NOTE: Lizz is Elizabeth (Lizzie) Smith, daughter of Bishop Benjamin Bosworth Smith and child hood friend of Amanda's. Rosa married Claudius M. Johnson, September 5, 1842. Mary Jane Hawkins would marry William Ambrose Dudley (a lawyer in firm of Buckner & Dudley) on December 23, 1845 and have 4 children. I am dating **1841**?/?

This small portrait hangs in Elley Villa, current home of Dr. and Mrs. James Birchfield who restored the home. The mistress of Elley Villa was Claude Johnson's sister, Louisa who married William R. Elley on Dec. 21, 1847 (or 1-12-1848)

Addressed to: Miss Amanda Bruen

Present

From: Rosa (Vertner Griffith)

Dear Amanda

Lizz Smith is coming to pass this evening with me and I wish you to do the same – come down between five and six and we will have a long and I hope, pleasant evening together. None are invited but Lizz, Mary Hawkins, and yourself – so come early as I want to show you the green house before night. Do come if you do not it will be a disappointment to us all. yours

Rosa







Dear Amenda.

Legy Conthe is coming to passe about I haish you to to do the passe come and prince and prince and prince and prince and prince and pleasant evering to gether. However, when and governed to observe early as I much be to observe you the getter house before might Do come of you do book it think he as disappointment Is as all yours of the disappointment Is as all yours

NOTE: Mr. George G. Fetter married Miss Catherine Ann Mercer Gray, daug. of John Thompson Gray February 11, 1841. Caroline Catherine (Kate) Prather married Re. Edward Porter Humphrey, March 3, 1841

Postmarked: Louisville, Ky. Feb 16 (1841)

Addressed to: Miss Amanda Bruen

Lexington

Ky.

From: David W. Yandell

Louisville Ky. Feby 11, 1841

Miss Amanda

Your interesting letter came to hand sometime (I may say a long time) since.

I will give the same excuse that you did.

I was preparing for the Examination at the Louisville College, which engaged all my time and attention. I was examined the second day on Cicero, and Greek, third, on Physiology fourth on French; (both reading and speaking) and to break the monotony we went home, to meet again on next Monday.

The Session of the Medical Institute will close on the 1st of March, there are sixty candidates for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine, there are 208 students altogether, I suppose that although we do not report as many students, we have more <u>real</u> students, if we have not this year we will have next session.

In dying from the manner in which you speak, of the Hero of Tippecanoe" I think you are a <u>Loco</u>, which I am sorry to hear (if true) for I think that the ladies ought all to be "Democrats not <u>Locos</u>, well we will not discuss politicks in this letter. You may not see the good of the

Page 2

Heros" reign the first year but that is because Mr. Van Buren leaves it in such a state. (enough of politicks)

There are a great many boats here now, the wharf is full, the river is quite high though it is falling now, the <u>water</u> watchers say we shall have another flood which I shall be very sorry to see.

I cannot tell who you mean when you say that the handsomest young gentleman in Lexington was from this place. I know no one from here that is there now. Who is it? I expect Mrs. Ward is there now, do you know when the Miss Ward's will start for this place? I think that the young gentlemen (or rather boys) would be very glad to see them, if talking about them is any sign.

There has been a Party every Friday night for five weeks and there is one to night.

Mr. Fetter was married last night to Miss Gray the daughter of Thompson Grey, one of the wealthiest men in the city.

I am not acquainted with Miss Reinhard (?), but I told a young lady to give your love to her and tell her to write to you.

We shall start to Tennessee on the 4th of March Miss Kate Prather(?) and Mr. Humphrey (the Presbyterian

Page 3

will be married Minister). And General Harrison Inaugurated on the 4th of March. What a number of distinguished personages!

Give my love to Busy, Joe

Ma and Pa join me in love to all of you

Excuse the briefness of my letter as it is now half pass 11 and

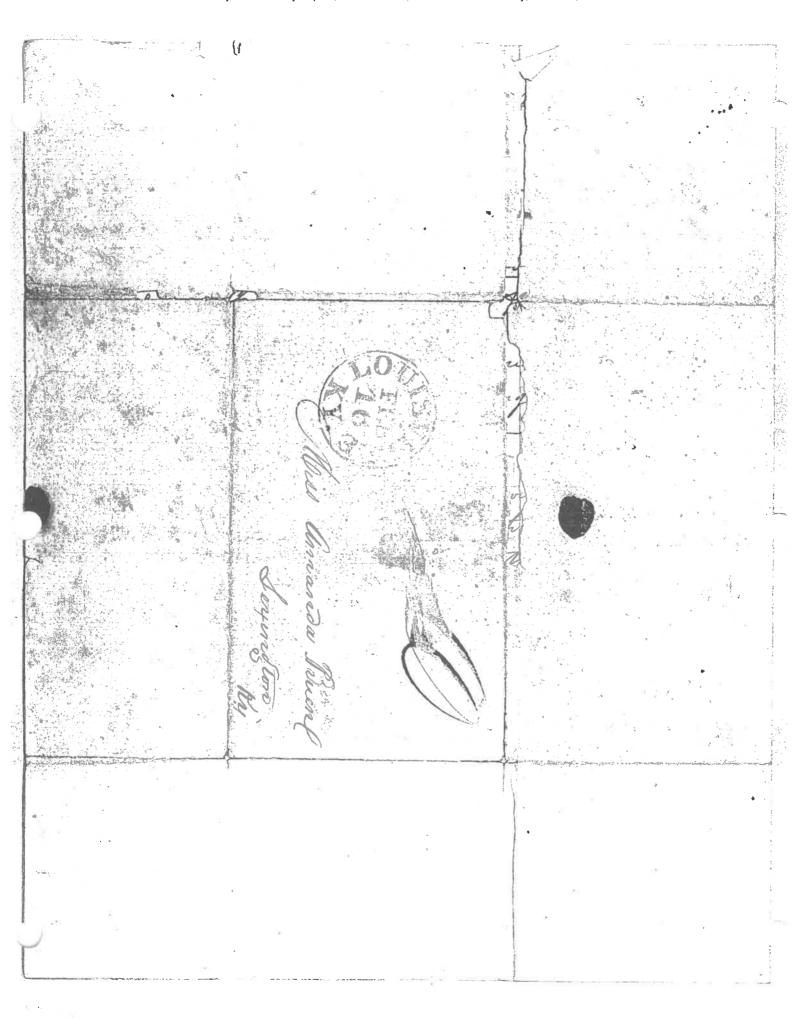
Ever believe me Your friend David

P.S. I expect a letter soon excuse my bad penmanship D

Inisville Sty Febry 11th 1841 Miss Amanda Your interesting letter, came to hand. Sometime (I may day a long time) since. I was preparing for the Examination, at the Louisile lollige, which engaged, all my time, and attention I was examined the second day, on Cicero, and Greek, third, on Physeology, forbith. French; Noth reading and Speaking and to dreak the montory, we went home, to meet again on next mondays The Session of the Medical Institute, will close on the 1st of Starck, there are sixty Candidates for the Degree of Doctor of Medicina there are 208 Students altogether, I Suppose that although we do not report as many Students, WE have more real Students, is we have not this year we will have been Session, Indging from the mamer in which you speak, of the of Expecance of think you are a Low, which I am sorry to hear, (if trais for I think that the ladies ought all to Democrats not Locas, well, we will not discuss politictes, in this letter, you may not see the good of the

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General Harrison Inaugurated



NOTE: from Amanda Bruen (age 16 ½) to her mother Margery Parker Bruen (this is the letter in which Mr. McMurtry is described. Mr. John McMurtry was taken to Europe by Joseph Bruen for the purpose of designing a castle for his oldest daughter, Elizabeth Bruen Ingels. While the description here is not flattering, he grew into the premier Lexington Architect. It was written the evening before she, Elizabeth, her father and Mr. McMurtry departed on the ship "Great Western" for their 4 month trip to Europe – they returned Aug. 22, 1841. A copy of this is place at this date in European Journal. Dating 1841 4/16

Postmarked: Baltimore Apr 17 (1841) 25 (cents?)

Addressed to: Mrs. M. Bruen

Care of Mr. Joseph Bruen Lexington, Kentucky

From: Amanda Bruen

Baltimore, Maryland April 16th (1841)

Dear Ma

Agreeably to promise I now write from this city, but I assure you that I do not feel much in the spirit of writing, having just eaten a hearty luncheon of fresh oysters. My thoughts do not flow very freely, but I will be able by the all inspiring efforts of the anticipation of a good dinner in and hour to tell you of all the wonders I have seen! Moreover, Elizabeth has described to you all the public buildings in Washington City and it would be useless for me to repeat a description of them for our impressions are the same. We took our leave of the Great Capital yesterday morning at 6 o'clock in the cars, and arrived at Baltimore at 8 o'clock after a very short but pleasant ride. We are staying at the Eutaw House, South Eutaw Street, No. It was recommended to us by Mr. Sullivan as being the most elegant and commodious in the city and is fully worthy of its high reputation. The table is excellent, the desserts are delicious consisting of float, jellies, cakes. fruits, and the richest kind of pastry. The landlady is polite, the servants attentive, and the chambers commodious. The boarders are very pleasant and sociable, we have already become acquainted with several ladies of the house.

It is true that Baltimore is a very large and elegant city yet it is not very fascinating to the traveller, it contains many useful public buildings, but few interesting for strangers to visit, also a multitude of private dwellings, some of them truly magnificent, Comb's Babel in Lexington is not to be compared with them. Washington's Monument is always resorted to by strangers. We visited it yesterday morning

Page 2

and ascended to the top of it. Had a fine view of the city, the river, and the surround – ing country. The ascent was very tedious, there being two hundred and twenty – eight steps. On the top of the monument is an immensely large statue of Washington which can be seen at a great distance. There is one also in the interior. The Monument is built of white marble, one hundred and eighty feet height, and enclosed by a high massive iron railing. We wrote one names in a book which is kept at the entrance for the purpose of having the names of those persons who ascend to the top. I am very glad indeed that we wrote ours in it for by

that means we saw one of our Lexington acquaintances, Dr. E. W. Theobald(s). He and the Miss Smiths and Gabriella Morton were there in the afternoon. Dr. Theobalds called to see us last night and sat several hours with us, it was indeed delightful to meet with him, for I felt something like I was in dear Lexington again. This morning the Doctor called again with Miss Mary Smith and Gab Morton, Miss Fanny remained at home as she is going to be married so soon. Dr. Smith's residence is quite plain compared with others here, yet in Lexington it would be considered elegant.

We walked down to the river yesterday afternoon and saw some small ships, and steam packets. It almost frightens me to see them. The berths are very gloomy and in a storm or strong wind they have to be completely darkened. They do not have state rooms but the berth are separated from each other curtains. What a scene it must be to see one of those long dark cabins full of sea sick people! But I will not anticipate such a thrilling scene on the "Great Western", for "Sufficient unto the day, is the evil thereof."

I feel sadly, and strongly the truth of the words, "There's no

Page 3

place like home." Yet you must not think that I am "home sick" for if Pa was to give me my choice to go back, or to go on, I would prefer going on. If McMurtry was in Lexington, I would be glad, for he is veritably the greatest pest that ever breathed. He is the ugliest mortal I ever saw, when he has on his ragged overcoat he looks like a cheating peddler, when it is off, his "bow legs", and "pigeon toes" look beautiful, perhaps you can form an idea! I do not know which hates him the most, Elizabeth or me. He makes himself very disagreeable on all occasions. When conversing with gentlemen, he always asks them a great many questions about traveling, then drawls it out the he is going to Europe with Mr. Bruen and the ladies. He must eat opposite to us, he eats awkwardly, pours out his coffee, and spills it on the cloth, uses a silver fork like he was afraid of it, he must set next us in the stage, if we talk or move he looks around to see what is the matter. We must (seal tore - find?) himself with us is the street, wherever we go. Elizabeth and me say (seal tore con)found right in his ears, look daggers at him but all in vain, follow us he will. He is either deaf, or destitute of any consciousness or he would take all the hints we give him. Sometimes we will get ready to walk and think we are going to get clear of him when we hear a step, and lo! the heaven born angel comes with face and hair like a fresh boiled beet, swinging his hands, whimpering and whining, Miss Elizabeth, Miss Mandy, you going down town. If people think I'll take a liking to him they are wonderfully mistaken, and if any one says anything about it to you tell them they are fools. Oh! Ma I want to see you so bad, and that sweet Maria too. If you knew how I wanted to hear from you would write and incur the risk of our getting it, if a letter should not reach us there would be no less postage, but if we could get one it would

Page 4

Top

fill us with joy, I would kiss it a thousand times. Why don't you write? Are you afraid of wasting paper, pens or ink? or is it because you do not care anything about us, or take no such interest us as to give us gratification? It would be but little trouble to you, and a treasure to us. The cry from morning till night is "Oh, if we could only get a letter for home!" Tell Busy and Joe I am going to write to them next and give best love to them, Tell Aunt Betty we have left Old Virginy, give my love to her, Aunt Hannah and Caroline and to all the girls.

Tell Kit Petty I have not forgotten her yet, (she said she knew I would) that I often think of our throwing the spool about. When you write

Bottom

don't say a word against McMurtry for Pa would see your letter. I think it will not be necessary to write to you any more for you seem as though. you cared nothing for our letters or us either. Pa says he did not think you would treat us so meanly. Mrs. Ingels presents her compliments to his lordship H. B. Ingels and says that if he does not make some endeavor to keep up the correspondence that she will stop writing. She has written 3 letters. Indeed it is shameless we have been from home nearly 2 weeks and have not received a word or a line yet. If you don't write soon we will conclude you are all dead, or seriously indisposed. Again I say give my love to every body and keep a full share yourself. Yours affectionately – Amanda

Side

Elizabeth says kiss Maria for her and give her dearest fondest love to Boon. When you write get a long foolscap sheet of paper and fill every corner of it with something about home. Don't let any one see this for it is strictly a family letter. Good bye again. Perhaps you would like to hear that Elizabeth and me are enjoying ourselves continually, eating, reading and playing.

NOTE: Written the evening before she, Elizabeth and her father departed on the ship "Great Western" for their 4 month trip to Europe – they returned Aug. 22, 1841

NOTE: Elizabeth sends love to Boon –

Baltinger, Apany land Stepul. 16% Dear Mps. Agreeably to promises I you write kone from this city, but I assure you that I do not feel much in the spirit of writing, having jud facily, but I will be able by the all inspring effects of the anticipations of a good division in well have to tall your of all the winders I have Homes, Oligabeth has described to you all the publica buildings in Watchington Pity, and it would be proceed for pro to repeat a descrip - tion of them for our empersions and anapartitioned were the same. "He took our leave of the Great popular yesterday proming at 6 valores in the card, and expensed at Boltomojes at Bololick after us pay shout but pleasant perder. Wo Jane Staying at for Butain Mondo, South Putan Street, No, It was recorn -quended to pet by Mr. Bullivan as being the most elegant and personadions in the city, and regarded fally the is full worthy of its high reputation. The table is excellent, be dessirte and delicious consisting of float jetties, cases, fruits, and the reachest haid of feating. The fonders is polate, the seconds Logia the, is how releasely become acquainted with sweet ladies of the house. It is true that Baltimores is a pay langer and plegant city get it is not very forcinating to the traveller, it contains many useful public Amildings, but fine interesting for thrangers to visity also as multitude of private dwellings, some of thom truly magnificent; fourts Thatil in Description is not to be rumpand with them. Washing ton's Afone went always resorted to by strangers. He visited it yesterday morning

and ascended to the top of it. But a few new of the city, the and the personed ing country. The ascent was very ledions; there bring her hundred and have eight stops. On the top of the Monmont is an numerally large chatre of Washington which can be great at a great distance. There is one also in the interior of the Monuments is built of white quantle, one hundred and eighty feet in hight, and enclosed by a high massine ince railing We wrote our parced in a book which is hope at the surrance for the purpose of having the prairies of those persons who account To the top. I am good glad judged that we wrote over in it, for by That mans we saw one of our Securition acquainteness, Dor & W Theobald. Afternoon Dr. Shotalds called to fee us last night and fat percal hours with us, it mus indeed delightful to ment with him, for I felt something like I was in dear Leangton again. This morning the Douter called again parthe Mists Many Smith, and fat Morton, Must Transing remained at home as the is going to the married there, get in Sungton it would be considered plagaret. The malked down to the niver yesterday afternoon and free some Small ships, and steam probets. It almost frightens me to see them. The buther are very, gloving, and in a stores or strong wind they have to be completely darkened. They do not have state-rooms but the butter are deparated from each other by curtained. What a sainge it must be to be one of those long, dark caking full of the dea dich profile! But I wie not anticipate met a thuilling seemed on the "Great Westerner", for Dufficient unto the day, is the soil I feel sady, and strongly the much of the words, "There's no

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if the most for golden his yet (the the It would be but bill truble to to your and

NOTE: This letter holds a key to Margery Parker's family that may be helpful. Several of those visited by Joseph and his daughters (Parkers and Halsteads) are also mentioned years later in a letter to Mary Pindell Shelby Stallcup, as sibling relations to Margery. The family name of Smedes first appears in this letter. I think there is a connection or great familiarity of this family and the Bruens or Parkers – as many lived in Ulster County, New York. Mrs. Elizabeth Sebor Isaacs Smedes & family had lived in Lexington for a time – now the widow of Abraham Kiersted Smedes ran a girls school with her son Aldert in NYC. A daughter Mary helped teach and corresponded some with Amanda. A year later (1842) Aldert, an Episcopal priest, started St. Mary's School in Raleigh, NC – now St. Mary's College (an Episcopal girls school). Amanda writes to her aunt, Catherine Saunders (widow of Alexander) whose deceased husband was partial owner of the steamboat "Olive Branch" with Daniel Halstead Jr., just prior to their leaving for Europe. She was 86 in an 1850 census taken in Paducah, KY. She would have been born in 1764. There is an unnamed Halstead in Daniel Sr. list of children and I believe this well may be her. She and Margery are very close and she is called "Aunt" by Amanda and her sister Elizabeth in their letters. Aunt Catherine's daughter, Eliza Halstead has not been married long to Philip Maurous (spelled many different ways), for Amanda has not yet seen him. A copy of this is placed at this date in European Journal. Dating 1841 4/30

Postmarked: New York May 2 (1841) Large unreadable figure of postage in corner

Addressed to Mrs. Catherine Saunders

Paducah

Kentucky

From: Amanda Bruen

American Hotel New York April 30 (1841)

Dear Aunt Saunders

Knowing of course it will be a gratification to you to hear of your relations and friends in New York. I will give a minute account and description of them.

I will say in the first place we have had rain every day except three since our arrival which was last Wednesday week. So our opportunities for visiting and seeing what is to be seen in this great city have been very few. We have met with no accidents so far and have enjoyed our selves to the full. Spent three days in Washington City, two in Baltimore, three or four in Philadelphia, long enough to see the principal Lions (noted persons & places)& etc. We spent last Monday with Mrs. (Elizabeth) Smedes. She is very handsomely situated in University Place, has a large family of pleasant boarders and is doing very well. She looks as well as ever. Mary is with her but teaches part of the day for her brother Aldred who has a very flourishing school. She is of great assistance to her mother. They made a great many inquiries about you and Cousin Catherine. They desired to be remembered to you both. We spent yesterday with Aunt Eliza Meeks in Jamaica L.I. She is living very pleasantly in the suburbs of the town. She is remarkably well and all the family. They

seemed perfectly delighted to see us. We had a good

Page 2

long chat about you and the rest of the folks. Aunt Halstead is dead and Mrs. Miles. Mr. Deryea (Duryee) and Mr. Powell are well, they are living in the city. Aunt Sally Parker was well two or three weeks ago, they live 8 miles from New York. Miss Leonard and Mr. Larson have called to see us, he will call this afternoon for us to spend the evening with him. He has nine children, he looks very well, he is bald and very grey, has excellent teeth. I will give you the particulars of our visit tomorrow morning. Our time is very short – tomorrow morning we bid adieu (I trust not forever) to our native country. The Great Western leaves at 1 o'clock. It is a splendid ship, you would be astonished at its size and the magnificence of the furniture etc. Besides the cabin there is a private parlour for the Ladies, every thing covered with looking glass plates, gilding, fine paintings and the richest carpets. The cabin doors are of the finest Chinese Paintings on fine wood. Our spirits are very fine. They have not flagged in the least since we left home. But I fear when we are over taken with that dreaded sea sickness we will long in vain for home, but you will hear bye and bye. But in the mean time do not fear for our safety, we have the same protecting power every where. Pa has been over to Newark. Uncle Stephen (Bruen) had been dead two weeks the rest of the family and his sisters families were well. They could not believe it was Pa, the weather was so bad we were housed up during his visit.

Page 3

I will bid you good morning until tomorrow it is near our dinner hour which is three o'clock. We do not get through until half past four and then we go to Leonard's from there to the theater. It will then be twelve before we return – we are very dissipated.

Saturday morning — We spent a very pleasant evening with Mr. Leonard and family. Mrs. Leonard told me to ask you if you could imagine her sitting in an arm chair with nine children around her, the oldest fourteen, the youngest 8 weeks? She has had nine but lost some. Alaxander is keeping house, has three children. Margaret the oldest daughter is still living in single blessedness. I never saw two persons more alike her and her father. The other son by his first wife is with him, they are a very pleasant family. Mrs. Leonard looks very much like Maria O'Bannon before

I forget, kiss that fine little fellow for us and give
Maria Louise love to him, we have received four
letters from home since our arrival here, Maria
and Christopher Halstead are dear, there is only one boy
and two girls left, they are living at their Uncle's Mr. Moss
on Grand Street. The Leonards did not know you had
left Lexington or that Maria was married. They said
they heard enough from us to last them three years.
W. L. (William Leonard?) put on that famous Chinese dress we have heard
so much of. It is a very becoming one to him. Excuse
this miserable scrawl, my mind is so bewildered with the

Page 4

Bottom:

thought of starting so soon (we leave in two hours) that I cannot sufficiently collect my thoughts to write a sensible letter. I have not time to read over? Give our love to Cousin Eliza (I wish she was with us to laugh us into good spirits when we get the blues) Cousin Maria, Cousin Catherine, Mr. (Philip) Maurause and Mr.)James) O'Bannon You

Top:

may expect letters from Rome, Paris and London, tell the good folks to write to us, we expect letters from home as we are through those places. From Italy, we go directly there to avoid the warm and unhealthy seasons which we will spend in the north of Italy and Switzerland. We often talk of you and Philip Maurause – I wish we could have seen

Side:

before we left to give a description of him to our relations here. We will see them all again if we live to return and hope we will have some weather fit for visiting which we have not had since we have been here, but I must stop farewell do write to Ma very often to comfort her. From yours and dear Betsy Ingels. I wish we could see you all before we leave. I will get into a crying fit if I don't stop Good bye

Across first page:

A word about the fashions which as a course Straw Bonnet tomorrow plain & long black silk scarf

long that about you and the risk of the folks. Amen Relation is dear and Mr Miles, Me Designe und are well they are living in the algo aint felly All the later of the Lashies enough a consider with linking of af plate, gilden of in paintings and the end of Compile. The carles are of the fruit theme Paintings on fine pero One sports Since per left home. but I fear when we are ourte I ham with that I donaded Sea Sichnet, we such long in Name for home Int you will her bye and bye, but in the mean time do not fear for our safety we have the same posterting power every potened. In has here over to New Orks. Marcher Stephin had been dead his pucho the and of the family and his sisters families were. well it, They could not be hive it was Par , the weather was so land your more housed up during his visit -

I will bid you good morning until to mornow it mean our dimen how which is them or clock we do not get through until half part four and then to the Sheater it will then he twelve the fact we return - me are very diese - The Spent army plant My Laund dlest had me but list some Alaxander is huping houses has those children Margaret the ildest living in Jungle blesslas I new Jow two porton her father the son by he for wife is with him they are a very pleasant of Learand looks very smed like Maria Blancisco I forget hip that fine little fellow for in Maria Louise for to kim we have received of letters from home line our arrival here, Maria and two girls they are hoing at their uncles me by - The lean ands did not know you had left Lessing tom in that maries was merried they said they had heard enough from us to last them there Mr. Lapat on that glassons chines dup we have hard So much of it is an very becoming one to him. this misure ble serold my mind is so hewildered with the may expect letters from Rome Paris Frondon, tille the good of olho to wante to us the pur expect litters you home as we are returning through those places from Maty, we go directly there to avoid the warm and mi healthy bearsons the which we will apend in the north of I and Init zerland we often talk of an and Philip Marrause I wish per could have seen It sufficiently collect my thought to pool for to Power than (I much show with shi liter I ha into good spirito when we get the bluis Cousin Man Cousin Cathrine M. Manrause and M. Channon you

NOTE: Mr. John McMurtry was taken to Europe by Joseph Bruen for the purpose of designing a castle for his oldest daughter, Elizabeth Bruen Ingels. While the description here is not flattering, he grew into the premier Lexington Architect. A copy of this is placed at this date in European Journal. **Dating 1841** 6/17

Postmarked: New York July 4 (1841) 20 (cents?)
Per Steam Ship Hibernia from Liverpool
Mailed from London during travels of Europe

To: London

Mrs. Joseph Bruen Lexington Kentucky

Per Steam Ship Hibernia From Liverpool

From: Amanda Abigail Bruen

Charing Cross
Morley's Hotel ^ June 17th 1841 London

Dear Ma

Having fulfilled my promise of writing to each member of the family, I again commence my correspondence with you. Since my last communication to you, I have seen sights and wonders, innumerable, indescribable. I have contemplated London and Paris with their host of curiosities, England's lovely gardens and the luxuriant vineyards of France. Without hesitation I say that I like Paris much better than London, but I think the country of England preferable to that of France. Paris is far, far more interesting to the stranger than England's vast metropolis. In the former every thing is open for his inspection and he is welcomed by the bowing, scraping French, but in the latter a silver ticket is the only means of admission, and even then the haughty Englishman seems reluctant to give the due gratification. But still I prefer England; it seems like home after visiting France, all speak the same language, but there it is to me a land of gibberish, a very Babel. We feel solitary in the thronged multitude. No one understands us, we understand no one, language, tongues, faces, all are strange. The smaller villages, and cities are complete dens of wretchedness. The thatched huts, the plastered wooden houses, tumbling down from weight of years & their wretched inhabitants bespeaks that comfort abided not there. In England every town, hamlet, or village breaths the sweets of content and peace. Every acre is a garden spot, every cottage has its little garden, its quiet bower, its woodbine porch. Each village its church with its spire modestly peeping above the humble houses. It is the house of God, there he is worshipped but in France alas! how great the change – There we see – 'tis true – the modest village church, the peasantry anxiously wending their way to worship within its walls. 'Tis sad to witness their delusion! They worship not their God and Maker, but statues, pictures, and their hypocritical teachers. The whole country breathes the air of heathenism - - - -

Page 2

I suppose that Elizabeth and Pa told you of all the sights and wonders of London in their very lengthy letters. however I will not attempt to, but leave such a lengthy narration until we get settled quietly at home.

As Elizabeth

and myself are both writing by this favorable opportunity, I fear that our letters will be one and the same thing: for our impressions are very similar...but still, the letter of a loving wife to her adored husband, will be rather different from that of a daughter to a mother. But I must now inform you of our late procedures on our journey. The 29th of May we left London in the railroad cars for Southampton - arrived there at 1 o'clock having only been three hours on the road although the distance of 75 miles. Left immediately for Havre de Grace in the steamer Hambourg - accompanied by two of our fellow passengers, Mr. Davis, and Mr. Robinson (see pressed flowers). Our passage across the channel was delightful instead of being sea-sick we were as gay and cheerful as it was possible away from home. No one could be otherwise in Mr. Robinson's society. He will make you laugh. By the by he is a very fine young man from the city of New York. He is handsome, intelligent, and moreover worth eighty thousand, and from what I can judge spending it as fast as he can. But I must leave the interesting theme of Mr. Robinson's merits for another time and continue my account of our journey to the continent. We arrived in Harve the 30th and left the same morning in the Diligence for Rouen - where we arrived early in the evening. Immediately after our arrival met with another of our Great Western acquaintances Mr. Blunt of New York. He is a jolly, good humoured old gentleman from New York. Spent the day in Rouen: it is a beautiful city, and the oldest in France. The Cathedral is the most magnificent structure I ever saw. We saw the room where Joan de Arc was imprisoned, where she was tried, and where she was

Page 3

executed and several other very interesting places. But time will now allow me to give you a full detail of all we saw for I must proceed with my journey. We left at eight o'clock on the first of June. After we got through the examination of our baggage we went to the far famed Hotel Maurice, Rue Ravioli and well it deserves its reputation of comfort and luxury. The windows of our parlour or saloon opened on a balcony and from thence we enjoyed a full view. The gardens on a pleasant day are thronged with all the fashion and beauty of the gay city, with nobility and mobility. We were welcomed at once by our friends Mr. & Mrs. Cochran who were staying at the same Hotel. The same evening we rode out with them to the Place de las Concorde. It is the loveliest spot I ever saw. In the center is an Egyptian Obelisk erected by Louis Philippe. On each side of it are large fountains almost constantly playing. But I will stop, for were I to attempt to give you a description of it, I would have no room to send my messages to some of my friends in Lexington. The day after our arrival in Paris we went to the Chamber of Deputies, the

Triumphal Arch, and the Hotel des Invalides. In the latter are deposited the remains of Bonaparte in an ebony coffin. We were very near them. In the evening with a party of friends went to the Italian Opera. But I find that it will be utterly impossible to tell you of all we have seen in Paris in the small compass of a letter for I believe I could fill a volume. But I must tell you how I was delighted and enraptured with Versailles – We went with a large company and spent the day – Mr. & Mrs. Cochran, Mr. McArthur, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Davis, Mr. Paton (Patten), Elizabeth, Pa and myself formed the party – and in truth it was delightful – We were there hours dining – We became so impatient that we concluded to go to sleep and leave directions to be woke up when any dish was prepared. We also passed a day at St. Clouds – and at the same time saw his most gracious Majesty

Page 4

Top

Louis Phillipe, the Queen, the Duke of Orleans, indeed all the royal family. ^ that the King can be seen. His life is in such danger that he never appears in the streets and only rides in a bullet proof carriage. A man was beheaded last week for attempting his life. His equipage is magnificent – his carriage is drawn by eight bay horses – I was the only one who had a distinct view of him in the whole party. I ran about thirty yards down a hill with a piece of bread in one hand and a piece of cheese in the other & without gloves (for we were taking lunch in a café). I was so excited that I forgot every thing. The others laughed most heartily, and Mr. Paton (Patten) immodestly – I thought he would go into fits – but I got well repaid for it in spite of all with a full and distinct view of his features which is seldom obtained by any one – Before we left Paris more and more of our party arrived till at length a whole side of Table d'Hote consisted of Great Westerners – The time most delightfully during our stay at Paris – Mr. and Mrs. Agnew and Miss Mills were almost constantly with us – we were I am sure

'Tis very seldom

Bottom

the gayest party ever in Paris – While there I must not forget to tell you Mr. Frederick Robinson presented me with the most beautiful bouquet I ever saw of rarest flowers. He was very gallant indeed. The last evening we spent in Paris I took a walk with him in company with a party of about twenty up to the Triumphal Arch – and a most delightful one it was, partly through the garden of the Tuilerie, the Place of Concorde & the Elysian Fields. I wish I had more room that I could tell you of all I have seen. We left Paris the 13th of June in the steamer L'Etoile in company with Mr. Fox, Mr. Grant and Mr. Oliver. Arrived in Rouen in the evening and left the next morning for Havre in the steamer Normandie – which conveyed the remains of Napolian to Paris. Arrived there at eight o'clock, and left it immediately for Southampton in the Hambourg. There met with Mr. Livermore. Another of our fellow passengers, a dashing young fellow from New York – He is going to take our letters for us to New York and just this minute came for them – so I must close. My best love to all, I have no time for any particular messages. Tell Lizzie Smith I am afraid I will never have an opportunity of delivering that

Across Bottom

message of George Pansy's.

