading member of the Sons of Temperance and the temple of honor his death was much lamented not only by the societies of which he was a worthy and highly respected member but by the community generally, I have never ~~observed~~ such a burial it was attended by a procession of the Sons of Temple and a ^{large} concourse of friends who united in deploring his loss his wife ^{took} ~~bore~~ this afflicting dispensation of providence very hard but was during his illness indefatigable in her attentions to his every want he had all the medical ^{and} that the place afforded Doct^r Ashley and Seay was his first Physicians but when his case was looked upon as dangerous Doct^r Tom Lenson, Black and Ray gave him every attention in their power M^{rs} Lillard wishes you to come and see her if possible or write to her immediately Myself and my wife was with him every day during his illness which lasted 94 days

Very Respectfully Y^r Obedt^t
James Sublett

20 OCT 1850

Hickman, CO, Oct 20

My Dear brother

your letter of Sept the 23.
came to hand a few days ago and most say that
I was extreamly sorry to hear that you could not come
to see us) for I do think that if ever any person stood in
need of con soling friends I do left in imbarest circumstances
and six daughters to mourn the lose of a kind father
it is a melicolny satisfaction to go in company with my
little children to the lonely bed of thair father and
thair to weep for our grate loss for none can know such
alass only by experance) Oh Bro at the close of those lonely
days to see my little children gather around our umble
harth stone with such sad continance whidst I can not
reckin sile it to my self that he is for ever gone
from yous and ketch my self looking out as if in
expectation of some one Bro I did dearly love my
husband) but I do believe that our loss is his grate
gain he prayed all most constantly while in his
seorcens and I do believe that the lord has murcey
on all true penitents I frequently during his ill
ness talked with him a bout his hope of hear
after and he toald me that he did not fear death
his only tie seamed was his family he was all most
in kily in sencible for 7 or 8 days before his death
he caftin boald your name) I have one grate
satisfaction that is he had every at ten tion that
the best of friends could be stow he was be loved
by all that kniew him thoy caim fair and nes

to see him) he was one of the foremost of the temple of
honor and also of the sons of temperance they
acted the brothers parts fully) Brother you said
that you would like to know what kinde of a
situation I was left in) I have six daughters
and the second one has bin in vary bad health
for better than a year the youngest has bin
sick for 5 or 6 weeks to loock at hir at this time
it dont loock like it will be long be fore she will
be with hir dear pappa) there is a good man
debts and there is nothing to spare to pay
them but some coorn with out striping
my self and children there was debt to caime
on hear from the misoura and we had
scuffled hard to pay them off and now
there is no chance for me to live but hir
out Martie and try and pay off as I can
and the children and me will have many harde
trials but thank god I do not mind worke
if my house was only cumfortble and I was
out of debt ~~that~~ I then by industry I might
make out to live but as it is the prospect is quite
gloomy) but the lord has promist to protect
th widow and orphan and I try to put my trust
solely in him) I knew that if you would come down and
see how things stood that you would have assisted me some
brother you that live in ease and plenty can never
know the trials of thoes in wabler circumstances and
I humbly pray you nor yours may never know) you

most give my best love to Brother Tom and family
you nor him can never know how much merr you feel
to me you feel like our dear brothers Oh if I only could
see you) & I most come to a cloze for this is bin a string day to
me I feel as I had not one friend left in this wide world
give my best love to your famly and Brother Thomas
and famly and except the saim for your self

Margaret A Lillard

6 Lillard

The Filson Historical Society

At Home November the 8 1850

Dear uncle

I received your letter yesterday and hasten to reply. I received a letter from Mr Lillard along with yours. They are all there. Mr Lillard and Brother Jones were left six hundred miles from Sacramento a lone and a foot also. Brothers riding animal gave out on the south pass river. Mr Lillards gave out on the Stunac Holt river four hundred miles from the City. One mule gave out 80 miles from the mines. So they only got in with two mules out of five. Sold them for thirty dollars a pece. gave 75 here for them. They had to walk six hundred miles that is one third of the way. Their company left them but thank the Lord they got in a few days after safe and sound. Mr Lillard wrote that it was dull times there.

Dear uncle since I commenced this letter we have received a nother letter from colifornia from Brother he wrote that Mr Lillard and himself and a Mister Serrey from Anarson were working in the mines he stated they were well been digin one week had not made much but was in hope they soon would. his letter was dated the 4 of September. they arrived on the 17 of Aug Mr Lillard wrote on the 19 of Aug we are all well. Mr Lillard thinks of coming home in the Spring. I sent all of the papers I could find concerning Mr ^{toos} Silver by uncle Sanders all but one letter I found since I will send that to you if nessary.

I most sincerely sympathise with Martha in the loss of
her husband. I fear some times that I will be left a lone in this
unkind world. Write to me soon it affords me great pleasure
I assure you to receive a letter from you. Now we are seperated by
wood and water hill and dale yet you all are fresh in my memory
yet give my best respects to all. It is growing quite late and
I intena to write to Mr Lillard to night. We have had company
to night off of the boat or else I would have been done writing
long since. your little grand daughter Elizabeth Lillard is the
Sweetest little thing in Missouri not quite eight months old
can walk almost talk tays very hard indeed. in fact say papa
I think quite plain though perhaps no one else woul understand her
Kiss Aunt Minerva and all of the children for me little Tom
in particular. Ma sends her best respects to you and family
Tell aunt to write you all must write

Adore the well dear uncle

Gen C. C. Lillard

Artemesia Lillard