Pa received a letter from
him yesterday but
forgot that I was to close.

So again good bye

Your aff daughter

Amanda Bruen

But again if you show this I'll be mad, literally & truly –

Across Middle

While writing this letter was seated in a suburb little parlour Morley's Hotel. A magnificent chandelier was suspended from the ceiling while immense mirrors adorned the walls - A small French piano graced one corner of the room & easy divan & arm chair completed its comfort & elegance. The window was hung with crimson damask & lace curtains & in addition were ivory wooden & Venetian blinds to keep out the sun that never shone. From it had a near view of the Duke of Northernland's (Neatherland's) palace -

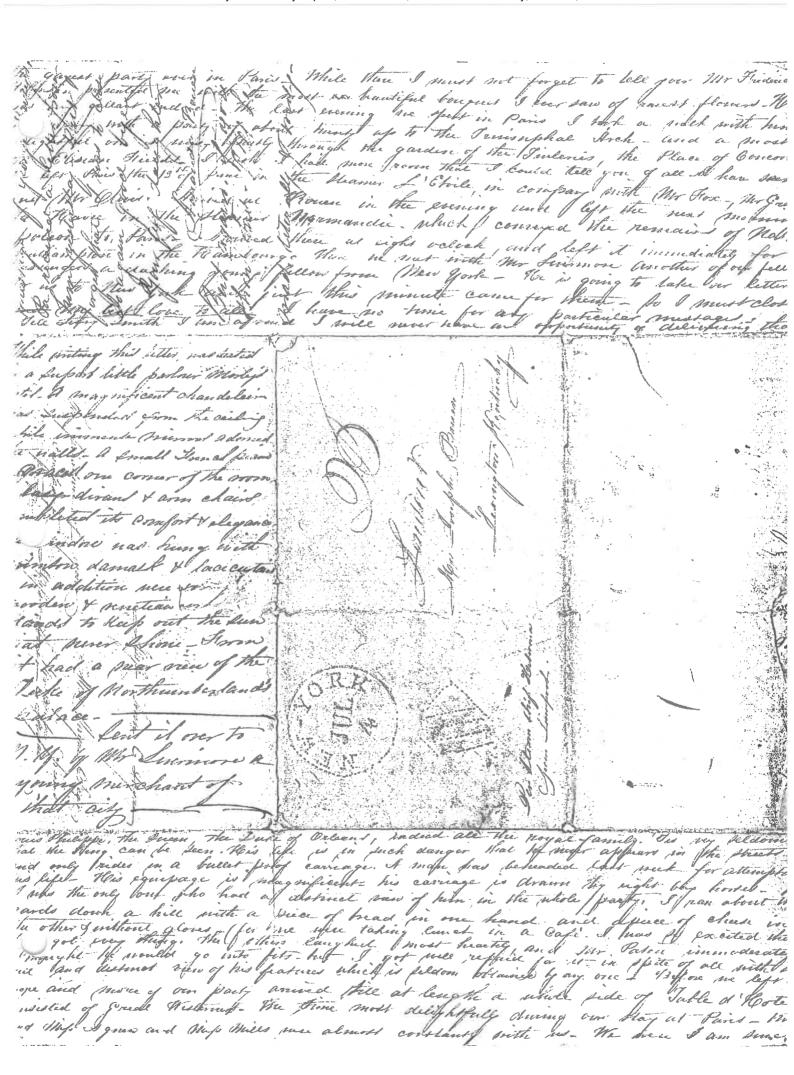
Sent it over to N. Y. by Mr. Simmons a young merchant of that city.

Money Charing Confe Afforday & Money & Money & Motel. Bome. 17 th. 1845. Soudon. Many fugilled my promise of writing to each momber of the family, to you, I have fun fights and product, immerable, indescribable. I have con timplated Souther and Parts with their hosts of consisted, Englands lovely gard and the homewant progrands of Flores . Without Suitation I fay that like Paris much bletter then London, but I think the country of Care for preferable to that of France Dans is far, for more interesting to the stranger than long band's past flitropolis. In the foremer every thing is ofer for his inspection and he is intermed by the boning, surpling French but in the latter a pilow ticket is the only means of admission, and sing then the hanglity Englishman from peluctant to give the due gratifications But shiel I prefer England; it seems like home after pesting France, all That the same language, but there it is to me a land of gibboush, a very Babel. We feel politary in the throughed multitude. No one under Alando us, we understand no one; all an strange, language, bouques, faces, all as Strange. The smaller pollages, and cities are complete I dens of weethed cufs. The that ched huts, the plastered provden houses, tumbling bown from pright of you then pretaked inhabitants bespeaks that comfort abiles but thered be duglar enough town, handet, or peliage breather the smeets of content and peace Cong acre is a garden fifet, lany cottage has its little garden, its quiet four, its provabine porch. Each village its quit church with its spire modestly puper about the humble houses. It is the house of god, there he is worthipped but in Chance alas! how queat the change - their we fee the modest pilly This fad to pritrick the delusion! They northop not their god and Maker, he an air of heathered in I - the backers. The whole country his ather

I suffer that Chyabeth and Pa-told you of all the pights and pronders of fraction in their pay lengthy letters. humber I will prot lattempt to, but lebour that a lengthy manation with me get putled quietly at home.

As Chyabethe rank any look pouting by this favorable opportunity, I few that they will be one good the same thing; for my impressions we may be still the same thing; for my impressions we may Sumlar but still, the felter of a loving wife to fin adoud husband, full be pather different from that of of daulghler to a mother - - But I west now inform you of our proceedines on our journey. The light of May see lift Sondon in the portroad card for Souththampton awared there at for toclock having only been there hours on the road although a distance of miles. Left immediately for Plane de Grace in the steamers Familioney accompanied by two of our fileon papergers, Mr Dans. in ad of being per peak me where as gay and cherrful as it plus for any from Some - Mo one could be otherwise in Mr Robinson's Lociety - 1 the city of Med Book! The it hand some, whileful, and moreover worth righty thousand, and from what I can findge spending it as fost as he can - But I must leave the interesting theme of Mir Tobinson's ments for another time and continue my account of our journey to the continent. We arrived in Have the 30th, and left the same morning in the Diligence for Bourn where we arrived four Great Wistern acquaintances Mr Blunt of Men Book. He is a jolly, good humowed old genclemen from new Book . I pent a day in Jonen: it is a beautiful city, and the oldest in Annac the father. Is the most magnificent structure of ever pan - We faw the noom who from d' Are and imprisoned, when she was tried, and when the was

to give you a full detail of all me for I must proceed with my journe left though the process of the 30th for Pains in the Deligence when me wired at eight oclock on the fast of June - After we got through the examina of one baggage in went to the far family Wotel Apenia, Rue Biroli- and we or salow opened on a Wilcom and from There is surjoyed a full print of the garden Tuileries, I he Tumphal Such they are three miles from each other, from that fact you can form an idea of the extent of our vow . The gard on a pleasant day are thinged with all the fashion and beauty of the gay ity; with nobility and mobility. We me polamid at the once by our fre Mr & Mrs Cochean who were staying at the same Motel. The same menings you I can fan. In the contre is an logyphin Obeliek prected by four Philippe on each side of it are large fountains almost constantly play in But I mile stop, for me I to allempt to give a description of it, I some have no room to send my messages to some of my friends in bening. The day after in arrived in Paris for went to the Chamber of Defenties, ? Triumphal Arch, and the Wotel des Suralides. In the letter are deposited the remains of DODO Bonaparte in an abony coffin . We were very mean Muen. In the exercing with a fairly of friends ment to the Stalian Open But I find that it mile be untiry impossible to till you of all in have few in Pais in the small compass of a letter for it believe I could for a volume. But I must tell you how I was delighted and complained with Versailles. We ment with a large Company and spent the day - Mr y 1. Eveluan, our Mc Arthur. Mer Brokenson, Mer Davis, Mir Paton, Elizabeth Pa and myself formed the fearty- and in buth it was delightful - We some the myself formed the fearty- and in patient that we concluded to go to see and inflame directions to be woke up when any dish was prepared. We also passed a day at It blonds and at the Jame Fisher saw his those Gracious Majesty



NOTE: Amanda wrote her mother in June of 1841, while in Europe "to tell Lizzie" she could not perform a request – so at that time she must have still been in Lexington.

NOTE: there is a little number box game in pencil on the back.

No date – I believe this to be written upon Lizzie Smith's departure from Lexington to Louisville. **1841 fall**

Addresses to: Miss Amanda Bruen
Present(?)

From Lizzie Smith

My own dear Amanda,

How disappointed and half-angry I am that you do not care enough about me to come up here to see me tonight. Altogether it has happened very awkwardly. After I had enjoyed to day with you and before Mrs. Brand knew it she sent for you. If I had been to tell her that, and also that I would sleep at the Dudley house, she would not have invited company, so please don't blame anyone, you know things will happen so sometimes. But why did not you come! You know that I could not come after she had invited persons to meet me, although inclination strongly drew me towards your dear family.

Page 2

And now how can I say good bye!

Please Amanda don't forget me! I am sure you will not. I will write very very soon and tell you every thing. Very best love to you all at home, tell them how sorry I am that it has happened so.

Well, good-bye ever more, how happy this world would be if friends never had to say that hateful word too much like heaven!

Yours most devotedly

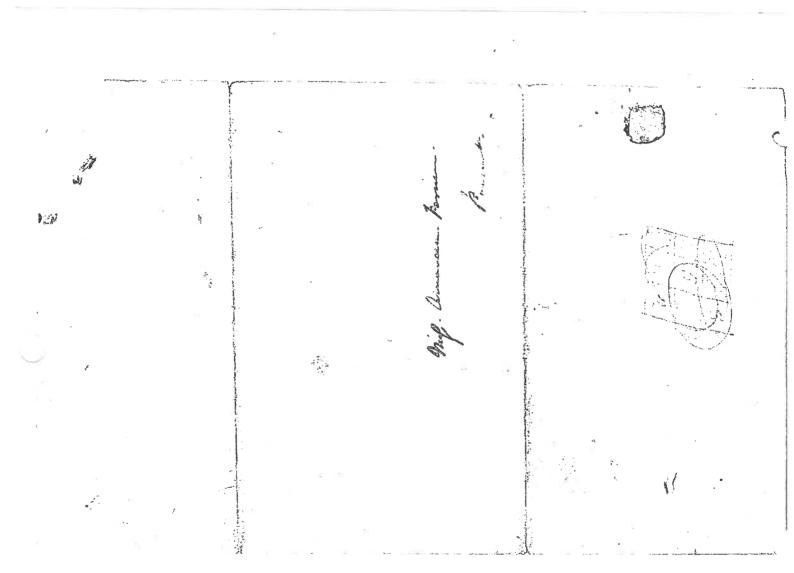
Lizzie

Please excuse the horrid, horrid scrawl, I wish you could see how and where I am writing it. Destroy it is all that I ask.

Oh! how I long to see you once more

Don't forget Lizzie

how has clear



NOTE: This collection of Amanda Abigail Bruen's cards was found in an envelope marked Cards With Notes. It is hard to choose a time, however some were written before she was married, so I am placing the date as 1841 winter.

Dear Louisa – Will you oblige me – sending me again that music book of yours containing several sets of quadrilles – written on the back: Mr. Price (written by Amanda)

Miss (Sarah) Irvine & Miss (Elizabeth Fontaine) Shelby had engaged to go with Miss (Mary) Boswell in her carriage but will decline bringing her out of the way. I accept the services of Col. (William Grayson) Carter at 7 ½ or 8 o'clock (written by Amanda)

Miss (Mary) Hawkins, Mr. James S. Armstrong, Mr. (Levi?) Carr present their respects to Miss B. (Bruen) and regret that they have not the pleasure of her company this evening – Miss (Georgia?) Edwards also

Mr. (Joshua?) Noland respectively requests that Miss Bruen would allow him the pleasure of her company to Mr. LaGrand's this evening – July the 26th

Miss (Lucy) Webb will be pleased to see Miss Bruen on Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock

Dear Amanda – Mother is not willing for me to go upon such an invitation and though I am very anxious yet I cannot. You must tell all about it on your return – yours Rosa (Vertner) – make my excuses

Will Mrs. (Mary Jane) Pilkington be so kind as to furnish Miss Bruen with another copy of the letter addressed to Mr. Pitkin? The first has unfortunately been misplaced - May 26th (written by Amanda)

Miss Combs request the pleasure of Miss Bruen's company tomorrow evening at half past 7 o'clock – Wednesday – on other side Mandeville Thum MD, Leesburg Harrison Co.

Dear Amanda – Anna had persuaded her Ma to permit her to stay until tomorrow and as or will be the only opportunity we will have of spending an evening with you for some time, we have concluded to go, if it is entirely convenient – Your friend – Sue (This may be Susan Mitchell, called Sue, Jane's sister.)

Mr. (Joshua?) Noland request the company of Miss Bruen to Mr. Shelby's this evening if favorable – May the 19th. Also a card reading Mr. Noland respectfully request that Miss Bruen would allow him the pleasure of her company this evening. July the 21st – On the back Jos Noland

Wishing you many happy birthdays – Elizabeth – on other printed: Miss Elizabeth Fontaine Kinkead

This card reflects a party with a numbered list on it, 1-20 on front and more on the back:

1. Breck	16. Jacobs	31. Armstrong
2. Humphries	17. Holt	32. Robertson
3. Carr	18. Pindell	-
4. Robertson	19. Warren	-
5. Mitchell	20. Porter	-
6. Turner	21. Jones	-
7. Shelby	22. Humphrey's	-
8. Breck	23. Clay	-
9. Humphries	24. Vaughn	39. H.C. Bauks Esq
10. Carr	25. Jouett	
11. Robertson	26. Brick	22 nd party given by
12. Mitchell	27. Marshall	the Lex. students
13. Noland	28. Carr	
14. Dr. Mitchell	29. Shelby	Perhaps this is where Evan saw her &

wrote his "Ode to Amanda"

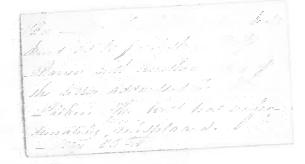
30. Noland

15. Armstrong

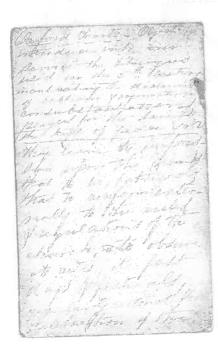


Mis brown & Mis Sullay had insylve to go with him him selections bringer from both decline bringer of the way have a for the way

Dear Lines (Well you stage one facilities one aly arrest that sunder from 1 it was Containing tempely dits I gradfilled



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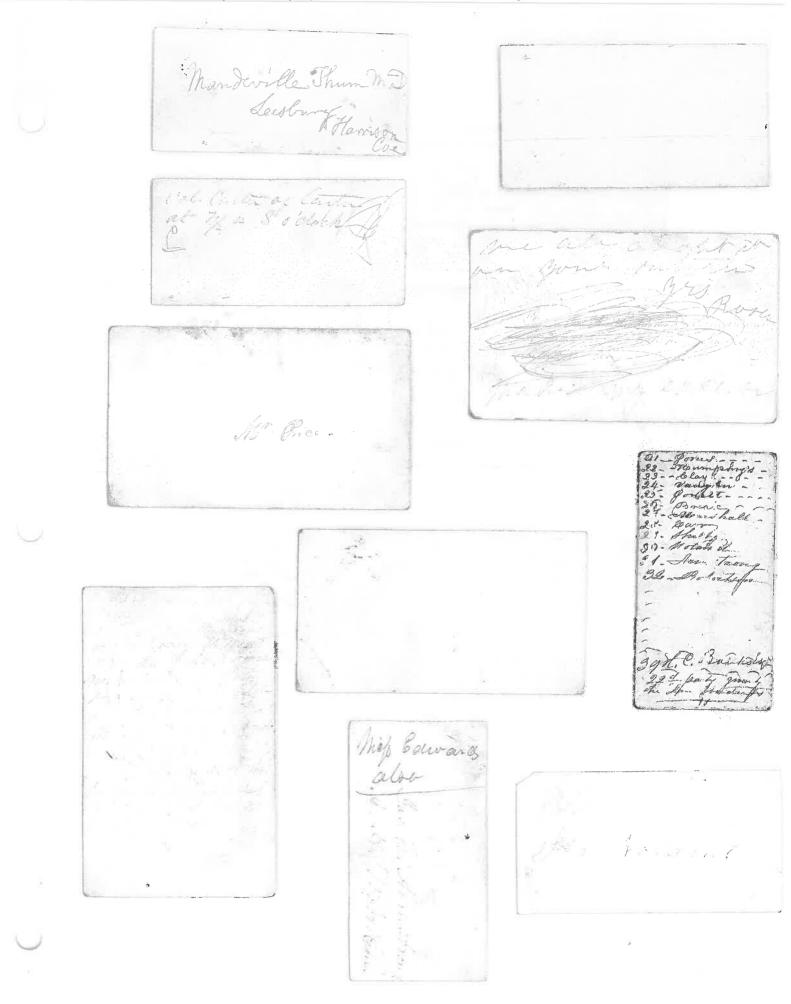
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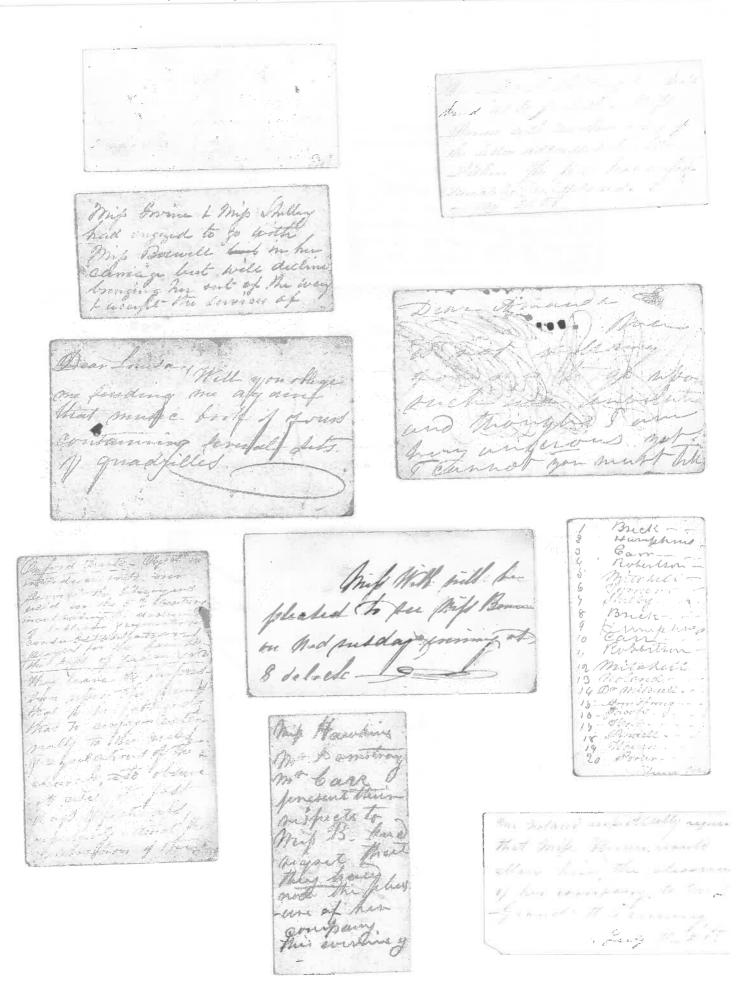
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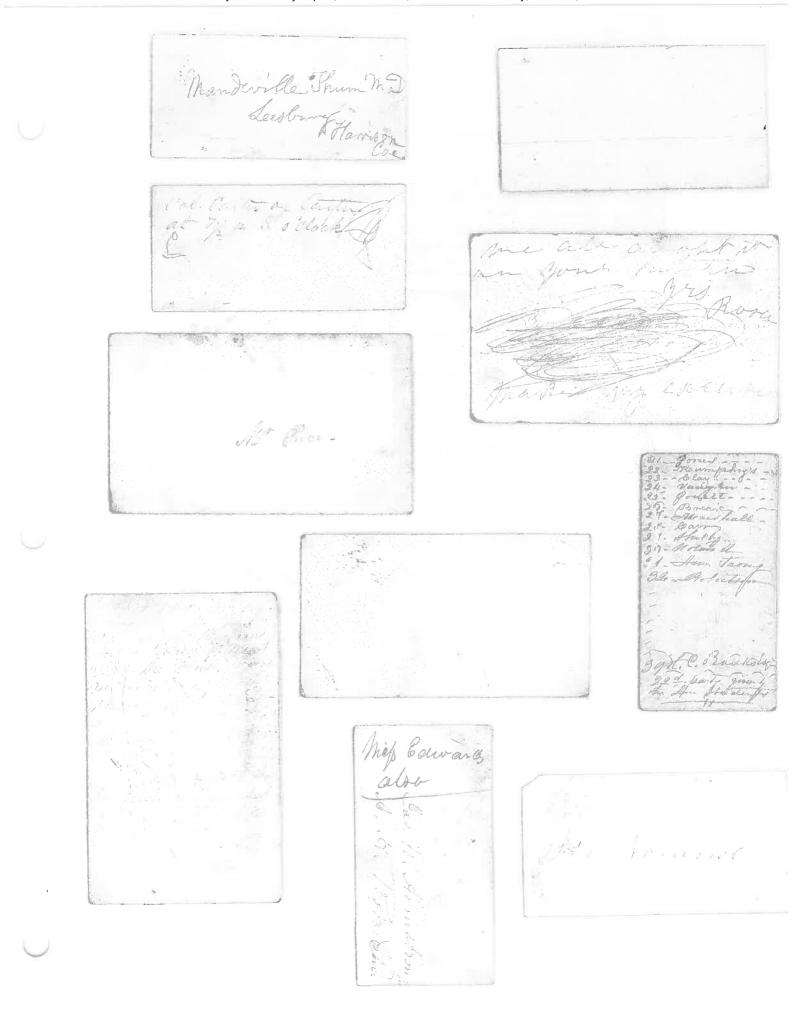
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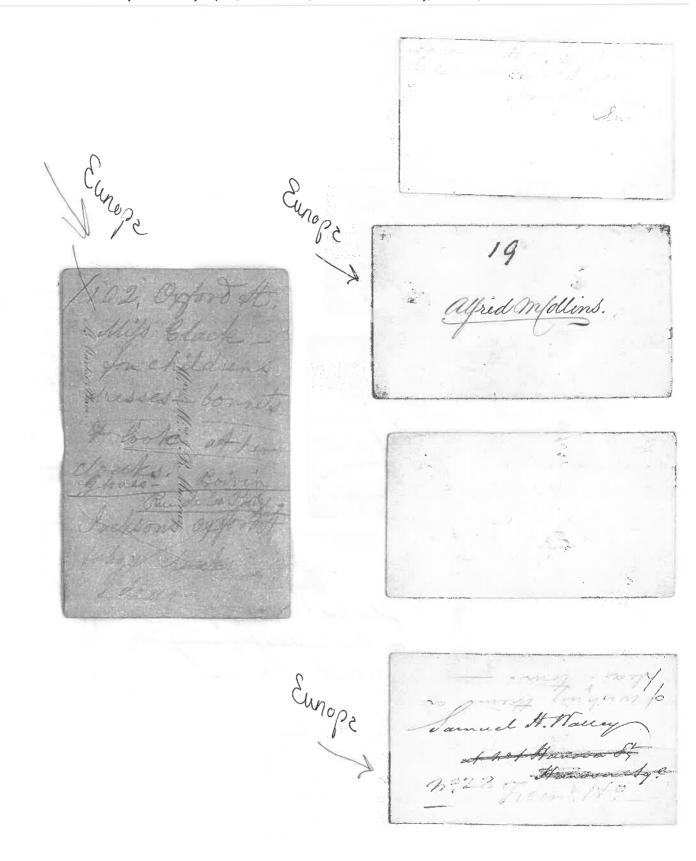
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persona ded her com to fein her the stary until them more a is it will be the only spison in the most have of francising how are some of north you for Europe Europe 11, PE Ald Allone de Gandas y Mine de Cha ned to prove that relebent winds among things. Embroidery - Mas Chan cerel 32 Louis Le Grande Bress maker Made Pal-mire - 16. Rue Safet Alta Voland regues to Bonnets & Guicard Have The phearing of Miles Capo - SII Rue la pitte Burns company to Alle Shelly This evening Shoed . Este - Rue of favoritable de la Paix. : may the 19th I Normande - Scatte-O Boulvierd des Ital Daughter one quite unlette to be one their Europe grown, - tweet he very happy if m 26 this Ognerica will come in



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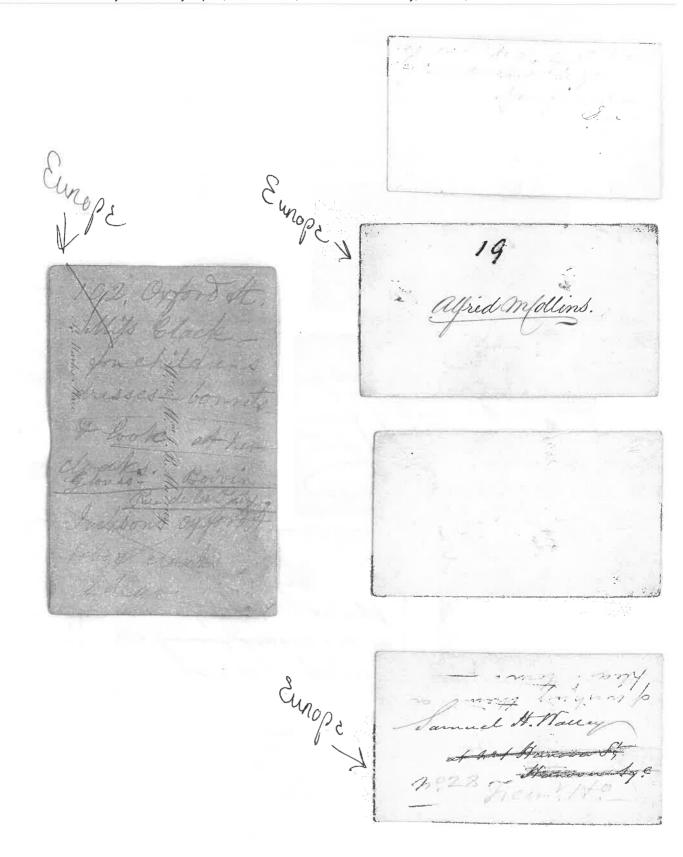
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The pleasure of My Bruns to She She lay This curring to grand the 19th

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NOTE: This is **old sheet music** about to fall apart. While the score is included just the words have been typed here. Evan Shelby never proved to be a very good speller, and it seems he should know the Bruen is spelled with an "e" not an "i", but still believe that this must have come from him, as only the week before he send a letter to his cousin Isaac Prather Shelby from Nassua Hall, College of New Jersey (later Princton) in Princton, NJ. **Dating 1841 12/10**

Postmark? looks like Princeton, NJ with "songs" written in bottom left corner. Dec 10 (1841?)

Addressed to: Miss Amanda Bruin (misspelled)

Care of Joseph Bruin Esq.

Lexington

Ky.

songs

Title Page:

I'll Remember The - a Ballad

Sung with rapturous applause. By Messrs Wilson & Dempster. Composed by J. F. Danneley.

Words of the sheet music:

"Ah! forget thee! no my love Time may stop or cease to be, Streams forget to flow my love, But I'll remember thee.

Fairer forms may meet my sight, Finer features eyes more bright, But ah! forget thee" no my love, one may stop or cease to be, Streams forget to flow my love, But I'll remember thee."

NOTE: At the end of the music – written faintly in pencil:

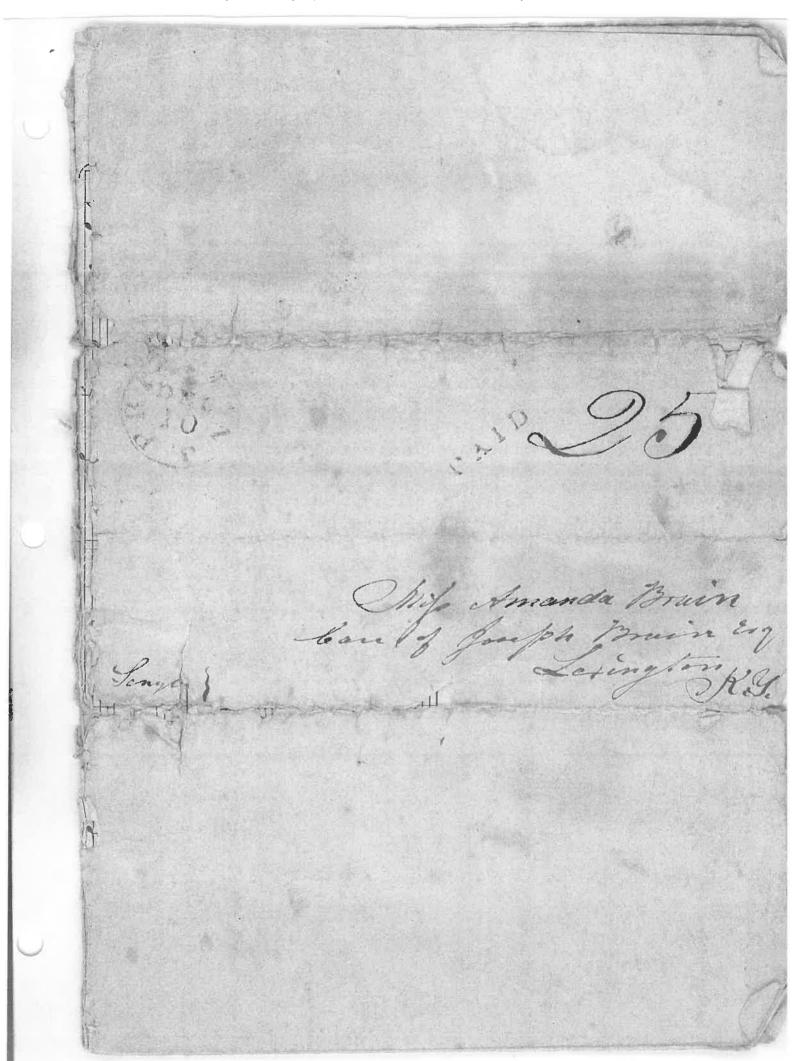
There's not a word, a look of thine No soul hath e'er forgot Thou ne'er hast bid a ringlet shine Or given thy locks one graceful twine Which I remember not.

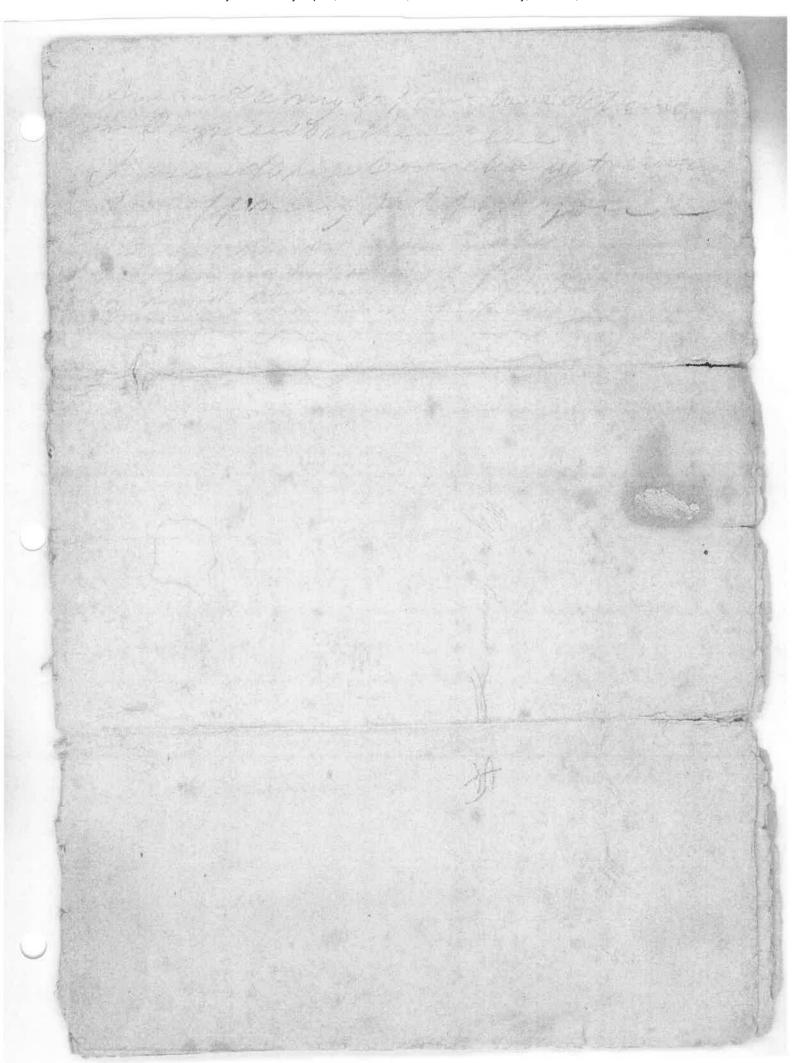
Ah, that I could at once forget All that haunts me so And yet soon bewitching girl To die were sweeter than to let The love he remembers go. Below the last verse:

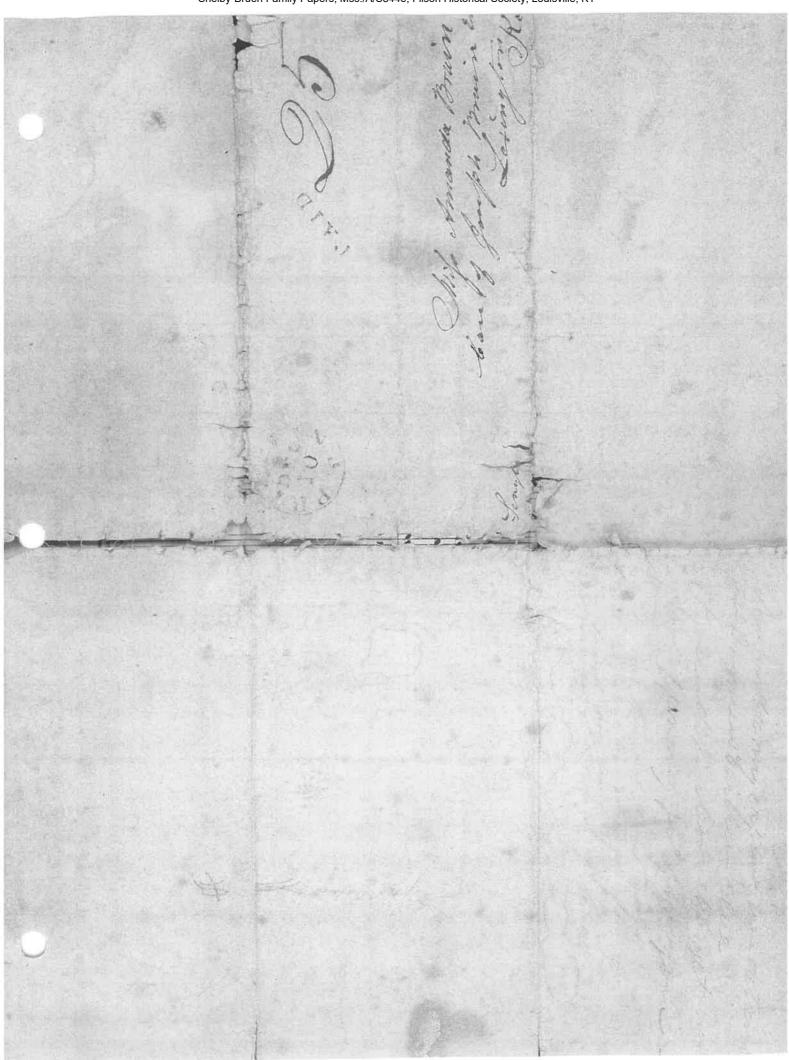
Amanda my captive love detains
In O tressmen(?) silken clue
To undo ______like yet were

offering get for you

There is another fainter verse in smaller writing that I cannot read







ill REMEMBER THEE

Song with Rapturous applause,

34

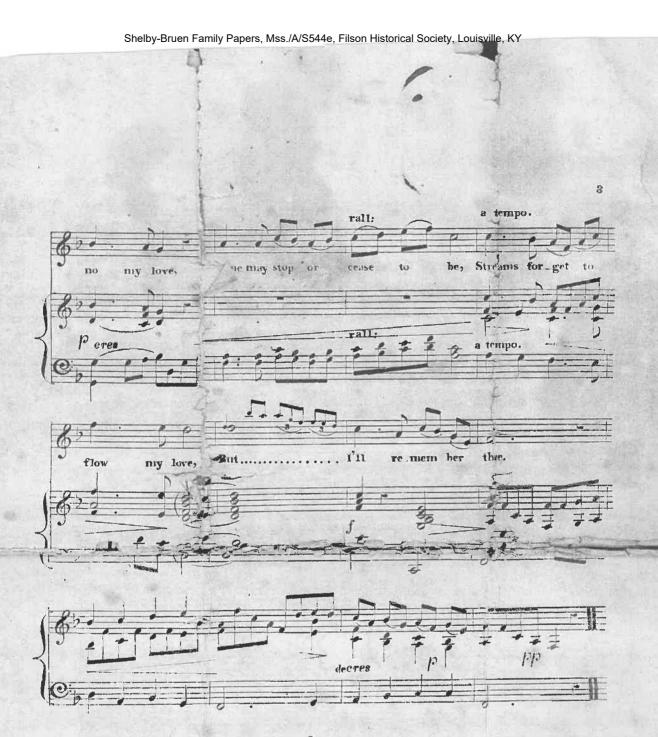
MESSES WILSON & DEMPSTER.

Composed by

J. F. DANNELEY.







Though I wander lovely love,
Through this vale of tears and woe,
This thine absence only love,
Shall cause the tear to flow,
Fare thee well my bliss is o'er,
I shall ne'er beheld thee more,
But ah' &c.

NOTE: Thus begins the correspondence from Louisville. Lizzie's Salvation is shared here. The friends are now about 17 years of age. Liz Shelby is Elizabeth Fountain Shelby, born 1824 – same year as Lizzie and Amanda. Ellen Gwathmey who appears in several letters, was a classmate of Lizzie and Amanda's and was from Louisville. Her father was George C. – first cashier of the Bank of Kentucky.

Kalorama was the name of the estate/school & grounds and means beautiful view (see following photos taken in 2006 while Mr. & Mrs. Urton lived there). Some sources say the home had a connection to the Underground Railroad movement to help African Americans escaping slavery in the 19th century and that underground tunnels led away from the home. Beth Urton Krebs, who grew up in the house and now lives off Hurstbourne Parkway, said her father had any openings that might have existed filled with concrete for safety reasons. **Dating 1842** 4/4

Postmarked: Louisville KY Apr 6 10 (cents?)

Addressed to: Miss Amanda Bruen

Care of Jos. Bruen, Esq. Lexington Kentucky

From: Lizzie Smith

Kalorama April 4th 1842

I fear you will think me incorrigible, dearest Amanda and despair of even receiving any pleasure from such a good for nothing correspondent as I have provided, but before you utterly condemn me hear my excuse which although perhaps not being <u>plausible</u> is at least <u>true</u>. I began a letter to you the very day after I received yours and had almost finished it when I was interrupted and my thoughts ever since have been so occupied with other and better things that I have felt as if I could not write until my mind should be perfectly at rest. And now I am happy to say it is. I do hope I have like Mary "chosen the good part which shall never be taken away."

Ever since Father's return from Lexington with accounts of the great thing which the LORD had done there, my whole thoughts have been turned to my own condition and state of heart, and the moment I began to examine myself I felt the need of a Saviour to save me from eternal death and to fit me for a happy life and glorious immortality, and I do hope though with fear and trembling. But I have at last found him and been able to cast myself upon just as I am, a poor miserable sinner. I could not bear to think that all my dearest friends should leave me behind, while they pressed forward in the right way, and on Easter Sunday when I turned away from the Lord's table and thought of you enjoying its inestimable provisions, I felt as if I could not allow another week to past without making that decision which will influence all

my future life. Nor am I alone in the important step, both Louisa and Virginia have come forward as candidates for Confirmation which I have not yet done but intend doing next Sunday! There about eighteen persons desirous of Confirmations and Mr. Jackson speaks of presenting them the last Sunday of this month just one week after my eighteenth birth day. How have I been able to live so long without God and with out hope! I am truly delighted to hear that such a happy state of things exist in Lexington. In a letter from Mr. Winthrop, he speaks of the deep seriousness still evident in the congregation and of the revival of the Sunday school and Bible class.

How I wish I was so situated as to attend such meetings. But I must try to do good where I am in some other way. To me I scarcely know how to interest you in the dull routine of our coun try and monotonous life. I fear I shall never be a genuine country lass, but still the country begins to have many more cherries for me, now when bursting forth in all its living of green, than when clad in the white mantle of winter.

We have made several trips to the woods, and last Satur day one of our longest, to the knobs about eight miles from us. We were a merry party I can assure you, closely packed in our jaunting-car with a large basket well filled with eatables, but the least important part of this procession. I persevered in climbing to the top of one of the highest peaks with two or three of the more adventurous of the girls and carried off a piece of pine(?) as a trophy. We christened it Mount Ida, a high-sounding name enough to suit the most fanciful mind; we hesitated between this and Olympus, but strange to say the habitation of the Gods was rejected.

Page 3

It is such innocent pleasures and enjoyments as these that vary the monotony of our life, and I find I have in no degree lost my taste for them since the days of my childhood, indeed I hope I never shall, for with them are connected such sweet memories of both the dead and living, such recollections of "auld lang syne" that they form some of the calmest, happiest hours of my existence. I would not exchange them for all the hours of gay tumultuous pleasures spent in the place of the crowded ball room which the most admired notary of fashion can boast. Oh! how every thing which this world can offer; even its most innocent enjoyments/ sinks into nothingness in comparison with the holy joys and blissful eternity promised to the true children of God! How much lovelier and happier will be our intercourse if we are permitted to meet at the right hand of our heavenly Father! Let us pray for each other that we may so pass through this troublesome world that we may indeed live together

forever there.

I am afraid that you will find this a very <u>dull</u> and <u>egotistical</u> epistle but I feel that you are one to whom I can open my whole heart and not be exposed to criticism or censure. What nice, long talks we can have together in May — for I am still promising myself the pleasure of accepting your kind invitation and think if nothing unforeseen prevents you may expect to see me the first of next month. You can't imagine with what delight I look forward to again seeing the faces of those I love there, and all the old familiar spots. I was quite as much astonished as you were at "the Julia's" preferrence of Louisville. They were however, highly delighted with their

Page 4

Top

visit to the "Athens of the West" and still more with its far famed hospitable inhabitants. I quite agree with you in considering Julia Conyers as the prettiest; she is a lovely, interesting girl an a fair specimen! I should think of the Eastern spring lilies . You ask me if I see much of Mary Ellen then will scarcely believe me when I tell you that I have not once seen her since her return from the South. I have not been in town myself except upon Sunday had have consequently been unable to call upon her and as she has not been out to see Jim, we have missed each other entirely. She is I hear not at all improved by her visit to the South having returned with her head full of beaus and dress. Just think one year ago how far before us she was in her conviction of religion and now how she has fallen back. All her desirous impressions I believe are gone entirely. What a warning

Bottom

not to resist the influences of the Hold Spirit. Ellen Gwathmey I have seen more of though not as much a I could wish. She is not in good health at present even indeed looks quite sick, not at all of a belle, I believe sometimes, I hear even neglected at parties. I should think her fine mind would compen sate for her benefit of personal attractions. I have made very few new acquaintances since I came here having relapsed very much into my old character, that of Miss Stay at Home, as Father calls me. They tell me I will never get married if I confine myself at home so much, that not one half of the wonder of Louisville knows that there is such a being. Quite a compliment to me! Not I should be appreciated if I were known But I think I can live and die is peace, even although I do not accomplish that "chief end of woman" viz getting married. I have heard strange reports about you and when I come up shall expect you to make me your Father confessor. Hope you agree to that!

Side

Tell Joe (Amanda's brother Joseph) that we heard from Mary Robertson the other day, that she is well, happy – and however has attained the distinguished age of 17. I'm for Joe to be preparing himself, but I suppose that ere this unless he is more constant than I give his sex credit for/ he has some other "penchant" and has forgotten her. We heard that she had become pious and was about to join the church – however, she herself said nothing about it.

Across Page 1

I am sure you are weary of this incoherent dull epistle, but I have ransacked my brain in vain for news that would entertain you. I don't know any one in whom you feel any particular interest here; and I am sure the true record of marriages of those you care nothing for would be any thing but interesting. I must bring my epistle to an abrupt close as Mother is waiting to take my letter to town. Now do answer this soon, just as soon as you receive it, and I will follow your example. Best love from all to your family – Virginia wishes to be particularly remembered and says you must answer her letter immediately. Goodbye dearest A and believe me ever your devoted friend – Lizzie

I hope you can manage to de cipher this but then my dear for mercy, sake let no eyes see it but yours.
Love to Liz Shelby when you see her.

my future life for dan I alone in this emportant step, bother Surious and Virginians have come formere as for Confirmation, which I have not yet of Surgey of Frem are about extens person - Mr Jacken speaks of presenting Herin minhs, just one week after my How live I have able to his policy puters. put high I am truly delegation to him that such as happy delater thing the exists in Lexaglow, In a letter from it's marking to the of the deep serious dies the endut in the congrega and of the remain of the Lunday solve and priber class. wish I was to plinted as to attend fact partings I himst try to do good when I have in some there may. by and mentioners life I fear I shall pen he a fe country lass, but the the country higher to hear his chestus for sie, sono when bursty feste in ale its le grien, then when clad in the white wie the have prade leverel trips to the words, May one of our longest, to the parks about eight miles from us he have a therry party of con assu in our family can with a less best well file with extebles but the least important part of the processions. I persuined in climby to the top of one of the Oughest peaks with two or three of the same adventures of the girls since parnice of a find of fine as a trophy. Tal charlence it Mount Soles, a high- sounding peace enrys to Suit the most Jeweiful mind; he histated between this and things, but strange to day the hotelection of the goes was rejected

It is luch inno cent pleasures and enjoying monotory of our life, and I find I have in me depectors I hope I have there for with the see con Mumories of both the died and him, him are commenced for and leng types "that they from some of the colonest appear house of lang existence of another make exchange them for see the hours of fay turnellers pleasures sport in the flam of the crowded ball rome which the mint admid fashion, can breast this how every thing which this winese cen offered over its must mine of any price picks into suttingues in correspondent with the holy price and blinger eterning frommer to the time of ference of and How much molis and perpier will be out interculare, if we are permitice to meet at the cight have of one heaverly Fature! Let us frey for each other that me they pass throng this trinbusine walk that are may induce him togethe forein there. I am ofrace that you fine this a very shale and your bile spirite but I ful that you are one to whom I have green my whole heart and and he exposed to continues or consumer. That hier, hay tales he can law together in May for I am the primising supery The pleasur of accepting you him initation and thick of pothing preferan french you may expect to see me the first of that months from court the faces of those I love them, and ale the olar familiar sports. I was quite as much astronolece as you were at the falice " frefer - rever of Louis wile. They were however highly delighted with This

want to the aking of the prest " and the prime with its few

NOTE: Amanda has just turned 18 – she reflects on European travels. The last page has criss-cross writing. Mary Smedes' October 26, 1842 letter confirmed that Amanda's mother (Ma) traveled with O'Bannons.

Postmarked: Lexington Aug 10 (1842) 18 3/4 (cents?)

Addressed to: Mrs. E. A. Maurous

Care of P. Maurous Esq.

Single Paducah, Ky.

From: Amanda Bruen

Lexington August 8th 1842

Dear Cousin,

What can I, what shall I say to account for my long silence? Nothing, I can say absolutely nothing! So a truce to all excuses, yet I must sue for pardon, and I know that you, my good natured cousin will grant it when you remember that there are but few of us in this semi-sagage, far western country. 'Tis but seldom that I have been honoured by receiving a letter from a married lady, particularly from one whom I love and respect as much as yourself, and I know that I ought to have replied to it immediately, but it is the honest truth that in consequence of my intolerable laziness I have neglected all my correspondents during the last six months.

And now for news – I received a letter from Cousin Maria yesterday containing the delightful intelligence that herself, Mr. O'Bannon & Ma would if nothing prevented be in Lexington the middle of August, between the 14th and 15th They were to leave New York on the 1st and I can't imagine what will detain them two weeks, unless they return by way of the lakes – but they would have a very limited time to see and examine every thing of interest on that route. Don't you think that we Bruens & O'Bannons &c have broken out in a new place with regard to traveling? I do not know who will be affected

Page 2

with the mania next summer but your noble self. But I so hope that if our favorite steamboat be taken with a sailing it will come through this, our city, without regard to the smallness of our rivers, or the <u>unearthly</u> quality of water, and take in a few passengers, my humble self included. <u>Suppose</u> that you and I take a trip together next year. I will soon be a <u>fine young steamboat</u>, and I feel confident that we in company, having a great deal of steam up would travel over dry land and water, to our infinite satisfaction, and perhaps to the astonishment of the natives. I repeat, <u>suppose we do!</u> It would take but little to excite Pa's organ of locomotion. I wish you

could take a peep into our yard and see how he has filled every corner of it with all kinds of knick-knacks, great and small and would that the same spirit of invention would act upon my good father's brain so as to turn his attention to the inside of the house and see what's needed there; for my part I could see that old yellow paper torn off the drawing room walls with a satisfactory gain -Do pay us a visit I beseech you. I will promise to do all in my power to make your time pass agreeably. We have an abundance of engravings, books &c that we purchased last summer in Europe, (and some few curiosities, such as a view of the Thames Tunnel; six joints of the Pillars from the Giants Causeway; which latter we procured in an uncommon manner, paid a man thirty dollars for stealing them. Don't you blush for such honest relations? But it was unavoidable that part of Ireland upon which nature has reared such a

Page 3

stupendous work is ruined by a wealthy Lord, who in the might of his power has forbidden all whether they be subjects or Tyler or Victoria from trespassing, but we independent honest citizens of this great Republic scoured his land and bore away no small portion of his noble possessions. You ask if we brought with us any old country gems or manuscripts - we did not. All I saw were under lock and key, and moreover jealously guarded by men, who with their moustache, sword and uniform, assumed an air of importance which they soon found was lost upon us. We saw vast collections of them, in the palaces, museums, libraries &c. The illuminated manuscripts and missals of monks who lived centuries ago, were the greatest curiosities of the kind that we saw. We saw one Bruen, which had been painted in the 7th or 8th century. It occupied a mor (torn off by seal) 30 years in the undertaking. Attached to it was a benedictionary which was used at the coronation of the Anglo Saxon & Eng's. I will answer your questions now with regard to the particular places we resided. You wished to know if we touched the coffin containing the remains of Napoleon - we were not allowed the pleaure, the door the chapel in which it was confined was secured by an iron grating, therefore we only exercised the sense of seeing. The chapel was hung with black velvet embroidered with gold, a silver lamp was suspended from the ceiling which is constantly burning. The coffin not placed immediately under it, covered with a pall of black velvet, his sword, boots, gloves, and helmet were placed upon it. I saw tears in many eyes as they gazed upon it. Indeed in Paris every thing reminds one of his greatness. Its gilded domes, lofty pillars, costly churches, triumphal arches, all, reflect glory upon his name.

Page 4

Across Bottom

I like the French far, far better – they were more polite, hospitable & honest than the English. They prey on Americans as an old friend but those English seem to think that if they do not, they ought to own and rule us all. We did not suffer with their haughtiness and impertinence but 'twas easy to perceive that such was their character. But of their mighty works of art they may well boast. Westminster Abby as a piece of architecture and for the rich and exquisite sculpture it contains stands unsurpassed for walking through its venerable aisles, or gazing at its marble dead. Also visited Westminster Hall indeed every building that was worthy of notice. After visiting the Highlands of Scotland, sailing over Lock Katrine, Lock Lomond and many others we landed in

Across Top

Edinburgh – remained there a week. Explored its ancient castle, wondered through the antiquated halls of Holyrood, saw the apartments occupied by Queen Mary. Left that city of palaces with unfeigned regret. Traveled next to Melrose which Walter Scott has celebrated by his description of its beautiful abbey. Went thence to Dryburg his burial place & then with pleasure to Abbotsford. Restrained there nearly a day – were in his sanctum sanctorum, sat in the very chair where he had sat and written many of his celebrated words, saw in his library the books which he had indulged also the clothes that he had worn a short time before (crossed out word) his death. But I would cease my meanderings, for if I write much longer I will be unfit to go down

Side

down stairs and clean silver, for when I indulged in thinking a great deal of those places we visited, I am so anxious to see them again that I cannot enjoy anything. I am sure you are tired. I had intended to have given you news of Lex. but I neither time nor space. A mini megnetision(?) has broken out in the new place – viz at the college -boys are lecturing & mesmerizing negro boys at 50 cts a piece. A committee of our learned men have under taken to investigate the truth of the science. I do not know the result of their investigation. What do you think of it? Elizabeth, Busy & children have gone to Paris and left me alone.

Love to all - please answer soon – yours - Amanda

Down Bottom

Tell Mr. Marshall (but not from me) that his sister and brother-in-law arrived safely in Lexington last week. The Blue Licks are the most frequented than any of the other springs. There are between 2 & 300 persons there.

Now my dear cousin will you pay attention to what I am going to say -If you will condescend to answer this I will promise faithfully to be a regular correspondent and if I can an interesting one. If you care a strain for your little Dutch cousin, write soon and just such a good, long, interesting

Down Top

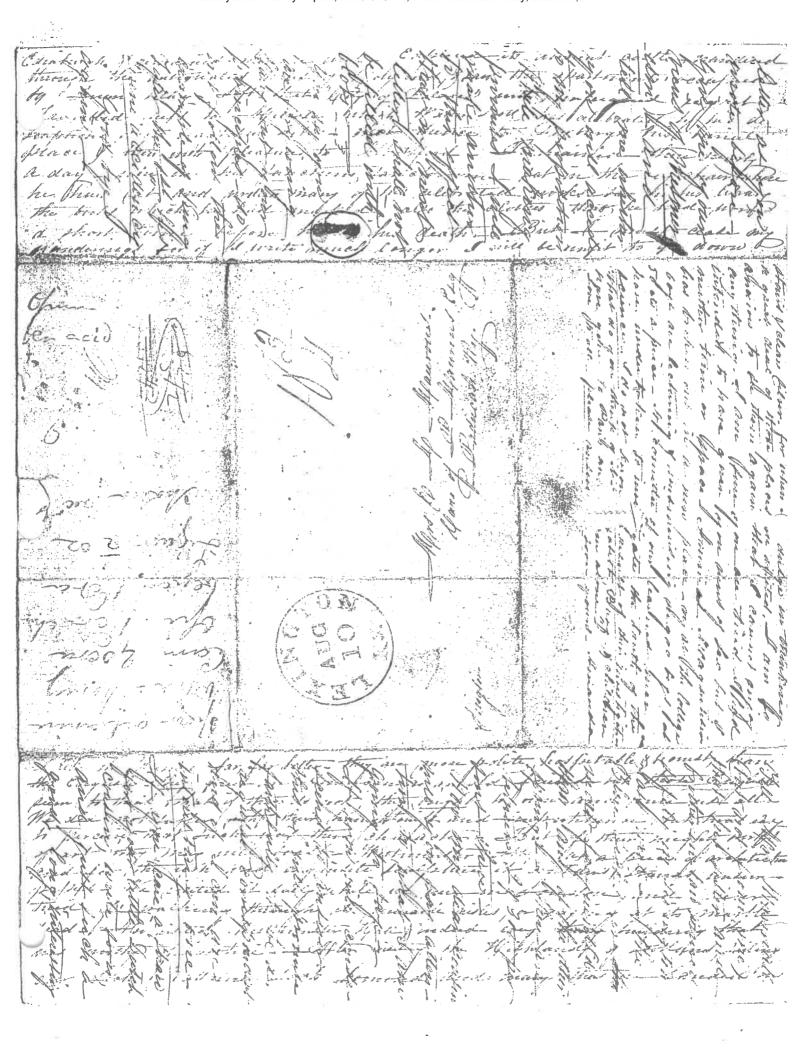
letter as you wrote before. Give me your views of mesmerism – and tell me whether(?) you will accede to my proposition. While making promises I will make another to this effect – that my next letter shall not befilled with blots.

You say you are forgiving.
Carry out your principles – do not follow the example of King Tyler the 1st his serene accidency.
Good bye again –

Sixington Sugast 8. 1842 -Mean Mondon, Whan can of what Stroll I fay to account for my long sitence & Nothing, I can say absolutely mothing (Sola) Touce to all exacted not of must few for pardon and of Lower that you, my good pratured could in will grant it where you persender that there are but four of met in this ferie. payage, for westine country. By that Soldow that I was been homowing by receiving a letter from a movined hady, particularly from our whom I have make respect as much as yourself and I have had I organ to have reprise to the interestisting but it is the novad! truster that in consequence of my intile wether injureful I have required all my count frondents during the fast few mouthes. And now for news - I received a letter from Condis Mana yesterday containing the delightful putilliquice that burself, Mr bis amon thould if stothing pheneted be and to the May were to leave IPen york on the 1st and I could imagine what just detain them Two muchs unlift they returned by may of the laked - but they would -Side a boy Similed think to be and prainces any thing of interest on that noute. Dont you think that we Bridge, - 18 13 amound ye have Swhen out in in men place with regard to Traveling ? I do not sknow who jull be affected

with the maria west furnious but your noble felf But to fight that if our favorante pleasabout be baken with the failing it will come through this, our and city, without regard to the finallouff of our never , or the meantily quantity of water, and take in a few poffengers : buy beauth feef included. Suppose that you and I take a trip together pent year of well for be a five young flumboat ! and fil feel confedent that we in company, having a great deal of steam up would travel over dry land and water to our infinite fated faction, and purhaped to the astonillment of the matives - I repeat, suffiche me do! It would take but little to excite Pall organ of locomotion. I will you could take a feefer into our yard and fee bear he had felled very come of it with all kinds of Souch Smacks, Great and small and would that the fame spicet of purelitime would not supon pay good fathers brain to at to burn heis attention to the which of the bonde and fee wheat's meant preceded There; for any part I could be that old gellow paper then off the drawing rown graces with a fatisfactory gain -Do pay us a with I besuch you - I will provide I to do all The they power to make your truck paft agreetly - We have me Abundance of programings, books He that we punchased tall frame it Brooke I med from four amodities freak al a view of the Shasses Oserende, then joints of the feetland from the Gibres Ganterry, which fatter per proceed in its mesonion presenting thick to present thinky Holland for theating - Them Dock you blush for first brought relationed & Dat it good freezestable That part of waland upon which venture and ward fret a

photometered with it remains by in wealthy bond who in the might of his former has prohibited all whether they we subjects on Ogler or Whitein from the paffing, but me pade per dant house adjust of this great Republic formed his land and for away no finale portion of fut nothe proffession. you ask if we danight enthal any dat could, general an man prospert) - me ded not til I dan was mader book and they, and morrows pealously quarded by men who with their mond, whe freed and uniform, allured her air of Importance which They done friend and North ufton and the fam had collections of them, in the featnest, mutering, liberried you the illuminated manufactors and mittals of months who hered sestioned ago, sure The greatest had been painted in the Thor Showshing - It receiped a mon I yeard in the undertaking - Attached to it frad a boundestronar which not used at the conomation of the Anglo favor thing I pull answer your questions now with regard to the partibulars. placed we predited your suched to Good of me trucked the coffice contriung the remains of Mapshon- we seen not allowed That pleas site; the door to the chafel in which it was contraced part formed by ar your grating therefore we only executed the finds of feeing The chapter and finning with black petral genteridand with jobol to them Compressed for the veling to it and the bering the offine was placed finnachally linder it, Grand with a pall of Arab polar his fund do be gloved, and believed per placed affect the I fam tears for many yet at they gaged plan it shoulded in Said every thing no which me of his greaterfly All gilded . House toldy feelland coulting haroked toming that rorolds, all refliest ylong for the frame



This letter has been snipped and torn. A corner is missing from page 1-2 and lots of page 3-4 is missing. Postmark & Address: all missing

From: Lizzie Smith with a note from Virginia

To: Amanda Bruen

Kalorama September 6th 1842

I began a letter to you dear Amanda, a week ago if you can credit your senses, but was prevented be company and other things from finishing it and so I have commenced afresh.

It will be two weeks tomorrow since I received your most welcome letter, so you see I am improving <u>somewhat</u>, and think in course of time I may become quite a respectable correspondent, at least one to whom it will not be a burden to write to.

I was in Louisville spending two weeks of my vacation when your letter arrived and it only needed that to make them two of the most delightful that I ever spent. I believe I know more persons there now than I did in L (Lexington) during the long years of our sojourn there. Kinder and truer friends I certainly never knew, and if one were only in the midst of them, living in the city I should be perfectly happy. I almost dread this winter in the country shut out as we shall be by bad roads, snow & from all society, however we can never feel really lonely surrounded by 27 girls and as constantly employed as we shall be. Our school has never been so full; the girls however are not so large a (class as? torn off) we had in L (Lexington) or as interesting. How widely scattered are (those? torn off) who were so much together two years ago, and how (unlikely? torn off) that we shall all ever meet again - I have ceased (forming? torn off) friendships, formed, but to be broken. There are some here (, a few? torn off) which will continue while life shall last – I hope and (believe. ? torn off)

Page 2

I see very little of the girls now, but more of them than usual while I was in town. Mary Ellen is very much admired indeed, but perhaps will not be so much so now this Eliza Jane has come out. It is very currently reported that she is soon to be married to a dashing young widower, who is in truth paying her very devoted attention; however as he is somewhat of a flirt I doubt whether there is anything in it. It would be a very good match for her in a worldly point of lives, what his talents or intellectual attainments are, I know not. In these "hard-times" however if the gentlemen have only sufficient guarantee of money, that of brains is of very little consequence.

We had a good long call from Ellen G. while in L (Louisville) and found her the same lively, rattling thing as ever, perhaps a little wilder and more boisterous. She acquired very particularly after your ladyship and recalled all times with a great deal of zest. She is not

much admired, as she is not at all pretty and her manners do not generally please. Sue Green, or rather Wier passed through a few weeks since on her way to the Green River country where she is going to keep house. She was so busy procuring furniture, kitchen utensils etc. — that I had no opportunity of calling on her. We met her once however walking with her husband. She does not (seem as? torn off) pretty as she did before her marriage, indeed I don't think (marriage? torn off) a beautifier: her husband. I was disappointed in (Sarah? torn off) Grimsly & Mary Robinson are both so far removed from (from us? torn off) that we rarely if ever hear from them "Sarah is (quite the? torn off) belle. As I always prophesied she would be and I (is? torn off) not married before this.

(I have? torn off) now I believe told you all I know of the girls, whether

Page 3

it will interest you or not, I scarcely know.

But I must not forget to tell you a piece of news which doubtless you have heard ere this; the birth of a "young Bishop". He is now almost a month old and of course in our opinion a perfect prodigy. We were all so delighted that it was a boy; boys in the first place are worth twice as much as girls and then we have so many of them already in the house (cut off) event. Father has called (cut off) says it requires some (cut off) Our opposite nights (cut off) before we ever, and (cut off) "Nebuchadnezzar"! (cut off) How I do wish I (cut off) she must have so (cut off) me all about it in (cut off) "penchant" for him (cut off) Noland? and has (cut off) irons fascinations of (cut off) But you will soon (cut off) of his removing (cut off) in a more (cut off) winter/ will (cut off) we will (cut off) up (cut off) I (cut off) in (cut off)

Page 4

Top

like to see "my old" juvenile with a new face and all through the aging of the Lady. What would this world be without us? Are the people

better satisfied with Mr. Berkley? I do hope he will be able to sustain the interest awakened there. We here heard with pain of the many failures in Lexington. Is it true that Messurs Boswell & Alec have utterly "failed"? I suppose you have heard journaling enough about the hard times, such long faces and still longer dismal tales as you meet with on all sides in the

Bottom

(cut off) for life (cut off)is president (cut off)accident. Do (cut off) with regrets (cut off) should (cut off) the

Middle

departure of Dr. Bush! Who can supply his place in L (Lexington? Alas! I (Latin or French?) There seems to be a manic now for visiting the Mammoth Cave. Would it not be delightful if we could visit it together some time – By the way speaking of the Caves have you seen that account of it in the New World written by Col. what's his name? You know whom I mean. How long was he in L (Lexington) after I left and did you see him again?

Written across the top portion

Please don't take as a hint what I said with regards to cropping letters. I will measure your love by the lengths of yours.

Much love from Father and Mother L. (Louise, Sam & Virginia) S. L. to all your dear family and dear self. Do follow my praiseworthy example and answer this in at least as short a time as I have. You cannot think how often your letters are read and reread and talked over - But I must indeed say goodbye

Written across the bottom portion:

as the supper bell will ring in a few minutes and (cut off) must be (cut off) the (cut off) Good (cut off)

Written across the side portion on back

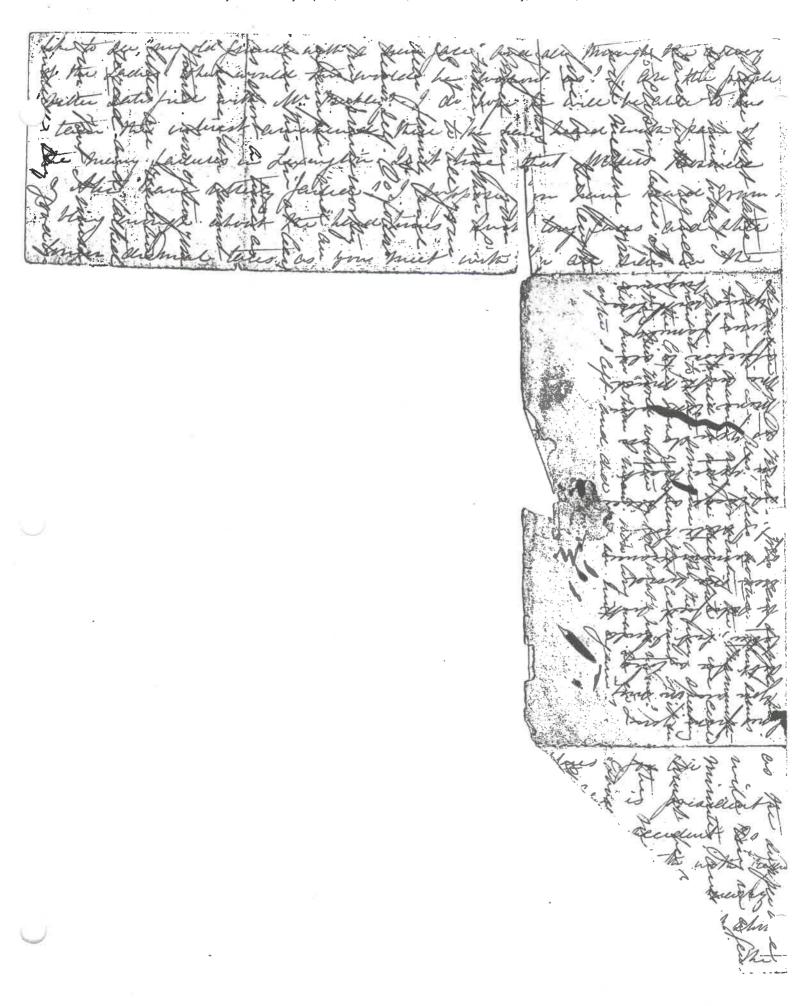
lines from you. You are in my debt for a long letter, but I will be satisfied with even one word of remembrance, if I still hold as large a place in your heart, as you do in mine. Remember me with much affection to all your family. Yours with love Virginia.

Faloramer of fetender 6. 1842.

I began a letter to you, dear Amender, a much ex cred you senses, but was purented by company and other Things t form finishing it, and do home commenced agreat. It will be two events to morrow since I become from must welcom letter, for you but am improving formental, and think in counter of time I may become gente a scapectable correspondent, at leastone to whom it will out be a bunder to write to. I was in donissille Openeting two weeks of my bacation when you fetter arrived and it only needed that to make them this of The most delyptful that I ever specit. I believe I know pine perus there own them I die in L' during the long years of our loguen Mittee . Thirder and trues friends I certainly hiner Jenero, mice of one were only in the midst of them, bing in the city of Should he perfectly happy of almost duace this writer in the country. Shut out as me shall be by back roads, show go from all decety; however me cem niver feel maley lovely furrounded by 27 files and as constantly implified as we that he Pur peter much her to full the just homeres are mit- for laye a he had in I - for as enteresting . downidely scattered are who were do much together the years up, and how in That me shale all ives must again. I have conser for friends lifes, somee but to be broken - Then are forme he. which will continue while life there last I hope and he

1/1 ml I der very cests. of the frie prior, but more of them them hand while I was in them. Many Elen is very much admises undice. hist perhaps will not be do much so more the Eliza Lane has Erme out It is very currently reported that the is soon to be marries to a adality young wishour, who is in truth paying her very divotice attention; however as he is comewhat of a flirt I dinit whither there is anything in it - It wonder he a very first of wins, what his latents intellectual attimments are, I have hard . In These hard. times "horner if the firstlemen have only a sufficient quantum of money, that of bremis is of very her consignence. We have a good ling case from alien S. While in L. and formed his the beath him cattling thing so ever; perhaps a little wilder and more histories. It against any particularly after your lady. Ohip and reculted the times with a fresh theat of graf. The is not much admired, so the is not at all fretty about his manners do and Jenorally please - fine Cours, or rather their passed through a few weeks since on her way to the Green Biver country where The is fring to keep house. The was do busy freezing, furniture hiteten mendils & - that I have no ofportunity of calling on her. e mether once formenes walking with her Instance. The Goes art britis as the did before her marriage, induced I don't thinks a beentifyer: her hughland I was disappointed in maly & Many Milmain are little as far runnice from their are rarely if ever hear from them I farah is belle. as I always porphisual the world he and I is and married before this. and I believe total you all I know of the zires, whether

up yn



NOTE: This is a collection of **calling cards** found in an envelope simply marked "Cards". Again I am not sure weather they are in the original sort and it very well could be that some of these belonged to Mary Pindell Shelby Stallcup. Due to the appearance of age I am placing these as **Amanda Abigail Bruen's** cards – possibly collected prior to after her marriage. I am dating **1842 fall**.

Allen, Mrs. Prof. 1842 fall (Calling Card)

Baldwin, Miss 1842 fall (Calling Card/Dillon)

Breck, Daniel 1842 fall (Calling Card/Dillon)

Catlin, Mrs. David W. 1842 fall (Calling Card)

Curd, Miss 1842 fall (Calling Card)

Curd, Miss G. 1842 fall (Calling Card)

Dillon, Miss 1842 fall (Calling Card/Baldwin)

Holt, Thomas H. 1842 fall (Calling Card)

Jackson, James 1842 fall (Calling Card/H.C. Pindell)

Jackson, Mrs. 1842 fall (Calling Card/Sloss)

Johnson, Miss L. J. or L. L. 1842 fall (Calling Card/Mrs.)

Johnson, Mrs. Lyes(?) L. 1842 fall (Calling Card/Miss)

Maupin, Mr. 1842 fall (Call. Card/Robertson dated 2/20/1843)

Mclous(?), Mrs. B. H. 1842 fall (Calling Card)

Mills, Miss Martha B. 1842 fall (Calling Card)

Nicholson, Mr. 1842 fall (Calling Card with Scott)

Nicholson, Mrs. J. G. 1842 fall (Calling Card)

Noland, J. 1842 fall (Calling Card)

Okara, Judge M. 1842 fall (Calling Cards)

Pindell, Henry Clay 1842 fall (Calling Card/James Jackson)

Robertson, Mr. 1842 fall (Call. Card/Maupin dated 2/20/1843)

Robertson, Mrs. 1842 fall (Calling Card)

Scott, Miss M. (Mary Epps?) 1842 fall (Calling Card with Nicholson)

Sloss, Miss Anna E. 1842 fall (Calling Card/Mrs. Jackson)

Smedes, Charles (Charley) E. 1842 fall (Calling Card)

Williamson, J. V. 1842 fall (Calling Card)

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY Br Allen Mars Lyn L. Lottesa Mily Illohan Mr B H. Mlon F. V. Williamsong. O. Mrs. David M. Cathin o Miss Baldion MJs.Murtha G. Mills Ho & Findell for fackson Danget Brock & a.a. May Jackso . Mip. Anna to. Sloss. g. Nalance

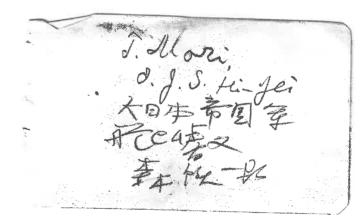














NOTE: Aldert Smedes, Mary's brother, founded "St. Mary's School" in Raleigh which is an Episcopal girl's school still in existence today as St. Mary's College.

NOTE: Margery Parker (Ma) Bruen, Amanda's mother had recetly visited New York with Maria and James O'Bannon. I believe Maria to be a niece of Margery's.

Postmarked: New York Oct 31 23 (cents?)

Addressed to: Miss Amanda Bruen
care of Joseph Bruen
Lexington
KV

From: Mary A. Smedes

New York October 26th 1842

My very dear friend,

I received your affectionate tho long expected letter several weeks since and would have answered it ere this, had not my time been so fully occupied as to prevent my doing so. You have no idea, my dear Amanda, how constantly I am engaged and tho time is so precious, how many, very many are the moments I spend unprofitably! Oh, little do I realize that every misspent moment will I have to render account of in the great day of retribution. Let us so live, my dear Amanda, that when we come to die, we may be prepared, and rejoice to leave this vale of tears, to go to that world of joy and bliss. I am happy to hear that your Mama and cousins arrived safely. You must truly have rejoiced to have embraced your Mother once more, tho she was absent so short a time, yet I have known what it is to be parted from a Mother, and I feel now what a privilege it is to be with her. You will, doubtless, be surprised to hear that Charley has gone to Illinois to be a farmer. My brother William having purchased a

Page 2

farm near Springfield, and knowing Charley's desire to be a farmer, offered 40 acres of land provided he cultivate it — with the labor of his own hands. Charley will have to make great-many sacrifices, but I hope he will seek direction from on high, to be enabled to bear them. I miss him very much, and could not (bear) the thoughts of his going so far away. Our family now is very much scattered. 2 in Illinois, 3 in Mississippi, 1 in North Carolina, 1 in Kentucky, and the rest of us here in New York. Oh, how

delightful it would be, if we all could assemble together once more. Is it not a painful trial, my dear Amanda, to be separated from those whom we love so tenderly? May it tend to raise our affections from this world and place them upon those of a better, where sorrow and separation are unknown. How I wish that you were here, that we might hold sweet converse together. I feel as if I should not like to express all on paper, what I would by word of mouth. I hope you will forgive me, if this proves uninteresting, but I know of nothing new that I think will entertain you; which perhaps you may think strange in this great city that I should not. I suppose you have seen a description of the croton celebration in some of the papers, and it would be useless for me to attempt to describe it, as I cared not sufficiently to go and see it. I have visited the reservoir from which the water is conveyed into the city, and they are truly a wonderful piece of workmanship. The fountains are indeed beautiful, the croton water is so carried through this city by pipes, as to be rendered indispensable in case of fire.

Mr. Collins called here the other day, but he told Mother

Page 3

that he intended to return the same day for Kentucky, so that we had not time to write by him. Remember me most affectionately to your parents. Give my best to Elizabeth and tell her I should love to see her acting a mother's part. I hope that you will go frequently during her husband's absence. I hope you will have compassion and go and see her. Give my love to all inquiring friends. I always feel a deep interest in my friends of Lexington and shall be ever happy to hear of their welfare.

Mother and the rest of our family are enjoying good health. We have been made most happy by the arrival of brother Aldert from Raleigh; he came on business and will return in a week or two. He is delighted with his school at the south and is doing very well. Mother joins with me in love to you and your family. Will you give my best love to Mr. Hutton, but do not, my dear friend, show this letter to him or any one else. With the hope that you will write to me soon.

I bid you good bye from ever your attached friend

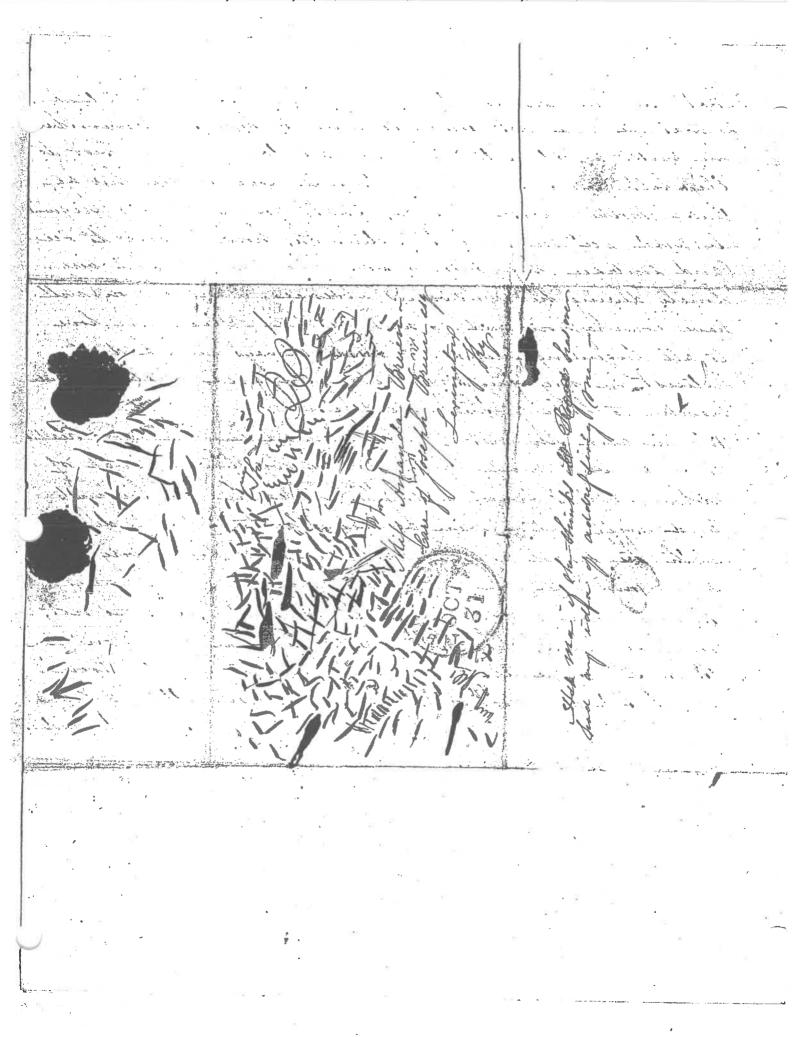
Mary A. Smedes

Written on the outside: Ask Ma if she thinks Mr. Rogers had ever had any idea of addressing me –

I received your affectional appelled letter several weeks since; and would have answered it we this, had not my time been so g receipted as to prevent my doing so. You have n idea, my dear Amanda, how Tionstantly I am ingage and the time is so precious, how share, very many, are the moments I spend unprofitably I oh. Althe do I realize that every mispent moment hvill I have to sender are according of in the great day of retribution. Let us so live, my dear amfinder , that when we come to die, we may be prepared; and regrice this vale of lears, to fo to that would if joy and bliss. I am hoppy to hear that your Ishma and congins arrived safely. you must truly have rejoiced to have imbraced your mother once more, the the was absent so short a time, that I have known what it is to be parted from a mother, and I feel now what a prince it is to be with his. you will, doubters, be surprise, to hear that beharly has gone to Illinois to be a fulmer. my brother Willam, having penchased a

farm near Springfuld, and knowing Charley's decultivated it with the labor of his own hands. Charley in will have to make great many sacrified, but I hope he will such direction from on high, to be enabled to bear them. I miss him very much, and could not the Moughts of his going away. Our family now is very much lealtered . 2 in Allinois, 3 in Mipisippi, 1 in north Garolina Hentucky, and the rest of us here in new Inho. Sh, how delightful it would be, if me all could assemble together once where Is it not a painful trial my dear Amanda, to be seperated from those whom we love to tenduly! may it then upon these of a better, where sorrow and separation are punknown. How I wish that you were here, that we might hold sweet converse thather I feel as if I should with like to expuse all on paper, what I would by I think will borone culitain you; which phhaps you may Whinh strange in this great city that I should not. I ship pose you have seen a description of the croton celebration I some of the papers, and it would be useless for me to attempt to describe it, as I cared not sufficiently to go and see it. I have visited the resservir's from which the water is conveyed into the city, and they are truly a underful pike of norhinal ship. The fourthing are under beautiful; the croton water is to carried through this city by peipes, as to be indirect indispensible in case of fine Mr Gollins called him the other day, but he told mother

that he intended to return the same day for Henticky, so that me had not time to write by him. Remember me most affectionately to your parelets. Give my bist to Elizabeth and tell hu. I should love to see his acthing a mother's part. I broke that you will go prequent My: and see my dearest Sister. the how I la and embrace the mie more. The must feel very bully during his husbands absence. I hope you will had compapion and go and see her. Give my love to all enquiring friends. I should always ful I deep interest in they friends of Les mother and the rest of our The have been made most haxis brother Aldel from Raleigh with the school at the Mother joins with me in my dear friend, though With the hope that you in I bid you good bet I he our attached the Mary . A! Anedes.



NOTE: This letter has also been torn and lots of page 3-4 is criss-cross writing and much of the page is missing.

Postmarked Louisville KY Nov 24 26 (cents?)

Addressed to: Miss Amanda Bruen

Care of J Bruen Esq.
Lexington

Ky

From: Lizzie Smith

Kalorama November 21st 1842

When your long looked for a letter dearest - was put into my hands my first impulse was to treat it with the neglect that I fancied mine had received, but the first two lines did away every shadow of distrust and fully reinstateed you in the position in my heart which you had hitherto occupied. I will not tell you what I felt when I imagined that one long friendship had been forgotten and that absence could conquer this if not the stronger sentiment. I will indeed try to profit by your oft repeated advice, and answer each letter at least ten days after its receipt. I do so love to read your letters; they transport me at once to my old home and I can almost imagine that I am surrounded by the moving, breathing actors in your "scenes". I feel that I shall always remember with interest and affection those with whom we sojourned so many years, although this seems to me a fickle, forgetful world, and why should I be different from others? Lately we have seemed to have been brought nearer L (Lexington) through Lirrie Brand's and A Johnson's correspondents, and have heard with interest mingled with horrors of these masquers who seem to be turning the world upside down. I did not think for a moment that you had been a participant in their follies, but still was glad to be

Page 2

assured to the contrary by your dear self. How much reproach do the followers of Christ bring upon their divine Master, the Church and themselves by this mingling in worldly amusements and follies? The people of Louisville have indeed caught the infection with a vengeance and nothing else has been talked of for weeks past.

Miss Frank Smith's eclipsed the others of course and all the world was there. Let me except – however some few whose parents were not willing to have exposure to the thousand petty insults and annoyances of a masquerade. Among those were the Shallcrosses, whose father

I have heard as much ridiculed as praised for his care of his two charming daughters. He however allowed them to attend a private one where the ladies alone were masked and where Ellen Gwathmey appeared in the character of / how shall I write it / a monkey! Tell it not in Cuth!! Another young lady took upon herself to personify a Dog and went barking around in all the gentlemen faces. If they could only have heard themselves, some remarks that others have made on them, I am sure it would cure them of such folly for life.

I suppose before you receive this the Shelby's will have returned and without our seeing them. Louisa was in town the day after I received your letter and called on them but they were all out. None of our family have been able to go in since and as they have not thought us worth the trouble of a ride to the country

Page 3

much torn off of this page

we have failed seeing them altogether. I am very sorry for I should have liked very much to have seen them if for no other reason than to have asked as many questions as I wanted about you. Liz has not thrown L (Louisville) into ecstasies of delight - by either herself or wardrobe she may however have produced quite a sensation although not enough to reach five miles around. I've heard another being at one party though Lizzie Hall who was out to see us last week. She / L. Hall / looked (torn off) pretty although a good deal older. Near where (torn off) school. It is since she is ever to be (torn off) Danville "boy" her time this as I know (torn off) How do you feel at the approach of Mr. (torn off) however I suppose it brings naught (torn off) erpations of pleasant intercourse rem (inicent of? torn off) renowned Lan-Chastened(?) Now you may exp (torn off) such intellectual enjoyment from public (torn off) Winter in town is North the pleasant (torn off) the year, while visit with us ____ e (torn off) it is decidedly the most disagreeable! (torn off) nit although by (torn off) wit the cold (torn off) and words (torn off) of white, still (torn off) / for the (torn off) town (torn off) even (torn off) wh (torn off)

Page 4

Top

fires and seems so from the interruption of girls and visitors. We have the benefit of a fine library and with books and surrounded by so many we could hardly suppose that we could be troubled with enemies or loneliness! One of the greatest discomforts attending a winter residence in the country is being debarred from all religious principle. It has now been four weeks since we have attended church in town. I did not see G___ when she

Bottom

(torn off) give neither did (torn off) aim for I should (torn off) ried Messeyes (torn off) Did Mrs. (torn off) __ Mother! (torn off) I commenced (torn off) of making (torn off) new (torn off) eye

Side middle and right

but my own. I will tell you as an excuse for my _____ them ordinary stupidity and bad writing that I ever labouring under a most severe cold which you (torn off) is no great-brightener of the fasnthe(?) and which(torn off) made me more than half sick! I must not judge (torn off) you that (torn off) has just (torn off) Vir (torn off)

Side left:

so most admired
as we expected and
is not by most considered as pretty
as M. E. Major Shelby
was here this morning but went away
before I knew he was
here. He brought his
poor excuse for
not coming out.
They were so busy
making calls that
they would find
it impossible to

ride a far. I infer from this that they have been a good duet indeed and hope they have enjoyed their visit. Is Mary as quiet as ever!

I know nothing with regard to the truth of the report concerning

Across page 3

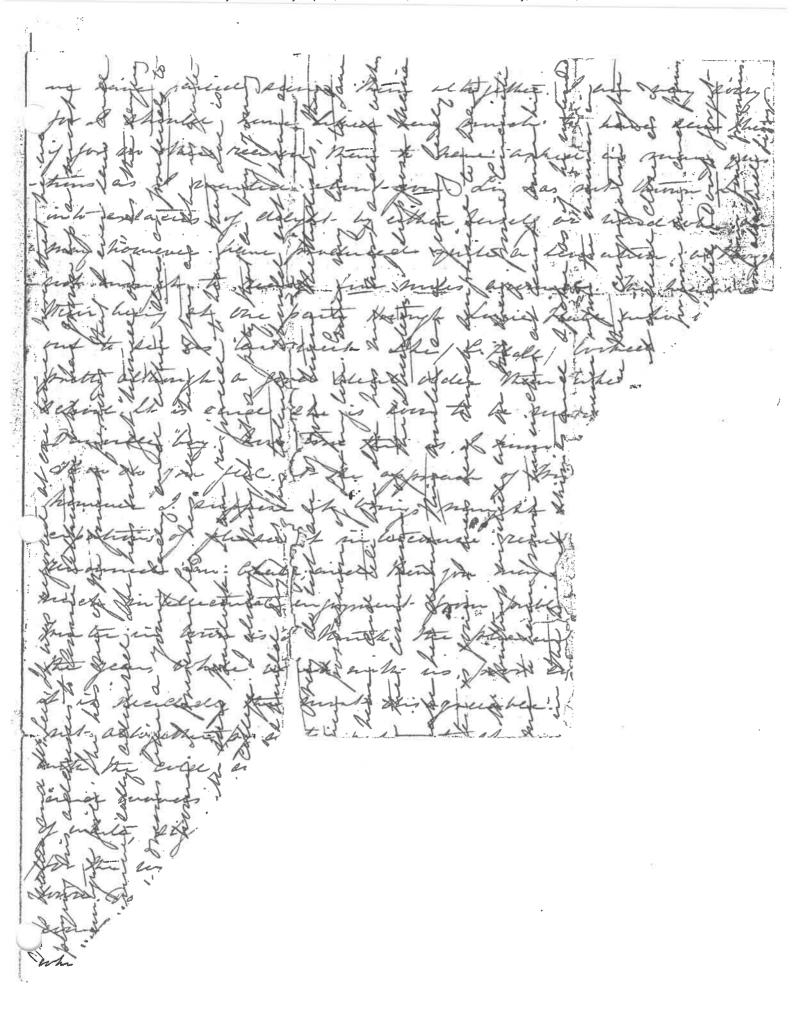
Miss Waller and Mr. Lee's. It was reported at one time here that he was paying his addresses to Annie Atkinson who has grown up a most beautiful girl. She has one of the finest personas that I ever saw and is universally admired. She has not yet "turned out" as the saying goes. She dresses like a young lady and either does or pretends to (torn off) home. I presume he has seen her often as she is quite (torn off) Mr. & Mrs. Bullock. I am rejoiced to hear that Joe is (torn off) college. I always thought it a pity that a boy / young (torn off) his build & of his talents should not have a (torn off) Pray do not all of you turn Methodists, they (torn off) procession of Lexington. Give my love to Jane (torn off) hear and tell her she has my most ardent wishes (torn off) the conversions of the "Hunters" (?) I suppose Maria (torn off) make her debut this winter as a young lady (torn off) ter is gone. I was very much surprised to hear (torn off) Mr. Winthrop visited us on his way from Cincinnati (torn off) me to have from two inches at least over his (torn off) in the very best spirits and spoke as if he intended (torn off) however upon the manners in

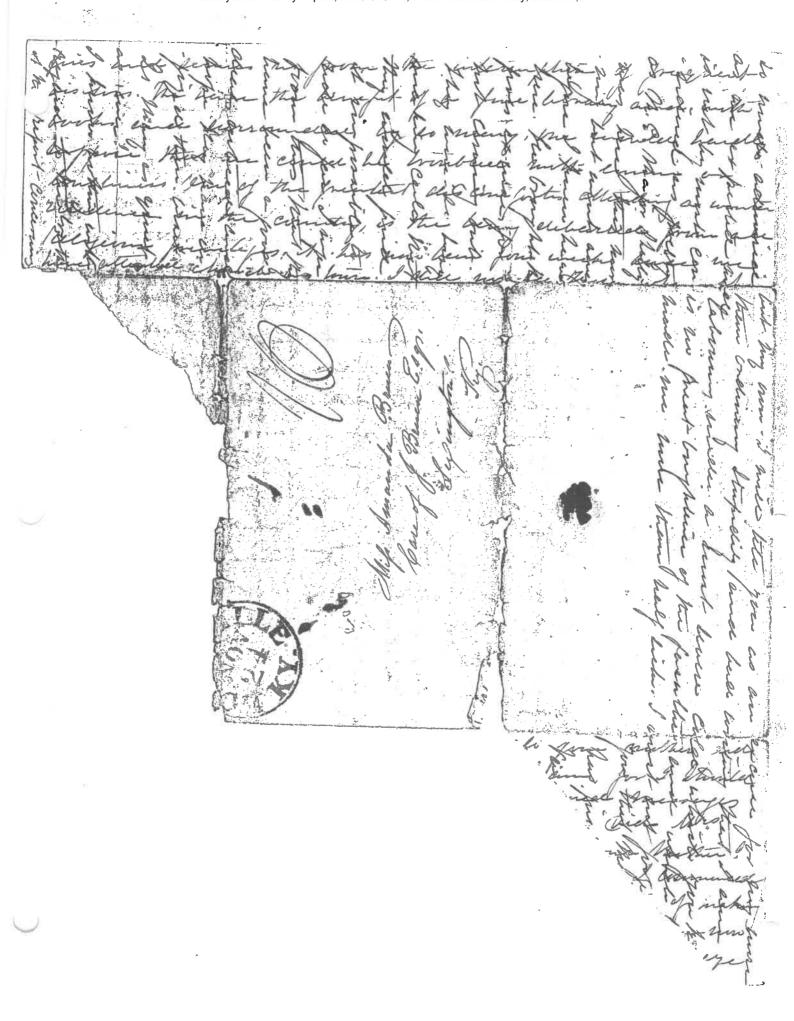
(torn off) however upon the manners in (torn off) the congregation after (torn off) indeed close as I (torn off) forgive me and promise (torn off to write me immedi) ately. Don't forget (torn off) your fine promises (torn off) own attached.

Lizzie

Otalorama. November. 21 9:18-40. When your long listed for letter, deaunt it was put into my hands my first simpulse was to treat it with the profest that I famerice more had received but the first has Sines did any every thadar of district - and fully rimetel. est you in the position in my heart which you had Mithels that our long friends his had been forgetter once that "absence ended engine this, I not the stronger sentiment. I will sinduce try to profit by your oft-repeated advice, and ans were cech letter at least ten days ofter its recipt. I do lo love to read your letters; they transport me at once to my old him and I can almost imagine that of "Reenes". I feel that I chale always remember with network. and effective. More with when we do journed to many years, although this seems to me a pikle, forgethe lawler, once why should I be different from theis? Latety me have Rumee to have been brought neares L. Mungh divisies Brend's and I dohns on's corres foundants, and have heard with interest ming led with dirrer of the Musques who pero to be turning the world upride down I there out think for a mornent- that you have been a participant in there follies, but the mas place to be

aremed to the centrary by your own deer felf. from much represed on the followers of Christ bring upon their divine Master, the Church end themselves by this mughing on andely amusements and follies? The people of Louisville have melecel caught- the injection with a resquere. and cutting the has been telked of for weeks part. hip trends Impo celepsee the other by coursel, and all the warted was there. Let me except - homenea come few where punts were not willing to have there exponent to the Ministerne pitty insults and army courses of as man - yurade lineng there were the Shallerigues, where justice I have havet is much reducated as preused for his terre of his tens charming daughters. He however al - homed them to attend a private one whom the lusting alone were must were Elem Guelhinery appeared in the character of him shall I write it a Munkey! Tell it met in "Gulle! another young lady with upon herself to pursainfy at Of, were went-bank. -my round in all the feutlement faces. If they would They have heard thereselves some remarky that thus have made on them I am Rose it would am them of such folly for life. · Ruppose hefore you receive this the Shelly will have returned, and without our feing Them. Louise was in bown the day of he I received your letter and called on them but they were all out. There your fairily name her ster to sin since and in they have no Thought us week the truble of a rice of the country





NOTE: This is a poem by Evan Shelby and found in Mary Pindell's scrapbook dated January twice signed poems to Amanda with; y . Dating 1843 1/?	1843 , Evan
To: Amanda Bruen Shelby From: Evan Shelby	ş1 *
To Miss Bruen	
On seeing her at a large party plainly dressed	
She stood amid that shining crowd, In simple costume clad: yet proud Was the glance of her speaking eye As it turned on the dancers nigh. Proud was the glance! Well night it be:	
For few in all the throng save she, Could boast a soul, a spirit free From chains of Fashion's devotee. Proud was her step across the hall:	
The wond'ring look that came from all, Plainly told that beauty's slight, needs not the aid of jewels bright. 'Twas not her beauty, not her grace, 'twas not the heaven in her face, That caused that proud, not haughty main Which well might grace a nation's queen. A consciousness of noble worth Which tells the soul 'tis not of earth, Will beget a high toned pride, Which those who have it can not hide.	
Lexington	
January 1843	

NOTE: Calling cards found for Evan Shelby and Amanda Bruen. Dating 1843 1/?

April Amanda Baner

E Shelly

NOTE: Folded note: for Miss (Amanda) Bruen

This is in Evan Shelby's handwriting, underneath in Amanda's handwriting. Evidently another is trying to court her and he writes interesting note a the end. Dating 1843 1/4

January 4th 1843

In blue ink (prepared before his arrival)

"To Friendship"

"Friendship above all ties doth kind the heart."

Earl of Orry's Henry 5th

1

Is there no spotless pleasure here below,

No blameless joy unsullied with a stain?

To banish care, to sooth the pangs of woe,

And grant a respite from the galling chain!

2

Yea sacred Friendship thine's the gracious power (That fair descendant of the radiant skies). Go shed those beauties in a genial shower,

Bid social bliss & confidence arise.

3

Early experienced & supremely bless'd
In the rich treasures of the ample store;
Led by the genius, by thyself caress'd,
I more admired thee as I knew the morn.

4

Not unmolested is thy glorious reign;

Wondrous & powerful does infest the sound:

Flattery & Falsehood with their servile train,

And sordid cuts rest of inflict or wound.

5

A constant vot'ry(?), with near sincere,
I still adore thee & resound thy praise;
Invoke the presence & thy name revere,
Till life's last sun descend & terminate my days.

Page 2

"When these lines were composed the author's candid opinion was that

"Friendship above all ties doth bind the heart",

but at that time his heart had not been bound by a tie whose superior strength he now, but too sensibly fells; & had it been consistent with the metre another word should have been substituted for friendship in the piece.

The first & second stanzas, the author

flatters himself, have some merit, but not enough, he apprehends, to make up for the deficiencies in the other three. If however, with all their faults, Miss Bruen considers them worthy of a place in her album, their value will be enhanced one hundred percent in his opinion.

On another corner in black ink:

I can stay no longer - & have tried to sit your beau out! But find it impossible. I had much to say, I shall seek an early opportunity of doing so -

In her writing, just after his note in the corner: after "so" - the one

Amanda

Yrs,

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY Jo Friendship "I " I mendhih alove all ties dotte lind the heart." Earl of Orry's Henry 5th which had not Is there no spotlers pleasure here below Woblamieless joynusullied with a stain? the starish core, to soothe the pang of word yes parened friendship think's the gracious hower friendship their descendant of the nadiant skies), the ship those hearties in against shower. But so social bliss theory idence cerise. Early experiences & Dupremely blestid In the rich treasures of they ample stone; Jed by thy genius, by thy self caress'd, I more oldnines the as I knew the more. Not minolested is they glorious reign; with the round; Halsehood with their service train, And sordid cut rest of inflict a wound. Acoustant voting, with near sincere, I still adone the & nesound try praise; Invoke thy presence & they mand nevere, will life's last sun descend & terminate my days.

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY my Chen these lines were composed the author's condid Apinion was that officendship above all ties cloth bind the heart; but at that time, his heart how not been bound by a tie whose superior strength he now, but too sensibly feels; I had it been consistent with the metre another word should have been substi tex for friendship in this piece. ite apprehends, to make up for the deficiencies in other three. If however, with at their faults, Mil Bruen considers them worthy of a place in her album, their value will be enhanced and hundred her cent. in his opinio The second of th

NOTE: There is a second copy of "Friendship" - possibly in Evan's neater handwriting. This one has a large portion of the top left corner torn off, however the poem is the same as the one before - Jan 16, 1843
This one is signed:y (Evan Shelby)
Friendship
Is there no spotless pleasure here below, No blameless joy unsullied with a stain? To banish care, to sooth the pangs of woe, And grant a respite from the galling chain!
Yea sacred Friendship thine's the gracious power (That fair descendant of the radiant skies). Go shed those beauties in a genial shower, Bid social bliss & confidence arise.
Early experienced & supremely bless'd In the rich treasures of the ample store; Led by the genius, by thyself caress'd, I more admired thee as I knew the morn.
Not unmolested is thy glorious reign;
Wondrous & powerful does infest the sound:
Flattery & Falsehood with their servile train,
And sordid cuts rest of inflict or wound.
A constant vot'ry(?), with near sincere, I still adore thee & resound thy praise; Invoke the presence & thy name revere, Till life's last sun descend & terminate my days.
January 16 th 1843

Friendship ess pleasure there below, soothe pangraphool, respite from the gallingchain Placed Friendship, think's the gracious power Thousair descendant of the radiout spices To Sheat those beauties in a genial shower, Bio social bligs & confidence verise, Ecarly experienced & Supremely blessigl In the rich treasures of they ample stone, Sex by they geners by theyself caresol, I more admired thee, as I know the more. Not unmolested is the glorious reign; Number ous & powerful poisingest The round Falsehood & plattery with their Servile train, And Sordise int'vest oft inflict or wound. Acoustant vot ry, with heart sincere, Istill adore thee & resound they praise: Sill life's last sien descend 4 terminate my day January/6th 1843.

NOTE: The following writing from Evan to Amanda is undated.

On folded paper in Evan's handwriting, about 1843 courting

To: Amanda Bruen Shelby

From: Evan Shelby

Sonnet to Amanda

"In her youth There is a proud & speechless dialect, Such as moved men."

Untill my senses fail - till I am dead.

Shakespeare's measure for measure

Amanda! a wond'rous change has come o'er
The wayward tenor of my thoughtful mind,
Since fist I knew thee. With vain search before,
Amid the gay world, I had sought to find
Some bright being on whom I might bestow
The faithful ardor of the prove flame
Which/ if ought to man doth come/ from heav'n came.
To cheer the drear hours of his task below.
The dark foreboding of my spirit's dread,
Had well nigh urged me into fell despair;
When, oh! like a spell from heaven thy fair
Form attracted my devotion, & spread
A charm over my senses, which I shall bear

net, to Amanda, In her youth There is a prone & speechless dialect, · Luch as moves men!" Hake peare's Measure for measure Amounda! a wond'rous chourge hous come o'er The wayward tenon of my thoughtful mind, Since pirst I knew thee With voin search before, Amid the gayworld Thoud sout to find Some bright heng on whom I might bestow The faithful andor of that pore flame Which sip ought to man doth come from heaven came To cheen the dream hours of his task below. The dark forebodings of viry spirit's dread, Hood well sign whose me into fell despair; When, oh! like a spell from heaven they fair Form attractive my devotion, & spread A charm over my tenses, which I shall hear Untill my sensesfail - till Iam dead -

This is a little book of journal pages – sewn together by hand, is a collection of love poems Evan has made for Amanda. Dating: 1843 courting.

To: Amanda Bruen Shelby

From: Evan Shelby

Page 1

"Read it, sweet maid, tho it be done but slightly: Who can show all his love, doth love but lightly."

First shall the heavens bright lamp forget the shine;
The start shall from azured sky decline:
First shall the orient with the west shake hand,
The center of the earth shall cease to stand:
First wolves shall league with lambs, the dolphins fly,
The lawyer & filisision fees deny:
The Thames with Tagus shall exchange her bed,
My mistress locks with mime shall first turn red:
First heaven shall lie below & hell above,
Ere I inconstant to my Amanda prove.
Howell

Were scorned the most imperial monarch, There of most worth; were I the fairest youth That ever made eye swerve; had force & knowledge, More than was ever man's – I would not prize them Without the love.

Shakspear's Winter Tale

Page 2

While I sit with thee I seem in heaven,
And sweeter thy discourse is to my ear,
Than fruits of palm tree pleasantest to thirst
And hunger both, from labour, at the hour
Of sweet repast; they satiate & soon fill
Though pleasant, but thy words with grace divine
Imbued, bring to them sweetness, no satiety.

Paradise Lost

When yet a young & uninstructed boy, I lov'd, but saw you only with my eyes; I could not reach the beauties of your soul: I have liv'd since in contemplation, And long experience of your growing goodness; What then was passion, is my judgment now. Thro' all the several changes of your life, Confimed & settled in adoring you.

Hayne

With the conversing, I forget all time; All seasons & their change, all please alike. Paradise Lost

Page 3

For several virtues
Have I liked several women; never any
With so full soul, but some defect in her
Did quarrel with the noblest grace she owed,
And just it to the foil: but you, O you,
So perfect, & so peerless, are created
Of every creature best!

Shakespeare's Tempest

I have so fixed my heart upon thee,
That wheresoe'er I frame a scheme of life,
For time to come, thou art my only joy,
With which I an wont to sweeter future cares;
I fancy pleasures, none but one who loves
And doats as I do, can imagine like them.
Otway

O gentle Amanda! love's a might lord; And hath so humbled me, as, I confess There is no woe to his correction, Nor to his service, no such joy on earth! Now, no discourse, except it be of love; Now, I can break my past, dine, sup, & sleep, Upon the very naked name of love. Two Gentlemen of Verona

Page 4

O thou art my all!

May fame, my friendship, my aspiring hopes,
All stoop to thee; my blood is the profession

Deep in the secret foldings of my heart,
How liv'st with life, & far the dearer thou.

Young's Revenge

Well my toils shall thy fond breast repay,
Though fortune frown, or falser friends betray,
How dear the dream in darkest hour of ill,
Should all be changed, to find thee faithful still,
Be but thy soul, like , firmly shown;
To the be tender as thine own;
To sooth each joy, share in each delight,
Blend every thought, do all – but disunite.

Bride of Abydos

Love is to my imprisoned soul Not, as with others, a mere part Of my existence, but the whole – The very life breath of my heart.

Tom Moore

Page 5

Oh happy love! where love like this if found!
Oh heart felt raptures! bliss beyond compare!
I've paced much this wary mortal round,
And sage experience bids me this declare –
If heaven a draught of heavenly pleasure share,
One cordial in this melancholy vale,
Tis when a youthful, loving, modest frain,
In each others arms breathe out the soft & tender tale.
Burns

True love's the gift which God has given
To man alone beneath the heaven.

It is not fantasy's hot fire,
Whose wishes, soon as granted, fly;
I liveth not with fierce desire,
With dead desire it doth not die.

It is the secret sympathy,
The silver link, the silken tie,
Which, heart to heart, & mind to mind,
In body & in soul can bind.

Love(?) the Lost Minstral.

Page 6

I love Amanda! forty thousand others Could not with all their quantity of love Make up my surn(?)

Hamlet

Such is the flow'r of that sweet passion,
That it all sordid baseness doth expect,
And the refined mind doth newly fashion
Unto a fairer form, which now doth dwell
In his high thought, that would itself excel,
Which he beholding with constant sight,
Admires the mirror of so heavenly light.

Spenser

That I shall do some wild extravagance
Of love in public; and the foolish world,
Which knows not tenderness, will think me mad
Dryden

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY

This is Evan's writing-small + weat

Read it, sweet maid, this it be done of the lightly: Who can show at his love, doth love but lighty" what is the sales in First shall the heaven bright land porget the The Dier Shall from the azira My decline The centre of the earth shall cease to stand; First wolves shall liggie with lands, the dolphind pl lawyer & filesieran par day Thames with Jagies shall exchange his bid My mistries locks with mine that fait tare were First heaven shall be below & hell above Ere I inconstant taking Amunica potor, and Thought of any on the Howellist Vene Seround the most imperial moneyor to be bouned puts ! thereof most worthy; were Ithe painest youth that ever made eye swerie, had force & timowledge, bore than was ever man on Lovald not firize them Without thy love. That spears winters tale

Hand seem Love Coems bo Amandy Snow Evan

Could not with all their Make up my sun Juck is the flow of that sweet passion, That it all sorded baseness doth expely Fine Loubean Sind In Evan's handwriting - 1843 courting

77 & 79 page numbers in corners explained in letter.

To: Amanda Bruen

From: Evan Shelby

Alas how light a cause may move
Suspensions between hearts that love;
Hearts that world in vain had tried
And sorrow but more closely tied
That stood the storm when waves were rough
yet in a sunny hour fall off
Like ships that have gone down at sea
When heaven was all tranquility,

A short time after I returned home this evening & took up Latin Book, & the above passage was the first that met my eye. I had often read & admired it before, but never had occasion to feel the truth of it so sensibly. I though at the time that a shew of anger on your part was altogether uncalled for, but upon maturer reflection I have fully appreciated your feelings. And although you pronounced some pardon for what has distressed me not less than it did you, yet I deem it due to you, & most especially too because of your kind forgiveness, to make a more explicit acknowledgement of my part & promise to be more guarded in my expressions in future. And I must at the same time beg you to blot out

Page 2

from your memory an indiscretion of which upon one moments reflection I could never have been guilty. Although My Amanda you have not returned my love with as much ardour as I expected, yet my own is now the less present on that account: & I am sure if you appreciate (the purity & depth of my devotion to you, you would never construe anything I might say into disrespect. The thought that you to whom my earliest, my purest, my best affections were dedicated – that you who have been the sole mistress of every airy mansion my youthful fancy ever framed – that you upon whom all my mature & more rational feelings

have centered & for whose sake I would make pure sacrifice of all else that is desirable on earth, say the thought that you should even have entertained one harsh thought of me has inflicted a pain whose poignancy can only be measured by the depth of my affection for you. I fear that this will appear exaggeration of feeling to you, but what think we may be joined together as man and wife, (if indeed circumstances the most dovial imaginable, do not prevent such a

Page 3

happy consummation of my wishes). You will have abundant opportunities of experiencing that my passion is neither of a pecuniary nor sensual character.

Father leaves for town in a few moments, & this hastily written scrawl must go with him. For want of more convenient paper I have torn this sheet from my journal & indited a letter which under circumstances of less pre capitation would have been more worthy of your perusal – Make due allowance therefore My Dear Amanda for mistakes & inaccuracies of all kinds with which you may meet!

& believe that my love for you is sincere as the the most honest affectionate heart could desire.

Alas how light a cause May More Dissensions between hearts than frants that world is Nain had tried fred Sarrow 16 ut More closely ? That Stood the Storm When waves we Am a surry hour fall off the digs that have your down a Then heaven was all tranquilities I noterned home this evening I frick took up Sathe Book, of the above papage was The first that met my lye. I had often made & assurement It Shepone, but never had oc -casion to full the touth of As Ausilly . Thought at the time that a thew of angle on your fourt was alltogethe uncalled for, hut upon maturer reflection I have fully appreciation your feelings. And although you pronounced fine powdon for what has distriped me hot less than it dies you, yet I deen it due to you, I most especialy too because your kind forgiveness. To make a more explicit acknowledgement of my front of promise to the more quarded ito my expressions me future at the same time beggents What and

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Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY happy consumation of my wishes you will have abundant of portunity reither of a permany non stemmed Father leaves for tour in a few moments, 4 this hostily written strawt must so with fin. The many of farme congressions hapen I fram torn the sheet from my prince of well the a letter which with comen stanger of few fre espotation would have been from nor thy of your hernand tollake One allowince Therefore My Dean Anunda The Pristakes & inacqueracts of all Kinds is discere as the the most safe estimate heart could cleaine.

NOTE: Small note in Evan's handwriting - 1843 courting

From: Evan Shelby

To: Amanda Bruen

If I have to escort M.
Hawkins home, expect me
to return immediately, for
I leave for the country tomorrow morning, & have
heard something so very
pleasing to myself that
I can not leave without
importing the same to
my dear Amanda.

If I have to escort do.

Hawkins home, expect me

to return immediately, for

I leave for the country to
morrow morning, & france

fread something do very

freading to impelf, that

I can not leave without

importing the same to

My clear Amanda

I am not sure where Evan was attending classes at this time, quiet possibly Shelby College or Transylvania. Dating: 1843 Courting

No postmark

Addresses to: Miss Amanda Bruen

(Care Jos. Bruen Esqr) Lexington Ky

From: Evan Shelby

On lower part of fold in her writing:

Amanda Evan Bruen Shelby

Dearest, I regret very much that I will not be able to call on Saturday, as I promised. My reason is that I have idled away so much of my time lately that I will scarcely be able to accomplish the arduous task I have set aside for my performance this summer. When I reflect that "every hour of lost time is a chance of future misfortune", my conscience smites me with a severity, the intensity of which is more than doubled by the thought that you are to be the sharer of my lot "whether for better or for worst."

If you do not think it (torn off) so, write me

Page 2

a few lines, my own love, in answer to this. The time I am not engaged in study, is all passed in thinking of you, & it would cheer the solitude of at least three days to receive some slight token of affection from you. It is great pleasure even to write to my absent love – how much greater then must it be to trace the characters of her well known hand – thin but then warm from her heart. If you do not write to me, & insist upon seeing

me before, I will not see you until one week from next Saturday.

Recollect Amanda it for your sake I labour & exercise self denial, & you will not blame me. You know I love you better than any one else on earth – even better than my own sister, who is dearer to me than life.

In (torn off)

Friday

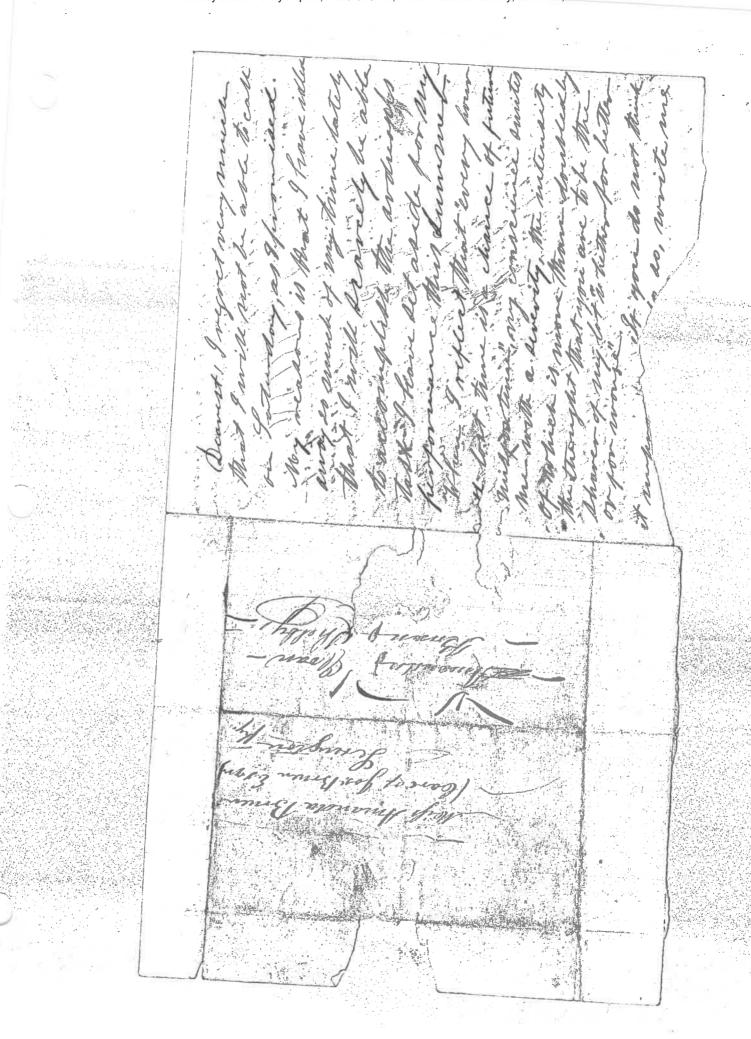
Page 3

In Pencil - her's I believe.

"Whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest I will lodge; thy people shall be my people; and thy God my God:

Where thou diest, will I die; and there will I be buried; the Lord do so to me also, if ought but death part thee and me."

Little did anyone know that just eight years after their marriage they would die less than six months apart, leaving their only child Mary Pindell Shelby an orphan.



A note in Evan's handwriting Apr. 9, 1844

Addressed to: Miss Amanda Bruen

Lexington Ky.

From: Evan Shelby

Were I not in such haste, My dear Amanda, I would make many good excuses for not paying my accustomed weekly visit. But as it is I have only time to tell you not to be frightened & that I will be in town of Friday or Saturday next & at the same time to assure you of what you already perhaps know too well – my increasing & never changing affection –

Richland Apr 9th '44

NOTE: They were married 6 weeks later.

NOTE: In this letter from Susan Hart Shelby Carter she describes more of life in Grayson County. She is 10 years older than Amanda so friends she would be interested in probably are too. There seems to be a bi of a revival going on in the county. **Dating 1844 1/1**

Postmarked: Grayson Ky. 12 ½ (cents?)

Jany 1st 1844

Addressed to: Miss Amanda Bruen

Lexington

(K)

From: Susan Hart Shelby Carter

Wyoming Jany 1, 1844

I received duly and with much pleasure my dear Amanda your beautiful letter and am seated to answer it and to wish you a happy new year and many many happy returns of it. Christmas has passed and gone and but for seeing negroes lounging in every direction I am sure I should never have guessed the season of the year. The villages had their frolics, dances and dinners, but I was none the better of them as they seem to consider me either too far above or below them to invite me to a participation in their festivities. It is however not a matter of the slightest regret as they live in so very different a style from that to which I have been accustomed that it would afford me no gratification. I have spent the week at my own fireside in the society of my husband and his brother, quietly but in peace and happiness, such happiness as you may for in vain, in gaiety and dissipation. How have you passed your time and who has been giving parties? Does Mrs. Kinkead open her house or is she too stately? Some of my correspondents think she is, others say not. It cannot therefore be very culpable or these would be but one opinion. Has my friend Mrs. Smith gone to New Orleans or does she prefer love in her cottage? No one has ever mentioned her and although she completely weaned me from her yet I feel a curiosity about her, unmixed with even a remnant of affecttion. I never thought I could become so perfectly indifferent to one to whom I had been so much attached. But I believe bad treatment could make me

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dislike any one on earth, if I had never given cause for it. What news from Mrs. Erwin? This must be nearly the time for a very important era in her life. Has any news come of late from Mrs. Kerr(?) of St. Louis? I suppose Ann Jouitt (Jouett) saw her of course. They say Mrs. Menefee is to marry Manny Blanchard's husband, Gatewood. I hear she is quite a belle. When you write always go to the Jouitt (Jouett) House

and then I shall hear something of any body, as that is the fountain head of news receiving as a tributary McKee & Co. &c. When far removed from a place where one has spent as much time as I have in Lexington it is gratifying to hear what is transpiring and therefore I have laid you under contribution. Should you tire of these many queries just turn them over to Evan who is as much of a gossip almost as the ladies. These and as many more as you may see fit to communicate, will be satisfactory, not forgetting Sarah (Irvine) and Haydon. The Col. thinks H. was most desperately and romantically smitten but my own belief was that his finances were at a low ebb and he thought he would get a comfortable home and that Maj. (Col.?) Irvine would always support them. He is a heartless man of the world and incapable of a manly disinterested attachment. But perhaps I am too harsh in my judgment. Did Sarah stay with Liz or Mrs. Fishback? She vowed she would never enter Mrs. F.'s doors again. We have had for a month or two some agents of the American Trust society, staying here. One of them

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a man of deep piety. They are distributing through the country religious works by all authors upon the subject and will be the means of much good. Our physician who has been an infidel, a blasphamer and a man of no moral character is about to join the church and was first brought to reflection by Baxter's Call which the agent insisted upon leaving with him although he protested that he would not buy it or read it. It was left and the seed thus sewn an about to be reaped. The Dr. is a man of much talent and his example will have weight wherever he is known. I bought some works upon intemperance and gave them to Landon Carter, who has been dissipated for years. They seem to have had much influence for he has abstained from drinking ever since he read them and I trust has bid adieu to every thing of that sort. Next week we shall have a Temperance meeting in this house and I shall endeavor to get every one here who is within reach. The population is wretchedly poor and much indeed all its poverty may be traced to the door of intemperance. A member of the Methodist Church is the retailer of this most wretched poison and we are doing all we can to induce him to abandon his trade. He has been doing it for years in the face of the laws of God and man, never

having had a license. But these details however interesting to me cannot much entertain you. I am at the end of my sheet and fear that I have said

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little which can induce you to write again. I hope however that you will do so in expectation of some thing more agreeable next time. Tell me what plans you and Evan have made besides coming to see us next March? Amanda you have unbounded influence over my Brother and I trust in Heaven you will not fail to exercise it. He is young, impetuous and ardent, therefore liable to run into errors, be to him then a Mentor and you will render me unspeakable obligation.

Yrs truly & affectionately Susan Carter

Note: included a calling card of D. M. Haydon and ? Ward found in family pictures.

Tyming Say 21. 1844 I accord duly and with much pleasure my dear Amanda your beautiful Letter and am hated to conserver it and to wish you a happy more year and many, many happy ulimes of it. Christmas has papered and gone and but for being negroes lowing ing in every distin I am some I should never have guested the leason of the year. The villagers had their polices, dances and chines, but I was nome the better of them as they seem to consider me either too far above or below them to invite me to a participation in their festivities. It is however not a matter of the slightest reget as they his in so very diferent a that it would afford me no gratification. I have Spirit the week at my own finds in the locaty of me husband and his brother, quitty but in peace and happing, buch happings as you may for in sain, in gainty and dissipation. How have you paped you time and who has been giving parties! Does More. Kinkend ofen her house on is the too thatily? Jone of my compandents think the is, others eny not. Itcannot therefore be very palpable or there would be but our opinion. Has my friend Mrs. Smith four to Mis Orleans to does the prefer leve in her College No one has ever mintioned has and although the low pletely weared me from her yet I ful a curiosity about her, in mixed with wom a unmount of affection. I never thought I could become so perfectly inliferent to one to whom I had been to much what But I befine bed heatment land make me

distitu any on on earth, if I had never given cause for it. What heres from Mrs. Erwin 3 This must be many the time for a very important wa in his life Has any runs love of tate from Mr. Ken of the down I suppose am South saw her of course. They Day Mrs. Min afer is to many Menny Blim chards hasband, gatewood. I have the is ginte a belle. Men you water always go to the Santh House and them I shall hear landthing of way body, as that is the form tain head of news receiving as a hibutary he. Her & Co. k. Min few unword from a place when one has speet as much time as I have he terington it is gratifying to hear what is brawntention. Should you his of them many que in just tun them over to Evan who is as much of a gossif almost as we ladies. Three and as many mon as your may be fil- to communicate, will be tatisfectory, notforgetting banch and Hay don. The Col. thinks H. lear most the perality and romanticully smitten but my own belief was that his finances were at a low all ance to thought he would get a low fortable home and that May. Iwom locald alway support them. He is a heartlife man of the world mul- But for hafs I am to hard in my judymin Did Smal stery with Lig. on Mrs, Fillbacks? The samed the would move later Mrs. To doors age I have had for a mouth or two, Itom agents of the amican Fred locaty, They my how. On of them

a man of dup frity. They are distributing through the reunty sligious works by all authors whom the subject and will be the means of much good Our physician who has hem an infilled a blasple mer and a man of no moral character is about to goin the church and was first-brought to hefliction by Baseti's Call which the agent insistra he would not buy or was it. It was lift- and The seed thus sown an about to be reafed. The We is a hear of much talent and his example will have bright tohis on the is to sown . I happe some works whom telemper ance and gave them to Tandon Carle who has been dissipated for yours They seem to have had much influence for he has abstance from dinking we live he had them and I trust has bid adies to way thing of the cart. Next week he shall have a semper-Comes meeting in this house and I that endeavon to get ening on her who is within reach. The population is witchedly poor and much made all do poverty may be braced to the door of Intemperance. It member of the Metho and Church is the uturles of this most welched poison and loc an doing all we law to hadines him to a boundon his trade. He has been doing it for gens he the face of the laws of god and man, mou Thusting to me amost much entution you. I lem at the end of my feet and fear that I have doing

NOTE: In the next letter from Susan Hat Shelby Carter Susan Kerr (Carr?) husband has died in St. Louis. Susan seems to be indicating that she is with child. **Dating 1844 3/5**

Postmarked: Grayson Ky.

12 ½ (cents?)

Mch 11th 1844 Mch 11th 1844

Address to: Miss Amanda Bruen

Lexington

From: Susan Hart Shelby Carter

Wyoming March 5, 1844

My dear Amanda

I have thus long deferred writing you because I have not been well and I desired in return for so beautiful and satisfactory a letter to send one which was at least my best, inferior as it might be to your own; but despairing of feeling any better I am seated to perform the pleasing task, hoping that you will think my apology sufficient and that you will follow what we so seldom imitate, the rule of doing as we would be done by. You may feel a little curious to know what sort of indisposition I have been suffering and that you may not suppose it was any of the ailments which newly married ladies generally have to contend with, but from which I have fortunately been entirely free, I will tell you that my head has been very much affected proceeding from a long neglect of a disordered stomach. There is no prospect of my following in the footsteps of Mrs. Kinkead, although the people here cannot be convinced of the fact. I have gained in flesh (bona fide flesh) the moderate quantity of 20 lbs since I came to Carter Co. Being always possessed of rather more plumptitude than comports very well with grace or comfort you may imagine what sort of a figure I am with this addition. A gentleman whose brother was married about a month after we were, told the Col. the other day that he had kept things very still for I was at least three months ahead of Liz, his brothers wife.

Page 2

The Col. said that he was mistaken that no such good luck had happened but the man was unconvinced saying that he could not be wrong that no woman with such hips could be in any situation but one.

You seem to think Mary Cosby will one day be

Mrs. Kinkead, and knowing the unbounded influence of her sister I should not be surprised. Of course William would like to see his brother as well provided for as he is and would throw his influence into the scale. You know too well the temper of Elizabeth to suppose any interference would be received as it should, or as it was meant. I should grieve to see the poor child sanctified to such a man, and I hope that Uncle will think one of the names sufficient for his family.

Poor Susan Kerr's is indeed a sad fate. She has all her life desired wealth as the greatest earthly happiness, but if she loved her husband she will now feel that he may be in the enjoyment of riches and yet be a prey to the deepest sorrow. What a dash she will cut when she throws off her weeds and will probably marry some man who scorned her in her poverty.

I saw Mrs. Brock a day or two before I left and she was in the most (word crossed out) perfect health. Alas! for human existence, how fleeting, how uncertain. Has M. (Mary) Hawkins gone South? You asked if I do not think Haydon (Hayden) and Sarah (Irwin) will make a match. If her Father had a voice

Page 3

in the matter and I think he will, she will not marry him or any one like him. To use the Col. favorite expression he has a high scorn for all coxcombs and would die before he would let one of them marry his daughter. I thought at the time I was married and after that she was in love with Haydon (Hayden) and she fell below par in my estimation. He is empty, vain, selfish and all together wanting in manliness of character. The choice of a love is a pretty certain index of a woman's character.

You asked what I think of your residing at Richland. Esteeming you as my Father and our whole family have ever done I am sure you might be as happy there as any where on earth, yet at the same time if you take the head of so large an establishment you will have but little time to call your own, and will meet a good deal to try your temper. All things considered however, I hope, should such be my Father's determination with regard to Evan, that you will make the attempt. I should be happy

indeed to see you there should we go down next summer. We shall look for you the last of next month and I shall be much disappointed if you fail to come.

When shall I again receive so great a treat as your letter which was worth half a dozen from an ordinary correspondent. The Col. sends his love. Remember me to your Mother & Sisters and believe me dear Amanda Yr. truly aff. Susan Carter

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Top

If you know what a treat your letters are and how little I know to make one of - you would write very soon.

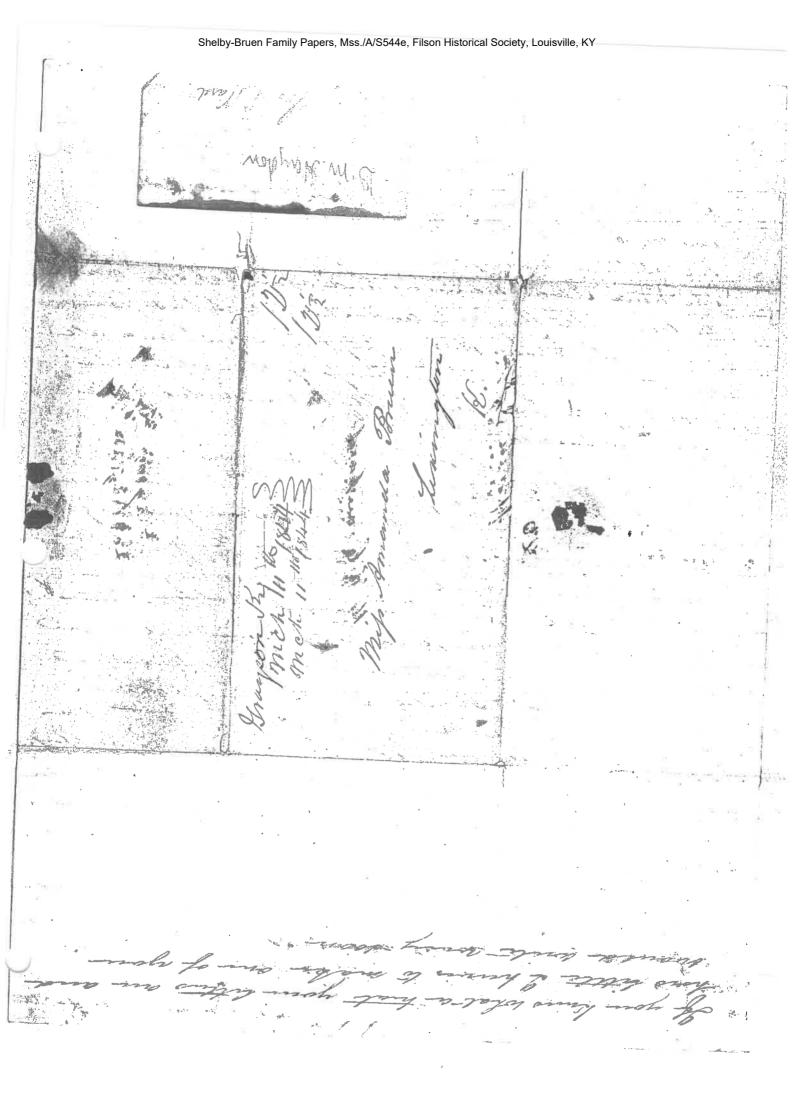
Across the first page:

When you see Aunt Fishback tell her what I have said about myself.

Tyoning March 5. 1844 I have the long defend witing you because I have not been will and I desind in when for so reantiful and tales feelong a letter to Sind one which was at last my best, inferior as it might be to your own; but despaining of feeling any better I Can leated to perform the pleasing tack, hoping that you will think my apology sufficient and that you will follow what we is ildon timitate, the rule of doing us we would be done by you may feel a little curious to linew what sort of indis josition I have her suffering adminds which much manied ladies generally have bun tutily free, I will titl you that my head has -bun my much affected proceeding from a long neglect of a disordered Stomach. There is no from feet of my following in his footsteps of Mrs. Kinkead, altho Me people here contol to convinced of the fact. I have gained he flesh (bona fide flesh) the moderate quantity of 20 les. since I came to Caster Co. Being always possessed of ruther more plum stillede Their Comports buy well with grace or comfort you may magine what dot of a figure I have with this addition. Of quillinear whose brother was mained a bank a month after were, told the Col. the other day that The had kept things very still for I was at last Three mouths ahead of Tig, his brothers wife.

The Col. said that he was mistaken that no such good luck had kappened but the man was luncon sinced beging that he could not be wong that no woman with such hips could be in in ful an. think many looky will one day be Mr. Kinkind and knowing the imbarried influence of her district I stould not be surprised. Of course Thelian bound like to be to the Market as hall provided for as he is and would know his Influence luto the deale. You know too well The temper of Elizabeth to Suffrom any interferen liveled be nesioned as it Should, or as it was heart. I Should green to be the poor child beinfield to such a man, and I hape that Much will think one of the have difficient for his family. Por lucan kens is hand a sed fale. In has all his life disend weilth as the qualit earthly happings, but of the board her husband the will have feel that he may be in the layoupment of riches and get her a frey to the defect breaw. What a dust the will cut when the throws off her weeds and will probably many low man who seemed him in her pourty. I have More. Bruch a day or how before I left and the was in the togggest most frefel health. allus, for humain wistenen, how flection haw uncertain. Has M. Hawling your doubt ? You ask if I do not think theyour and Jarah will make a match. If him Father has a baise

in the matter and I though he will the will hot many him a any our like him. To use the Colo" favorite aproposante has a high bearing for all Coxcom bo and would die before he would letthe home I was married and after that the wa in love with theyour and the feel below for in my ahmation. He is emply, vain selfish and all tagether wanting in men lines of character. The Chaice of a love is a fully certain indice of a Women's Character. Your ask what I think of your asiding at Richland. Esterning you as my Julhan and are lohole family have been done I am der your might In as happy there as any when one centh, get at the Stern time if you take the head of is lunger and talablichment you will have but title time to call your away, and will have mut a good deal to try your temper. All things lowerdund however I hope Should Such he my Talhie. determination with right to Even that yo will make the attempts. I Shough he happy hedred to in your them Should her go down most lumme. The Shall look for you the last of most mouth and I shall be much disappointed if your fail to come. Then Shall I again neive to guat a test as your little which was worth half a dagen from an ordinary comispondent. The Col. Landy his love. Remember sin to your Maken I disting and believe me die a amenda yn hruly off. Three Canthe



NOTE: I am assuming this was sent to Amanda as Elizabeth was busy with children. This "Ma" would be Maria's mother, Eliza Maurous. The Philip mentioned would be her first born, Philip Maurous O'Bannon who had been buried February 10, 1842. James O'Bannon, according to the record, was buried on February 26, 1844. Was she so distraught that she wrote April instead of February or were there other deaths of whom I cannot figure out? A copy of James O"Bannon's will follows giving insight to the make up of that branch of relatives. Pictures of James O'Bannon's monument follow taken by Dr. James Birchfield. Dating 1844 4/11 (should be February)

NOTE: I believe two records in "Old Episcopal Burying Ground" are incorrect.

1. Philip Matrous O'Bannon is Philip Maurous O'Bannon son of James (not John) and Maria Leonard

He was named for her beloved step-father and he may have been in a holding grave - probably born a year

And as Marie had their second child (Fannie) in October of 1842.

2. I believe the correct date for James O'Bannon burial is Feb 26, 1844 - base on the date of his will - his illness or injury cause him the responsibility of writing a will in January of 1844. The reference to James Lane Allen's "Choir Invisible" is incorrect, confirmed by Jim Birchfield and read by me - makes no sense.

I believe Maria wrote Apr in her sorrowful fret by error on her letter...

That clears it up best as I know of no other deaths that make sense...

No Postmark no envelope

To: (Amanda Shelby?)

From: Maria L. O'Bannon

Paducah April 11th '44

Dear Cousin,

Your letter to Ma was rec'd a few days since and I would have written sooner but I did not know when we were to start so as to give you information as to removal of the bodies. It is my earnest wish to be present and we will start the 15th which is Monday and be in Lex. by the next Friday or Sat. get Joe to beg the Sexton to defer the burial till I get there. I feel so anxious and weary that I can scarcely write you what I am going to do. I have prevailed on Ma to start sooner than she intended but I feel as if I could never be satisfied if I did not see it done any thing in the world I would give the Sexton if he can possibly wait till the 21st or 22nd for I feel sure

if nothing happens I will be in Lex. then. Ma sends her love and so do all the family Fanny is not so well as she was in Lx. Excuse the wretched scrawl from yours

Maria L. O'Bannon

Page 2 April 12th

PS If any unforeseen accident should occur to prevent my coming in the course of ten days or so - it would be best perhaps for Joe to have the bodies buried. If so I wish both put in one grave and James to be enclosed in an outside box. have it my dear cousin as you would have such a thing done for one of your own relatives. Ask your papa to see the box put round it if I should unfortunately be prevented from coming. I intend having a stone put over them when I go and I have the shrubbery that was around Philips little grave, which I intend planting out. My intention is to start Monday if nothing happens - tho I think it best to tell you in case I should be prevented so that no unpleasant would be caused if I should be unavoidably be detained. I have strange ideas about such things, and it is a pleasure tho' a melancholy one, to perform all such offices for one, who in life never ceased doing, for my comfort, and gratification, and all I can do for the unconscious day shall be done tho I strain my feelings and strength to the interest. I only hope I may be in time - Yours Maria

James O'Bannon Birth: 1812, USA

Death: Feb. 26, 1841, USA Tombstone engraved: Confusing as will is dated 1844

"Sacred to the memory of James O'Bannon, who departed this life February 26, 1841, aged 29 years and 4 months. "Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil, for Thou are with me: Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me"

you better to ma was red a few days duce and of would have with some but I aid, not know when we were to Dail Do no to give you information as to umoral of the bodies - It is my earned wish to he present and we will start the 15th which is ourned any and he in Less by the heep friday or Yest got Ive to her the difton to defer the funcie tile Ish there - I feel Do aprisions and amenay that I can occurrely with you what I campoing todo - I have prevailed on ma to start Jumes then she intended his I feel as y I could are Le vouistred à l'avec mos see is avec any thing in the world I will give the affition of he can proposity want that the 21 in 220 for I feel and ashing happens I mile be in Lex. Then ma Quels her love and so no are the family Lanny is not so well as she was in La. eteme this metation ocrawl from Juns Inaiia L OBamm

Afing 12th OI If any infusion accident Should so am to present in coming in the course of the ten anys or do it would be her perhaps for doe to have the brains him - of so I wish hith ful in one grane and dames to be enclosed in an outside hip - have it by dear cousin as you would have duch a they ame for one of your own relations ask your paper to dear the hop put avend is if I should imputumately be prevented from arming I intend having a stone per over them when I so and I have the Shruttery that was around Thilips little grave, which I intered planting our Day interesting Les to tell you in case I should be prevented so that no supleasant would be caused if I should be amaron daily be detained I have stronge ideas about Duck Things, and it is a pleasure this a melanchety one, to perform all such office pe one, who in lye never caused awing, for any compre, and granification, and all I can as for the amount of unconscious clay shall be ame the I than my feeling and whent to the interior - I only hope I may be in time - yours

NOTE: Found among Amada's items were these are little calling cards announcing Amanda Bruen and Evan Shelby on one and & Mrs. H. B. Bruen and Mrs. Bruen on the other. Both appear to have been written on in pencil.

Dated: 1844 - spring

First - in Amanda's handwriting

Miss Amanda Bruen Mr. Evan Shelby

Second - in Elizabeth's handwriting

Mrs. H. B. Ingels
Mrs. Bruen



NOTE: A little note with an assumed reference to Amanda's wedding. ...if so would date about May 20, 1844. This could be Lucy Webb who years later married Dr. Robert W. Bush on July 8, 1853.

Dating 1844 5/20 as though assumption is correct.

To: Amanda Bruen

From: Lucy

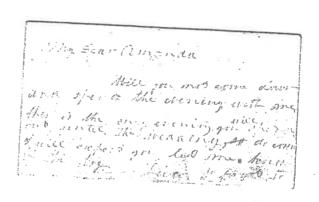
My dear Amanda

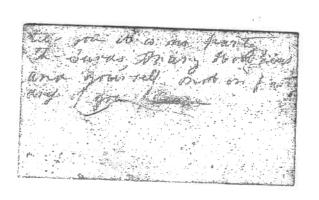
Will you not come over and spend the evening with me. This is the only evening you will spend out until the wedding, so do come over. I will expect you. Let me know by the boy.

Lucy I forgot to

Backside:

tell you it is our party with – Curds, Mary Hawkins and yourself. Not in party dress if you please.





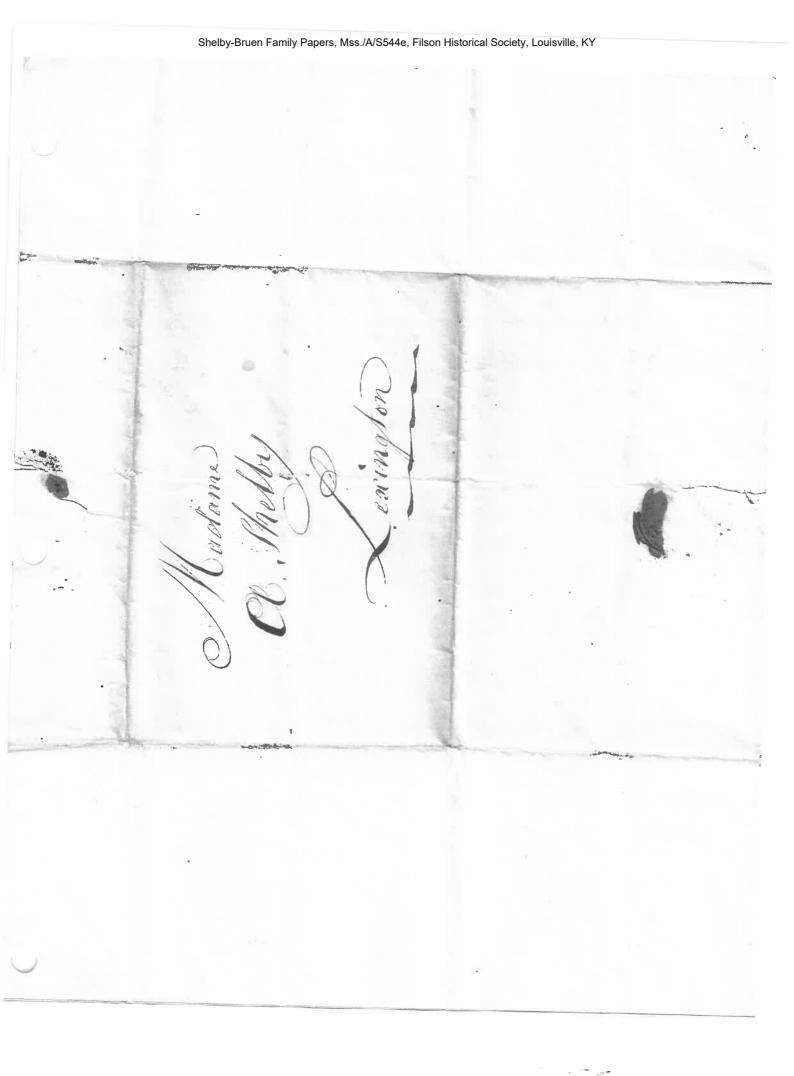
Madame)

May the New yourney you this day let out; May the Last day be as happy as the first. It is the Wish of your

Respectfully

Waldemarch Mentelle So

Bernind, May, 23 th 1844.



NOTE: Mrs. Woolley may be Sarah (Sallie) Wickliffe Woolley, wife of Judge Aaron Woolley... With compliments extended I believe to be written shortly after the marriage of Evan and Amanda – I am giving date of **May 25, 1844**

Addressed to: Mr. & Mrs. E. Shelby

From: Mrs. Woolley

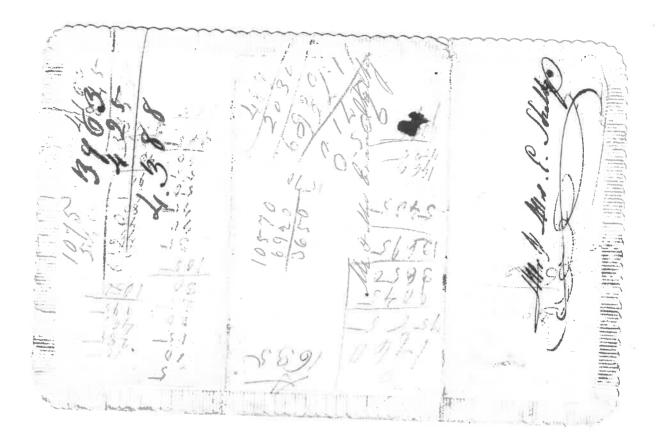
Mrs. Woolley's compliments to Mr. & Mrs. Evan Shelby and will be happy of their company Monday evening

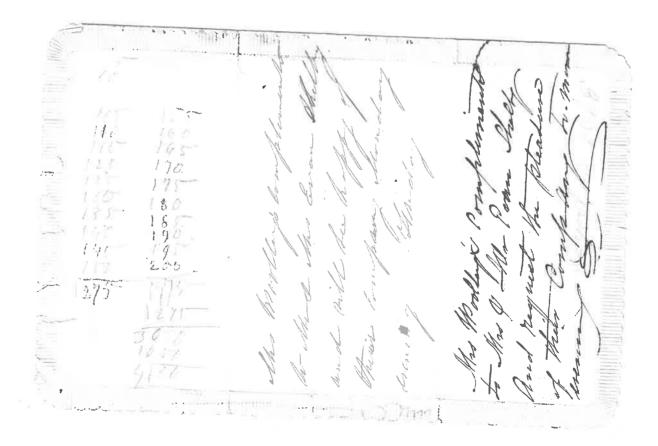
Friday

Also:

Mrs. Woolley's compliments to Mr. & Mrs. Evan Shelby and request the pleasure of their company to-morrow evening.

Lots of figures - addition of business or games





NOTE: In the next letter, Susan Hart Shelby Carter name a boy born to someone after her father. Dating 1844 7/1

Postmarked: Grayson KY.

12 ½ (cents?)

July 1st 1844

Addressed to: Mrs. Amanda Shelby

Richland near Lexington K

From: Susan Hart Shelby Carter

Wyoming Monday Morning

My dear Amanda

This is the first mail day since Greenup left and I feel an irresistible inclination to scribble you a few lines.

Well then, here we are quietly seated in our mountain home. The world forgetting and by the world forgot. There is not in the country a soliciting family or individual with whom we have the slightest sympathy and Heaven knows what would become of us if we were not any thing to each other, but such being the case we pass the time peacefully and quietly without any great degree of excitement.

Our furniture had arrived before us and has been the talk of the country for miles around. Then Mrs. McKee of the village was here before we had been home 24 hours but cruel as it may appear I said nothing to her about it and she only saw one room. She had however a double object in coming and as she gratified the most malicious of the two I thought she had sufficient gratification. A family settled here during our absence who lived in Covington & the woman was educated by Mr. Pickett. To tell me that the Father of my intended sister (not sure who) was a school teacher was a source of delight which only

Page 2

the malicious of our sex knows how to appreciate. As I was aware of the fact before, the lady seemed somewhat chagrined at not witnessing a considerable degree of mortification on my part.

Tell Father that I had the pleasure of naming a boy for him on my way home. A woman at whose house I stopped as I went in, had a son added to her family when I returned & had waited for me to name it. In spite of Gen'l Combs command to christen nothing that did not belong to me I did call him James Shelby and the family seemed much pleased with the name for they said it was so handy. I found more than 100 fowl running in the yard, a garden filled with the finest vegetables and the Col. thinks his corn just twice as good as last year, but the latter looks so far below the Fayette corn that to me it seems like no crop at all.

It will be many a day before I take my better half to the asparagus bed of the world again, for he has scarcely smiled since his return and would sell out to day and leave for Missouri or Texas tomorrow if he could get a purchaser. As for me I would rather live and die poor in a healthy country than sacrifice that greatest earthly good

Page 3

for the mines of Golconda.

When shall I hear from you? Often & at quarter lengths than I have written I hope.

Remember me aff. to Father and the boys & believe me dear Amanda

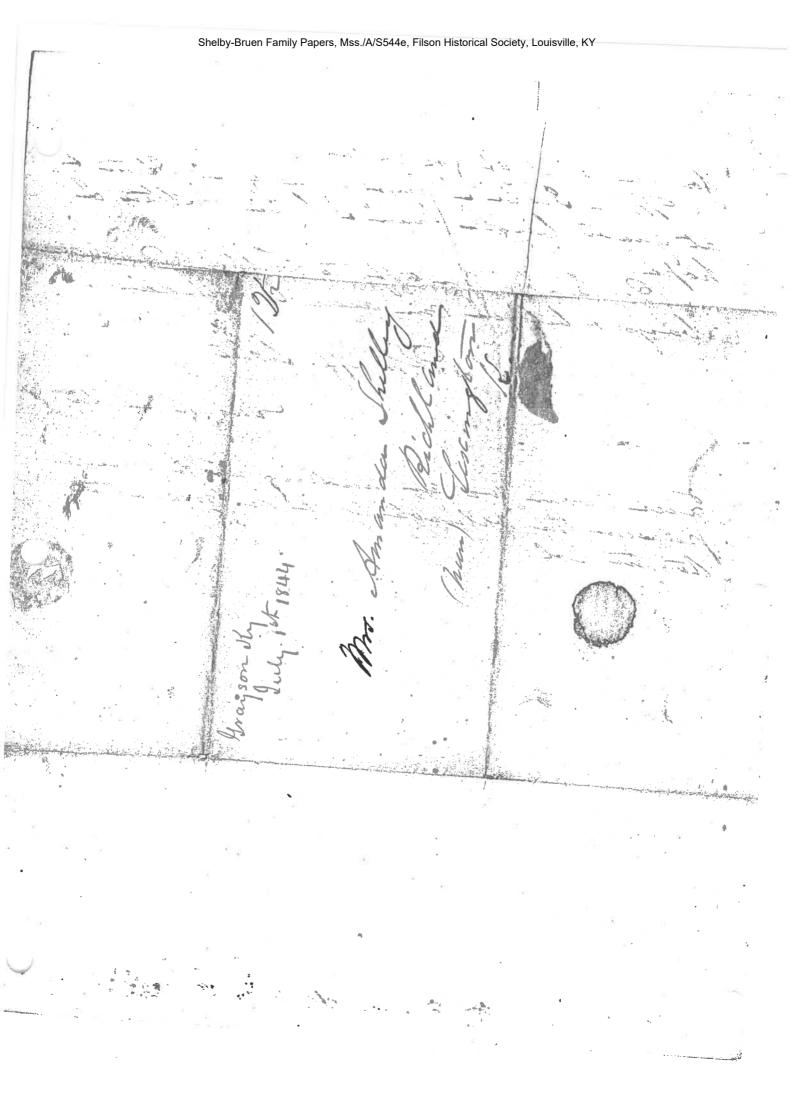
Yr aff. sister, Susan Carter

Tell Evan we are reading with much pleasure the valuable work he presented to the Col.

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY Myming Monday Moun - left and of to Seubble of to digner of existing to lath of the autin Mrs. Mr. Kee of the willey was him before had been home 24 hours but appear I Suid nothing to her als it and The only less one room. The wever à double object le coming an - gratified the most malicion of oring low & Man mr. Wickette To lite me that the Julia of my intended distributes a Deline tracker tous a Some of delight totally stage

The malicious of our line lisers how to apprin Sumed Somewhat the grand at not withing a considerable days is of mortifications on m peute. Tell Julhan Bat I had I having a long for him on n at when have 2 if in huse a som add to hur fa him I situad I had builted for the name it In Spile of Soul. C to chim to nothing that did not bell me I did call him James Chilley to the family been a mucch pleased num for they said it love so have I found men them too furth mind - yard, a gurden filled with the of tables and the Col. thinks his com per livies as good as last years, but the late tooks so for below the Junte com that to me it tem like is crop at all It will be many a day before I take as for he has boundy smiled dince his ation and would fell and to day and lever for Missom on Tesous to mission if he could git a punchese as for our I love salles him and du poor in a healthy Davision that qualist sculley good

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY



NOTE: Term "honey fuggle" used (to deceive by flattery or sweet-talk; swindle or cheat, to hoodwink or cajole by flattery). A nineteenth century saying last see in the *Syracuse Herald* in 1934, in which President Roosevelt was described as "the prize honeyfugler of his time".

Postmarked: Grayson Ky. 12 ½ (cents?) July 29 (1844)

Addressed to: Mrs. Evan Shelby
Richland (near)
Lexington K

From: Susan Hart Shelby Carter

Wyoming **July 28, 1844**

I cannot deny my dear Amanda that I felt somewhat slighted when the fifth week after my departure passed without a line from any one, but I have many faults, many negligences to be forgiven for and I can therefore make much allowance for others.

In regard to the first item of news from Lexington I was prepared to hear that the Col's evil genius was there. He insists from the fact that Father is visiting her, that he is going to get another high fall, but I am too well acquainted with his character and disposition, to believe that the most beautiful and angelic (epithets to which she can certainly lay no claim) of God's creatures could, in the elegant phraseology of the Hon. T. F. Marshall, honey fuggle him more than once. I shall wait most anxiously to hear the denouncement of the affair, feeling however not the slightest fear of its resulting in mortification or disappointment to him, as he is perfectly well prepared to play the game or rather to carry on the war, with the least possible detriment to himself, and as much chagrin to the enemy as her double dealing must induce her to anticipate, to say nothing of the hard lesson taught her in a former siege, lengthened to be sure beyond that of Troy of old but ending in wasted feeling and deadened hopes, to himself, while he upon whom all her war like skill was spent, has learned to forget her existence and find peace and happiness in the affections

Page 2

of one who never deceived him. I shall forbear any further comment upon the matter expecting

the next mail to bring the result.

I am gratified indeed to hear that Ellen is going to make a visit and shall endeavor to repay her for a trouble which some of my other relatives have never thought me worthy of. Not less do I rejoice that you are on a sociable and kind footing with her sister, thru whom there exists not a more perfect being in this world. Her example is one to be copied in every department of life, as wife, as mother and last though not least as Christian. Patient and meek, forbearing and kind, she is indeed a burning and a shining light, contrasting O! how strongly with the great mass of professors in whose walk there is so little to distinguish them from those without the pale of the church.

You asked about making butter and I can quiet all your uneasiness on that subject by telling you that in hot weather the milk sours before 12 o'clock and then of course "no more cream rises and in consequence only about one fourth the butter is produced, which could be made in winter or if you had a cold rainy dairy. Last winter I made more butter from two or three cows than I now make from five or six. Every one acquainted with the matter will give you the same experience. I should be sorry to hear that you and Liz had had a falling out, yet at the same time I consider her so heartless and deceitful that she could never

Page 3

afford you much satisfaction by an intimacy. She would gladly have broken the match between you and Evan, from motives of spite which she for a long time has entertained toward us, and with the hope too that you would eventually return poor Isaac's passion. She is entirely selfish and worldly minded, although before marriage she passed for the most amiable, descent and dignified woman in the world. Perhaps I did not like her from the fact that I was too much of the same stamp. I do not know, but she never was my fancy.

You must cultivate Mrs. Kerr in whom you will find rather an oddity if she has not gotten above it.

Judge French made an abusive speech against Mr. Clay on Wednesday last and as there was no one to meet him here the Col. made a reply, but I left before he rose for he was so much excited

before he began that I was afraid he and the Judge, who have always been personal friends, would have some difficulty. The Democrats told the Col. that he showed the tarif in a different light from what they had ever seen it and were much pleased with his exposition. The Whigs of course were pleased. I am altogether apposed to his having any thing to do with politics.

I hope that Father will not be prevented from coming to see us after the election as we have expected.

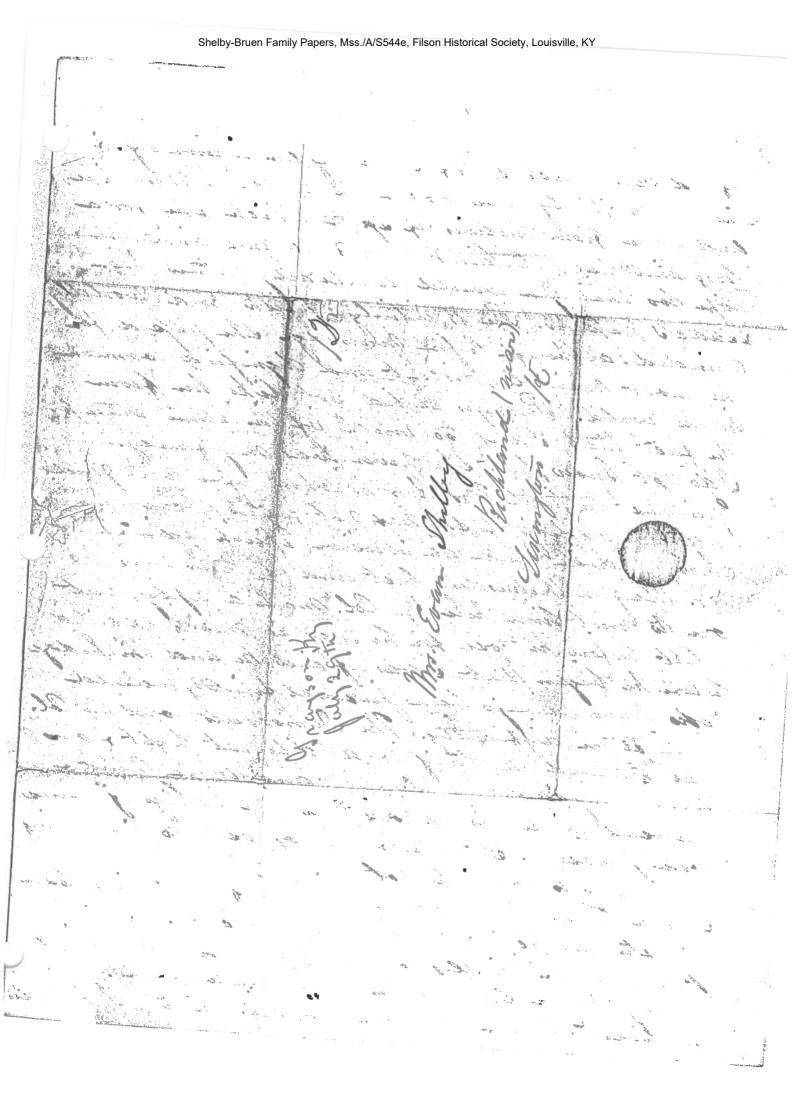
Remember me kindly to the boys and tell James & Fayette we should be glad to see them.

Believe me dear Amanda yr. aff. Sister S. S. Carter

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY Thyoming July 28. 1844 man Shall; hon ey fuggle him y me mortefe cation or disappointmen to hime, as he is perfectly well prepends to play ossible tetriment to himself, and as enmy as his double dialong me her to tentimizate, to suy nothing of a few hand before taught him in a former liege; lengthined to be Sime beyond that of Fray of old but ending in washed galing and deadined hopes, to herself, while he whom whom all Okile was I funt, has learned to forget her existence and find proce and happings in the affection

of on who more decived him. I shall forbe an any few the comment whom the matter expecting Hu much mail to bring the well- of Scattfied mand to him that Elle is going to for a bouble which how of my other relations has some hought me wonthing of Not lip do I rejoice had but you are on a sociable and lind pooling with her biels. Here he he he had lind pooling with him bieles, them whom there wiels not a mon purfect being in this looked. He cample is one to be copied in way department of life, and oife, as Patient and much for bearing and to made a being and a claiming light O' how Sharply with the year map in whose will then is to little them from three trithact the pale of the you ask about making butter and I time your timeasimp on that Subject by ble hat in hot weather the Think is & clock and them of come no more en am nais and in Consequence only about one four the Whe halter is produced, which could be made in lomber or if you had a cold dung. Tast winter I made more butter from two or three lows them I have make from five or disc. Every one acquainted with the matter will give you the dame experience. I Should be Jorry to him that you and ding had had a felling but, get at the Same him I longider the so hearly and deceitful that the touch how

afford you much take faction by em hitmacy The would gladly have broken the match between you and Evan, from molives of Spite which I'm for a long him has intertained loward me, and with the he los that you would south ally whim Quac's paperon. The is intily dilfish and worldly Oninded, although before marriage the paper for the most unicable, discut and dignified boman he the world. Perhaps I did not like her from the fact that I was too much befthe dame thimp. I do not know; but Ihr how wer wer my fancy. You must cultivate Mrs. Ker in whom ruthen an oddity if the has not gotten above it Indge French made in abusive thuch against Mr. Clay on Michael lust and as those was no one to mut him here the Col. made a reply, but Ileft be for he rose for he was to much excited before he began that I was afraid he and the fedge have some difficulty. The Democrate bold the Col. that showed the lang in a diferent light from what they but wer lunt and were much pleased with his exposition, the whige of lame Even pleased. I am attoy the offored any thing to do with politics. I hope Tallow will not be prevented from coming toda for aghis the election as we have imported. Remember Im kindly to the boys and tell - Tayette los Chould be glad to der Mun Welive me deur hmanden zon aff. destro S. S. Carlie



NOTE: Amanda has doodled names on the outside of this note: Mrs. Amanda Shelby, Mrs. Sarah White,

Sarah Irvine was the granddaughter of Ephraim and Sarah Shelby McDowell, and the daughter of their Susanna Hart McDowell Irvine (Mrs. Col. David). Sarah married Addison White, September 4, 1844. Sarah (Sally) McDowell was Evan's aunt, being Gen. James sister. Irvinton; estate name?

Postmarked: Richmond, KY,

12 ½ (cents)

Aug. 29 (1844)

Addressed to Mrs. Evan Shelby

Lexington, Kentucky

From: Sarah (Irvine)

My Dear Amanda,

I write to tell you how happy I should be to have Evan and yourself present at my marriage on the evening of the 4th of September. - My compliments to Uncle James and the young gentlemen and say to them that Papa as well as myself would be pleased to see them - It is to be only a family affair and therefore there will be but very few present -

Believe me sincerely Sarah (Irvine)

Irvinton Tuesday

May Coase Marker Marker

NOTE: Susan tells of the toil of a toothache., Bishop (Berkley) asking for funds, and asks about Ellen Hart Ross Reily, Margaretta's sister...Dating 1844 9/2

Post marked: Grayson Ky. 12 ½ (cent?) Sept 2nd 1844

Addressed to Mrs. Evan Shelby

Richland (near) Lexington Ky.

From: Susan Hart Shelby Carter

Wyoming Sept. (2) 1844

My dear Amanda

I have been suffering more than I thought nature could endure from tooth ache. I felt it considerably before Father left the (morning after my face was swollen almost to bursting) and is now more painful than any one would suppose as the swelling generally produces ease. I am fearful that the lance will have to be used as there is every appearance of its coming to a head. An emetic which I took yesterday and which threw off a quality of bile has failed to relieve me and I am almost tempted to commit suicide. The women of the village have called to offer their sympathies to day, but with such significant looks that I am much more provoked than benefited.

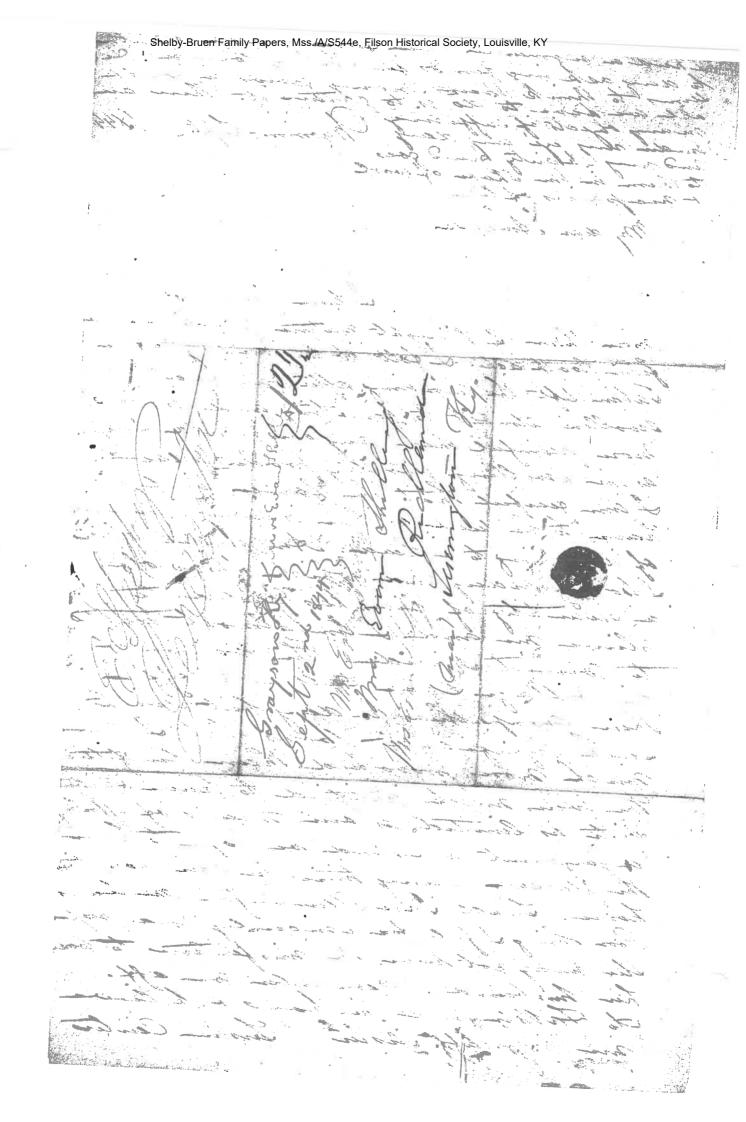
We were much gratified to have Father with us limited as our means of affording enjoyment were, and we hope to have the pleasure many times in our mountain home. Shall I see Ellen before she leaves? Poor thing I feel for sincerely and hope she may not have the misfortune to loose her husband. Remember me aff. to Father and the boys & believe me yr. aff. Sister

Susan Carter

Note at the top page:

I had a rigmarole letter from Bishop Smith to day asking funds for Shelby College. He seems to think that money grows on trees & all we have to do is to gather it. There are many objects of suffering under my eye any day and my charity fund goes to them in the shape of wool & necessaries of life.

to do un to My dear Amanda I have been duffering mon than I thought nature could enden from tooth ach. I felt it tarjan asty before Tallow left, the morning efterly fee wer more printed ham amy one would dupper I can fearful that the lunied-bill have to be leed as there is wing appraiance of its coming to a head An emple to be a grant they af hile his fall the former of the Commit Smile I have to the former of the Commit Smile the bonne of Their sympathics to day but with Such lying could last that I am
am ch mon provoked them lington The wen amely gratified to how Talke with as limited as an means of affording thyayment here, and he hope to ha the pleasure many times in our mounting home. That I he Elem before the haves Poor thing I feel for dincenty and hope the may not have her mis fer time to love her hurband. Remarker som ef To Fallin land the me Briaff Asle



NOTE: Pencil & pen scribbles of E. Shelby, Lexington & Mrs. Evan Shelby near address & York, Orleans and some French. Susan Hart Shelby Carter is full of information and opinions in this letter.

Dating 1844 9/23

Postmarked: Grayson Ky.

12 1/2

September 23rd 1844

Addressed to: Mrs. Amanda Shelby

Richland (near)

Lexington K

From: Susan Hart Shelby Carter

Note: Received September 29 '44

Wyoming Sunday 23

My dear Amanda

I commenced of Sunday last as answer to your letter which came on that day, but it did not please me and it was committed to the flames. You write so much more satisfactorily and so much more at length than any of my other correspondents that I shall be most careful how I forfeit my claims upon you by procrastinating my replies. How much I should rejoice to see you face to face, but as there is no probability that will occur shortly I must content myself with your agreeable letters. The Col. sends you many messages, among them a request that you will come ere long to see us least in a few months traveling may not be quite so convenient. You said all I could wish about Sarah's wedding except that she was happy. Her Father's love of wealth and her own amiable and pliant disposition have made me sometimes think that she was probably led into the match from the mere wish to gratify him, without feeling what every woman should, that the man she had chosen was dear to her beyond any thing earthly.

Page 2

The fact of Sarah's having so recently been attached to another has scarcely had a tendency to confirm this feeling, for it can hardly be called an opinion and I tremble for her, because she is a fragile flower and a few rough winds would would soon blight her. You ask what I think of Cooney's messages and I answer that she is sui generic (Latin for unique) and entirely beyond the comprehension of any such finite mind as I possess. The only consternation I can put upon her conduct is, that she is exceedingly anxious to be married and cannot make up her mind to resign her fortune and freedom. I think her chance of getting another as pliant a subject as the Col. is rather bad, and that she will have to make up in numbers for their deficiencies in constancy.

I must not forget to warn you in the beginning that your new friend Mrs. Breck is very far from being what she seems, and that she is a dangerous companion. Sarah Irvine once gave to Elizabeth Mary Pindell and myself a dancing party. The next day we called upon Mrs. Breck and she requested me to say to Sarah that the reason the girls of the town did not go to her party was, that they had heard that she had said she always had her entertainments on Wednesday the night of prayer meeting to prevent the Presbyterians from going. This request she earnestly repeated and without knowing or caring about it either way I mentioned it to S. when I returned. She was very much amazed

Page 3

and vexed and denied even having said it. Mrs. B. finding that Sarah was about to give her up shortly after went over to see about it. Sarah told her what she had heard and she at once said that I had made the mischief that it was all false and that Susan Shelby never bore any other name at home but mischief maker. You see she showed at once a meddlesome disposition and an utter disregard for the truth. If I had supposed for a moment that it would have the effect it did I should have said nothing about it but I thought it more a jest than anything else and was much surprised to find that S. took the matter so seriously. Mrs. B. is devoted to those she considers wealthy and her attentions and professions of friendship are not to be relied upon. These things I tell you merely to put you upon your guard for there is no telling when we are safe with such people.

I was much gratified to in my old friend Rev. R. Dillard a few days ago and would gladly have detained him longer but he had been sometime from home and was anxious to return. He entertained

us most agreeably with his travels and I was sorry when he had to leave. We shall shortly have the Judge and some of the bar with us, indeed we see many more visitors here than I ever supposed we should.

Brother Alfred has paid us a visit since Father was here and a cousin of the Col.'s since. His cousin was a brother of B. O. Peers, whom you all recollect.

Page 4

Top

How much we shall be disappointed if Ellen does not come! I never thought of her being in Ky. without my seeing her for I never dreamed of being married. I am almost tempted to make another trip for the purpose of visiting her, great as would be the inconvenience. I fear no stage will be run this fall and it was to have started several weeks ago. I am delighted to hear that Mary Combs has prospect of being provided for. The poor girls would be left sadly unprotected should their father be taken from them and Mary's house would be a home for them. Tell Evan I shall not excuse his forgetting me as he is not old enough quite to have lost his memory. I shall answer Isaac's letter by next mail. Remember me aff. to Father and the boys. I look forward to seeing some of my brothers this fall with much pleasure.

I must close this miserable scrawl with the best wishes of your aff. Sister

S. Carter

Bottom

Remember me kindly to your Parents and sisters. Tell your Father to get up his little carriage and bring a party of you out to see us (in) this delightful weather. We should be much pleased indeed to see him with his family.

Hyoming Sunday 23

My dear Am unda

I Commenced on Um day last an answer to your letter topich came on that clay, but it did hot please me and it was Committed to the flames. You write Is much mow satisfactorily and to much mon at ling the than any of my other cours por dents that I that be most careful how I for feit my claims whom you by process timating my uplies. How much I Should segvice to see you face to face, but as there is no probability that that will occur shortly I must Content myself with your aquable letters. The Col. Shits you many muriages, among them a request that you will come in long to be in least in a few months travelling may not be quite so Convenient. You said all I will wish about Surah's wedding except that the was happy. Her Talkus love of wealth and his soon amiable and pliant its position have made me love times think That The was probably led into In match from The me wish to gralify him, without feeling what way woman Should, that the man the had choice was dear to her beyond any thing centhly.

The fact of linah's having so recently been allached. to another has secretly had a tending to confirm this feeling, for it can handly be called an opinion and I humble for her, be aune She is a fragile flower and a few weegh winds would would soon blight han. You ask what I think of Cooney's mussayes and I answer that She is I'm gener and lutily beyond the com for husion of long du the finite mind as I paper. The only construction I can put apon her londered in, that the is exculingly anxious to be manued and carried make up his mind to usign his fortune and fundame I think he chance fof getting another as plant a subject as the Col. is Lather bad, and that the will have to make up in numbers for their deficiencies in andancy. I must not forget to warm you in the beginning that your new friend mrs. Brech is very for from being what the luns, and that the is a dangerous companion Sarah devine once gave to Elizabeth Many Pon dell and myself a dam any pening. The most day we latted whon Mrs. Brock and the agent has me to say to Sarah that the nesen the girls of the boun did not go to her party was, that they had heard that The had said She alway had her inter tain ments on Indows day the night of prayer meeting to prevent the Purhy linears from going. This request the earns by repealed and without Growing a lung about it either way I mentioned it- to de tohin I whimed. The was very much amaged

and vised and divid our hiving said it. Mrs. B. finding that Sarah was about to give her up Shortly. after would over to be about it. Small told her what the had hand and the at once laid that I had made the mischief that it was all false and that Justin Shelly mon bore way other name at home but mischief maken. You be the thoused at once a middlesome disposition and an letter disrey and of thathe If I had supposed for a moment that it would have had the effect it did I should have said nothing about it but I thought it more a fat them anything the and was much Impried to find that I look he withing so sending them 8. attentions and professionis of findship and to be whis upon. These things I lell you menty to put you whom your grown for there is no belle los un dage with duch prople. I was much quilified to be my old find Bev. A. "Dellens a few days ago and would gladly he n i detuned him tonger yet he had been down time from home and will in miners to return. He toute tains , as most agreably with his bruvels and I was long when he had to bear. The Shall Shortly have the Judge and some of the bar with us, indeed we her many more visitors him them I was dupposed we though. Brother Alfus hus pard in a visit since Tulher was here and a cousin of the Colis lines. His weeken were a brother of 13.0. Peers, whom you all neilled.

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY Howmuch we that he disappointed if Ellen does list to I have thought of her ber as would be the in ton be um this full and it was to I am delighted to have that men and this Jatha be laken Many's house would be a home for their y me as he is no mough quite to have lock his knowing I Shall a Isuae's letter by mest muil. Benumber m Faller and the bays. I look forward to fall with much plus I must close this misuable scrawl with of your out to he he we

NOTE: Another letter from Susan Hart Shelby Carter. Not sure what words Evan's PS held, however, it appears that the General was not an easy person to work with. Contains recipe for making vinegar. Dating 1844 10/20

Postmarked: Grayson Ky. 12 ½ (cents?)

Octo 21st (1844)

Addressed to: Mrs. Evan Shelby

Richland

near Lexington K

Single Note: Received Oct. 26 1844

From: Susan Hart Shelby Carter

Wyoming Oct 20, 1844

I am too busy dear Amanda to write you a letter but will take time to say that if you wish to make a barrel of vinegar I have just gotten a receipt which is simple, cheap and certain.

To 8 gal. water, 1 of whiskey and ½ gal. yeast. Place the vessel containing it in a warm place and in a month or six weeks you have vinegar which answers for all purposes, instead of paying the grocers 75cts for their miserable slops.

I have tried many modes but never succeeded with any but this. I was happy to get yours of the 15th on yesterday and shall answer it in full by next mail. You speak of marriages by wholesale but say nothing about whom the ladies married, Mrs. Eaton for instance. One would judge from your letter that being married and having an establishment were all you thought of as none of the men are mentioned. I once heard a man say that he would not live in Lex. because the men were nobodies and every thing belonged to the women, that a stranger would suppose they were all widows. But quantum sufficit. Tell Father to write to your aff. sister S.S.C.

Note across this page:

The Democracy have been perfectly over bearing until the news from Maryland and Ohio. They now seem crest fallen

We are grieved at the last line of Evan's P.S. for we hoped to hear better things. For our selves our harp is hung upon the willows.

Myiming Cot 20. 1844 William los busy then exmande to write you a letter but will take time to say that if you wish to make a wind of vinga I have just gotten a accept-which is simple , Cheap and tertain. Jo 8 galo louter, 1 of whisky and /2 gal. yeast. Place the bessel Containing it in a toaring place and in a mouth a fix bucks you have vineges which answers for all purposes, instead of paying he four 15th for their misnable dope. I have bird many modes but never succeeded with any but this. I was happy to get yours of the 15 m yesterday and Shall tissues it in full by mat mail. you speak of maninges by whole lake but they nothing about whom he ladies manied, Mr. Ealon for in Mance. One would gudge from your letter that being manied and having an whitehalt have from all you hought of as none of he have an mentioned. I mer heard to man ley that he would not him he are, because the men Your ding ling belonged to the fromen, that a Shanger would Suppose they Work all will own. But grantimouth of the Julha to wite to your off with V. J. C.



NOTE: Amanda's oldest niece, Maria Ingels, would be almost 5 and nephew Joseph (called Captain by Evan) would be three in a few weeks and little niece Eliza about one year. If Amanda is pregnant it was not for long since she would have to become pregnant with Mary Pindell in Feb. of 45. Political talk of Henry Clay and cute statement on Polk's win by little Captain. Dating 1844 11/19

Postmarked: Lexington Nov 28 (1844)

Addressed to: Mrs. James O'Bannon Paducah Ky.

From: Amanda Shelby

Richland Nov. 19 & 23, 1844

My dear Cousin,

Your long looked for letter has just been handed me, and in order that our correspondence may meet no interruption on any part I hasten to answer it. You have been provokingly long, and do not deserve such a return for your negligence. As for Cousin Eliza, I never expect to hear from her again except through you, and that, judging from the past will be very, very seldom. Now that her long cherished hope of seeing Clay President, is forever blasted, I fear she will give utterance to harsh & false surmises concerning we the triumphant party. There are some loyal Whigs immediately around me (my father-in-law among the number), who are ready in the repation(?) of their hearts to shoot every human within their reach. Some have fainted; others sought refuge in apoplexy; while alas! some few (among that delectable class of men called office seekers), will henceforth seek lodgings at the Insane Asylum. In the meanwhile we democrats, "loco-polkos" (call us what you will!) revel in the belief that our cause is established & that Whiggery "Coonery(?)" &c. has had their last struggle. Ere this reaches you, you will have heard of Polk's election by a large majority. You know that the vote in New York decided the question. The first news from there was favorable to the Whigs but the next brought consolation to our hearts. On Monday joy and hope pervaded their ranks, but in one short day - behold! how fallen! It is not necessary to tell you that my politics (how foolish that sounds) remain unchanged. I wish I could be neutral but I cannot. The two candidates could scarcely have been more excited for weeks past, than my humble self. Mr. Clay attended church last Sabbath - and tried to look composed, indifferent etc. but that expressive countenance would tell the tale. What does Cousin Eliza propose doing to save her country? But enough on this

Page 2

subject. Let Polk flourish and Clay return to his allotted place.

I am glad you wrote so much at length regarding Fanny, not only for my own sake but for the benefit of my little guest Maria. She has been with me since Sunday - until I read your letter aloud she was crazy to go to bed, but after hearing that Cousin O'Bannon was coming to see her, she could not sleep for an hour. She says "she loves F so much that she could put her in the fire." Among the innumerable messages she sends, is this: "that she'll be mighty glad to see Cousin Fanny, & she has a heap of play things up here in Aunt Manny's room, & that she has some pretty shells to give her." She is sitting here by me like an owl talking of Paducah folks at the rate of ten knots an hour. The other two children grow more interesting every day, especially the latter E (Eliza). She has teeth, walks & tries to talk & is moreover the greatest beauty you ever beheld. I spent the day at Ma's Sunday & there met with all the Ingels' family. The first thing Captain said, was "Unka Ebbin Bolk ekted" He wears leather boots that reach to his knees, & when he came stalking in the tell his piece of news we all roared out. He is the greatest oddity I ever saw. Elizabeth is happier than I have known her to be since her marriage & Boon appears to be well contented.

Pa is in such glorious spirits that he would be almost willing to give Cousin Kate the piano at all events.

The Hon. W. C. Wickliffe in his last paper informed the public that men who never opened their purses for aught else, have most liberally contributed to purchase powder "to sound in Mr. Clay's ears. Among the number a man, an extensive iron dealer, of whom he hoped to hear better things, had given a barrel of powder for the occasion." This is the first time I have heard Pa's generosity attacked, & I can assure you that it does by no means exalt my opinion of Whigs in general. He did not approve of their firing the cannons.

Page 3

Now that I am a complete country lady do not expect much city news. It detracts greatly from the interest of a letter to communicate no news or gossip. However I will give you all I can. K. Curd was married week before last to Charles Bodley, a promising young man engaged as clerk in a book store. They had a large wedding and the bride added to the interest of the scene by fainting. They will live at her mothers. I believe I told you that Kate Curd (alias Tilford) was living in elegant style & has become one of the most fashionable women in Lex. but she not with standing is strangely attired. She must weigh 200 lbs. Mrs. Pinchard too, is living in considerable splendour. What an unexpected match that was! I thought that Mrs. Eaton had firmly concluded to remain Mrs. Eaton. Dr. P. has pursued a very unpopular cause in writing against the Medical Faculty. I should imagine it would make her very unhappy to have his character so assailed in all the papers. Yet the __(blotted out by seal)

of words had been raged against him long before her marriage.----Nov. 23rd I spent the day in town yesterday: stole a march on the good people of Whitehall and returned a few of my bridal calls. Although a bride of six months standing, I have not gotten through with all my visits. I went to see your old friend Emily Hale & learned from the servant that she was very sick. She has an infant two weeks old. The Huggins, & Crows I must not fail to tell you of. Mary & Charles are still enjoying the sweets of country life, & have it seems declined, visiting their royal relations in the emerald isle. Sammy, you know is married to a Miss Mary McDowell of this country. She is a pretty looking girl fifteen or sixteen years of age. He has purchased a farm adjoining Charles, & so the Crows will live in sweet harmony together. Catherine, Thomas & Tilda should rear them a nest on the same sweet spot. Mrs. H. has been on her dignity with me ever since my marriage. Her only reason I assign for it is, that Evan would not be bored by Sammy whilst at college

Page 4

Top

with him. Before he left Kenyon nearly one half of the students had ceased to recognize him as an acquaintance. I wish him & his young wife all the happiness imaginable although the old lady looks so hard at me. It is utterly impossible for Evan & myself to accept your invitation to Paducah or to visit New Orleans. He is not as you suppose a gentleman of elegant leisure but an industrious person. He seldom goes to Lex. but on Sunday. I am thankful

Bottom

that he has no hankering after gay company especially young men's society. If he was to leave me to seek his own pleasure there would inevitably be discord in the camp. We have never spent an evening apart & hope never will. But you must come and see for yourself if he is not a perfect pattern, & also which makes the best housekeeper. I do think Aunt Saunders might send me some message now & then. Not a word have I heard from her for an age. But give my best love to her & tell her it makes me laugh, when I think how often she drove me home when I used to stop on my way from school. Kate used to take my part, & some nag

Side

or other to make my visit a pretty long one. I wonder if Cousin Eliza knows that that drawing room, that front room & sitting room one and all have new carpets on them & that the aforesaid drawing room has two new rugs in it — one by the fire place & another opposite to keep it from being lonesome &

to cover a kind of a flow on the hall carpet somewhere there abouts. We have another deer too that is in hourly danger of <u>breaking those pier tables</u>. What's to be done?

Across the top

"The following is private - I see by remarks in both your letters that you want to find out something about me, myself, my little body. Such delicate communications should not be trusted to a letter, yet to relieve your apprehension I will forego my scruples. My body is not out of repair nor is there room for improvement in my health. To my great joy I am following the example set by E. Ingels to her young friends after her marriage. All jesting aside I am grateful that it is so - tho I find it difficult to make any one believe me. Never fear but that I shall be able to do the honours of Richland at all times. I suppose you know what I refer to when I speak of E's example. If you do not understand me let me know & I'll be more explicit.

Across Bottom

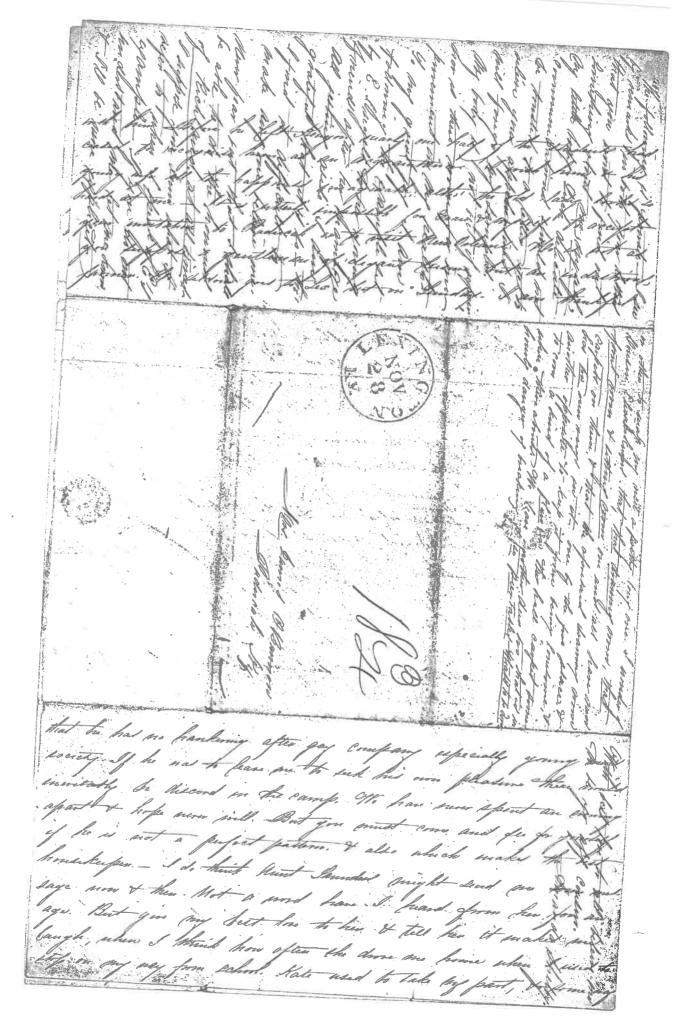
With best love to all believe me to be yr aff cousin

Amanda Shelby

Richland. Nov. 19. 1844. Ally Clean Condino. Your long looked for letter has just bein brand ed me , and in order that our correspondence may no no interruption on my fant I hasten to answer it. How lim ben forokingly long, and do not deleve duch a return for your negligenes. as for blown Clips. I sum uppet to hear from her again except through you, and that, pudge from the fast will be very , very beldown. More that chirithed hope of being Clay Predident, is former blastell, from the sail give petter ance to hard of falle formeder ing so the transferant party. Here are forme loyal silings incondictely armed one (by father-in-law samony the ones. bes), who are ready in the ougation of their hearts to when human sithing them reach. Some have fainted; others pring beforge in apoplopy; while, alad! tome few coming that delect att class of men called office lucked, will henceforth lack lodgeings at the Indane alylum. In the sneamwhile so democrats, "love folded." (call is what you willy must in the belof that me caule is established it that thinggery. "lovery" to have that their last through . On this sended you, you will have brand of Rolls election by a large majority Upon Som that The sole in flew yout divided the question . The there not farmable to the Whigh but the night time tolation to our hearts. On Menday joy and hope persadoa their Googs cands, but in on short way - behold! how fallow! It is not meddang to tell you that my political I how forlish that tounds) unain unahanged I wish I could be wentral, but I convert. The how randidated could travely have been them existed for weeks fact, have by humble feel -Mr. Play attended church last Sattato :- and trust to look comferded, indeffect to but that apprehing countenance mould tell the tale. What does where Elien propose doing to face her country? But wrough on this

dubject. Let Bolk floweds, and blog return to its allited place. I am golad you purt to much at langth regarding Frim not only for my non fate but for the benefit of one hind west Maria. The has been with an Lince In agel read your letter alnot the mad cray to go to bed, after praving that bondin OBAmore par coming to see Cher, the could not cleep for an hour, the ma toming plans to amude from The fay! "the loved It do much that the could fait the in the fire " among the immenable messaged the sends, is this :- that shill mighty glad to be flowing Francy, I the has a heaft of go of her in aut Manny prom, & that the has from forthy shells to give here the is fitting here by one like an ord talking of Padercal folks at the mate of ten Senote an hour. The offen the shildress gons mon instructions lung day, aspecially the tallerile, the has post, malked, of the talk It is morow the gratel brandy you four behild I spent the day at Mas Sunday I there the Ingels family. The first thing Captain laid, mad, "Menka Cobin Bolk ghted" The man beather both that reach to his my knew, I when he came stalking in to tell his fiece of new on all wared out. The is the greatest oddity I com san. Elizabeth is happier than I have known her to to line her manage of for appears to be will contented. Da is in fuch glowing spirits that tilling to give Cousin Hate the pians at all great. The Min. H. C. Wicklife in his last paper informed the public that men who more spend their finded for Aught the hade most liberally contributed to purchase forder to sound in Mr Clays card. among the pumber a gran , ar extensive non dealer , of whom he broked to hear fitter things, had give a land of pender for the occasion. This is the first time I have heard This generally attacked I I can where you that it does by me means upalt by fining This is general. The did not appore of their

Mon that I kin a complete country lady do not uppet much as the bride added for They will fire at her protant , - most fashionable promes The day in From yesterday : - that propulate in the o a fride of sine months standing, I mile in the generald side, Survey, you liver be man-Miss Many Mc Smill of this Expleen yours of age. He fras Charles, V to the Count will five for fles The for fine fig marriage. He only readen is, that Evan muld not to fined by Jaming while



NOTE: Susan Hart Shelby Carter gives an unflattering review of Elizabeth Shelby Kinkead and a disdainful view of Grayson County political leaders. **Dating 1844 11/24**

Postmarked: Grayson Ky.

12 ½ (cent?)

Nov. 25th

Addressed to: Mrs. Evan Shelby

Richland

(near) Lexington K

From: Susan Hart Shelby Carter

Wyoming Nov. 24, 1844

My dear Amanda

I am seated to indite an answer to your most agreeable and welcome letter by Isaac and you will have ascertained after reading it that my materials are few and meager which I hope may be an apology for my long delay. We enjoyed Ike's visit very much indeed although he bore it more like a martyr than we could have desired. The time flew swiftly by with me and the hour of parting came before I was ready. I can now enter into the feelings of those exiles who are driven to suicide in consequence of separation from family. I felt after he had gone as though I should be sorry to have another visit from my family least discontent should find its way into my happy home, than which a greater evil could not befall me. There are so few of my relations who have any disposition to come here that there is no danger of their being detained from it by this, otherwise I should not express the sentiment. We have been most anxious indeed to see Evan and yourself and painful as the leave taking must always be, shall look forward to your coming with the greatest gratification. We feel desirous to hear the result

Page 2

to hear whether Mary Crosby has accepted Lt. Henry. If so the young man will have provided well for himself in a pecuniary point of view, as Kinkead can testify. How utterly blind can a man become to the faults of his wife, else would K. long since have discovered that not with standing his cheap and comfortable quarters, he had made a bad bargain. Liz is deceitful, overbearing and entirely destitute of principle. I never can forget her treatment of her guileless and unoffending little sister to say nothing of her conduct

to other members of her family. All her aim in life has been to appear stylish and fashionable and she would spend hundreds on her own ungainly person while the women and children on her father's place were suffering for necessary clothing. As far as you are concerned I suppose she loved you as much as she is capable of loving any one but her dear self, but that all controlling passion would lead her to sacrifice the kindest friend on earth if she supposed she would be beautified by it. I often wondered that you could enjoy her society and certainly think you loose nothing by the non intercourse. I for one shall never darken her doors when we visit Fayette. The all absorbing topic politics has at length died a natural death and the Whigs play

Page 3

pallbearers, grave diggers and mourners etc. The leader of the Locos here an a singular set of men. The mouth piece of the party in the village is a little cabinet maker who got above his business turned merchant, failed, turned lawyer and politician and sued an old maid who scorned his addresses for assault and battery. She having kicked him out of her house. And the chief leader is a murderer and drunkard and a man utterly incapable of a gentlemanly feeling or action. The third most prominent personage is one whose name his own party should blush to mention, who has set at utter defiance all law human and Devine and is now standing trial for perjury, and but for his adherence to the party would merit the just penalty of the law. These men are the magistrates and rulers of our country. Their characters are not over drawn. Wont you come and live among us? What does Father say to Clay's defeat? I should like to hear from him.

Do you often go to see Mrs. Harrison? Do go whenever you are in town and remember me to her aff. There never was a finer better being on earth and I hope you will cultivate her acquaintance. And Mr. H. is so kind so hospitable and gentlemanly. I love to recall the many delightful

Top

days I have passed under their roof. So far from envy are they and that mean spirit of rivalry and ostentation, which shows itself so much in your fair city that I feel where with them as though they were beings of higher spheres. May the many blessings which new surround then continue them through life.

My best love to Father and the boys and believe me ever your aff. Sister

Susan S. Carter

Myomory 1100. 24. 1844 Oly dia Amanda. I am stated to tradite an inserver to your most agreable and lucteone liter by Isaac and you will have asculationed after reading it that my matrials are few and meager which I hope may be an apology for my long delay. The enjoyed this bisit menty them we could have disined. The time flew Drieftly by with me and the hour of parting came before I was ready. I Can how buter into the feelings of those failes who are diven to vincide in Consequence of deparation Geom finds. I fell-after he had gone as though I should be sorry to have another buil form my family least discontent should find its loay into my happy home, than which a gration will land not befall me. There are to few off melations who have any disposition to come him that there is no danger of their being deterned from it tutiment. The hour been most anxious indeed to see Evan and your self and painful as the leave laking minst always be, Shall look forward to your Coming with the qualit The ful disirous to hear the usult gratifications.

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY

to hear whithin Many losby has accepted It Henry If so the young will have provided well for himself in a pecuniary point of beier, as Kinked Can hitify. How alterey blind can a moun become to the fault of his hife, ele to sail & long Inc have discoursed that notwith standing his chiefe and comfortable quality, he had made a bad Ling is deceitful, som bearing and outily distillete of principle. I more Can forget his quileles and un offen ding Little Sister to lay holling of his Con duct to all his been of his family. All his aim is high his been to appear oby lish and far himstle and the would spind hundreds on her seven angein by person while the boomen and childres on her Falher place bour buffing for merpany clothing. It for as you are concerned I suppose The board you as much as the is lapable of looning any one but her dear self but that all controling profesion would had be to Sinded friend on earth if the Sapposed the would be bufitted by it. I often loandered that you lould luga locaty and centerinly think you loose tolling by the home intentiones. I for one Lacken her doors when her bist Tampette The all absorbing lopic politics has at longthdied a natural death and the Things, play

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY Hall beaus grave diggers, mounts be. The haden of the Locar him an an Ingular let of min. The mouth piece of the party in the village is a little cabint maken to for got obour his business tuned muchant, Sail the stange and politicia dued an old maid who leaved his adelipes for assault and battery, the having hicked him and of her house. And the chief lude is a sunder a dunk and and a ma The this much promised for some is no one with man his ale from the for Sonage is one whom who has at at with defiamen all law huma and diame and is now slanding him for Juguing, and but for his authorium to 1/2 would mich the first finally of law. Three mm and the boundrawn hone you con your come and 2012 That does Father Say to Clay's defeat? I should like to teen Do your offen go to En In. Hanison? Do from him go whenever you are in there and umember to he aff. Then have was a form ticing on earth and I hope you will - acquaintence. And Mr. ind so hosfulable mer gentlemente mente gentlemente to neach the mente of delightfu

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY

NOTE: With Susan Hart Shelby Carter's letter I have included David Irvine Field's calling card here, as he appears in this letter telling of Liz Kinkead's two beaus. Also discipling slave is told. Dating 1844 12/20

Postmarked: Grayson Ky. 12 ½ (cents?)

Dec 23 1844

Addressed to: Mrs. Amanda Shelby

Lexington

From: Susan Hart Shelby Carter

Wyoming Dec. 20, 1844 Will my dear Amanda accept my thanks for her delightful letter by the last mail? I intended answering it by return of post but was prevented from so doing by a visit from Mrs. Crawford, who by the way is not the Mrs. McKee of Grayson as you supposed, but the niece of that lady and altogether a different character. She is very far indeed from being an accomplished or agreeable person, but approximates then to rather more than other women in the village and I see her more frequently in consequence. She knows many of my acquaintances and we therefore have more to talk of than the rest. I sometimes think I never will go to visit any of them again after listening for a while to their conversation, but when I grow weary of sewing and reading and waiting for the Col. to come I run over to see them as a du nir resort. I very much fear that seeing little other society than they I shall in consequence become as contracted as they in my feelings and views. Sometimes we have a godsend in the shape of an agreeable visitor and we make the most of him as you may suppose. This reminds me that Mrs. Kinkead's old beau Cable paid us a call a short time ago. I was sitting at work in my room when he walked in, as though he had

Page 2

been spirited from Chestnut Street or Broadway, dressed in the height of the mode. He passed the evening and night and told us (as an profound secret of course) his whole affair with Mrs. K. If he does not grossly misrepresent the matter she did the whole of the courting even to writing the first letter. He seemed much amazed when I told him that she was engaged to Field at the same time and said that previous to hearing this he had regretted much that she had not married him but that now he thought he had made a most fortunate escape. I scarcely ever heard of a woman so completely compromising herself as she did, and should have set down as false all Cable said, had I not known her to be

In region of

destitute of delicacy and refinement.

We have just had a row with Susana whose insolence became insupportable and her Master was compelled to chastise her. She is the first of the Richland servants he has punished and I hoped he never would be compelled to do so, but she always was the most insolent wretch living as the family well know. She told her Master that Father never had whipped as he had and he replied that if she ever gave him cause again, he should make her think the one just administered childsplay. I do not know what effect it will produce, whether

Page 3

she will abscond or be subdued or require farther chastisement. In any event I must endeavor to make them feel that his authority is supreme or we had as well own no slaves. Her two children who were in town are perfectly worthless and the boy the most complete devil I ever saw on earth. One word to either of them from us seems to rouse her tiger nature and the most perfect saint would be compelled to notice her. If she would take herself out of the state I rejoice to get rid of her, but should dislike to sell her from her husband and children.

Will you send me by the next mail the little of the literary newspaper which you take at 25cts. pr. an. We must study cheap literature until our revenue increases and then we hope to have a well filled out library among other luxuries. How delightful this illusion. Hope, how cheering to our hearts. I suppose there scarcely lives a mortal who does not look forward to the bettering of his condition, be it what it may. Indeed I much doubt if there would be much enjoyment without something left to be hoped for. It seem to be the strongest principle in our nature and characteristic of all things earthly that change cannot satisfy the cravings of our hearts. Do not understand me that I am discontented. Far from it. Although I look forward with some please to

Page 4

Top

the time when we shall command the means of more employment, yet it does not prevent my feeling a grateful sense of all the blessings which surround me, and as large a position of contentment as falls to the lot of most women. Indeed should I be so ordered that we should always continue as we are I shall never feel or express dissatisfaction for well do I know that my lot is more fortunate than that of many who are better and more deserving than I am. It is one of my chief studies to be content and to enhance as far as in me lies the enjoyment of those around me. In so doing I advance my own happiness and perform what is the duty of any living creature, endowed with the faculty of reason. But I am getting prosy and for fear of wearing you will bid you good

Bottom:

night – write kindest – love for all the dwellers at Richland. Yr. Aff. Sister

Susan

Side:

If news be had from your house Evan will be as much teased shortly by his acquaintances as the Col. has been. I hope he may have it a little better. Mrs. Crawford is always poking for little fat as possibility into my face and asking how the children ___ at home. (word blocked by sealing wax)

Across side of this: Tell Ellen I will write shortly.

Note: included D. Irvine Field's calling card

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, Myoning Dec. 20. 1844 Will my dias Amonda accept my thanks for him delightful letter by the last mail: Intended morning it by return of post but was prevented from to doing by a sint from Mrs. Carofra, who by the way is not the Mrs. Me. See of Grayeon as you supposed, but the mice of that les and attaple a defrent character. The is por son, but approximate, that asker more than Injunity in consequence. She knows many of my acquaintances and an thinform have more to talk of than the not. I sometimes think I more will go Breit any of them again after listing for a while to Shin Commelation but when I grow want of serving and waiting for the Col. At come I man on to se them as a durin west. I my much fear that being tittle offen Society hem they I shall felings and view. Sometimes has have a goddend in the Shape of am agreable visitor and he make The most of him as you may suppose. This minds Call a Short time ago. I was sitting at work in my room when he walked in, as though he had

been Spirited from Christant Start on Broadway. depend in the hight-of the mode. He propries the wing and might and told in (as an profond heart of cames) his whole affair with mo. R. If he does not proply missipes with him matty The did the whole of the counting sine to with the first letter He land much amazid when i lold him that Ih was injugate to Ficher at the he had nighted much that the had not main him but that have her thought his had mid a most fortunate uscape. I leavely we had of a warmen So completely compromising Luif as The did, and thered have set down is false all Cable aid, had I not known her to be The hour just had a low with Turana whoe hisolines be cam in supportable and Mustin was completed to charles her She is the firstof the Richland devents he has fruited and I haped he more would be compilled to do So, but the always was the most most water water living as the flimity wall know. She told her master that Fulter man had whiffed as he had and he applied that if the war gun him cause again, he thousa make her think the am just administers chiloplay. I do not know what effect it will produce, whether

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY She will abscord on he Sub dued on agine for the chartismal. In any west I must endered to make them feel that his on thority is dupreme a had as well own to Slaves. Her two Children who we in town an furficely worthly and the bay the most complete duck I wen law on earth. One was to colle of them from no lums to some his type water and the most hipet Saint wanter be compiled to notice her. She would like houlf and of the State of reporte get ind of him, but should distibut to sale her from husband and children. Till you and me by the most mail the title - literary morepaper which you take al-25 ch for an. The mist study chap Situative intitle au nomine incluses then her hope to have a will filled libra Fof-, how thing to am healt I suffere of Acaraly him a mortal who does not look formed to the telling of the condition buil- what it is of this condition, be it what it may Indied I much doubt-if the would be much injoy much without Something left to be hoped for. It seems to be the shongest principle in our nature and character. iste of all things early that they cannot Salisfy the crain p of am mate. hints. Do not lunder Stand me that I am distantiated. Far from it. allhough I look forward with some bleasure to

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY - when he Shall Command the means **NOTE:** Susan Hart Shelby Carter's next letter she writes of her struggles with Christianity. Her brother James(Jim) is at Richland. **Dating 1845 1/13**

Postmarked: Grayson Ky. 12 ½ (cents?) Jan 20th 1845

Addressed to Mrs. Amanda Shelby

Richland (near) Lexington

From: Susan Hart Shelby Carter

Wyoming **Jany 13, 1845**

My dear Amanda

Rather than forfeit the pleasure of receiving your delightful letters I shall again inflict upon you one of my ineffably stupid ones. We have had what the villagers esteem a merry Christmas, that is Mrs. Carter gave a ball, Mrs. Crawford another and two giving men who pretend to be lawyers a third. Mrs. Crawford has one room and a loft to her house, so cleaned out a law office where the dancing went on and her supper was set in her chamber which answers all the purposes of dining room, parlor &c &c. She came out of breath the morning of the party to ask me to make her pastry, and said she had been up three hours before day making preparations. I made the puddings &c. and when they were done went over with Charlotte Ann who took them home. I found her mother in their little smoky kitchen, baking cake & such cake you never saw, the breakfast table in the floor. Jany 20. Thus far had written my dear Amanda when the lady who was the subject of gossip made her appearance with her little responsibility in her arms and put a stop to my letter which was to have gone by last Monday's mail. We have to day heard of Frank Combs' death and also of our young friend Thomas Hood,

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who has lived with us ever since I came to Carter and I will forbear any further gossip. Hood left here in Nov. for the South. He had been devoted to his books for several months and I frequently told him he was taxing his strength beyond what he could bear and that the attainments of Coke himself could never compensate for the sacrifices; he was ambitious however and his life is the cost. Poor fellow! He was little prepared for that unknown country to which he has gone, unless he underwent a great change when death came on.

I suppose Frank was if possible a little ready as he and they are two of the many instances of the young tho, thoughtless and hopeful being suddenly called to render an account for the deeds done in the body. And yet these warnings have no effect for we all hope that we shall live to a green old age and have time to make preparation for eternity when the things of time shall no longer afford us pleasure; that is if we reflect at all which I think is not the case with many. For myself I have little excuse to offer save that of having imbibed in early life some doubts which in mature years have still lingered round me. The subject of deep interest to me and I have sought in vain to make up my mind with regard to it. Could I say with sincerity and truth that I believe the Christian religion I should hold myself most guilty in not acting up to its principles, but I have formed such conceptions

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of Deity as an incompatible with its doctrines. How could a being omniscient and merciful create mortals for punishment? We must divest him of mercy or fore knowledge if we believe it. To say that his designs were frustrated sounds like blasphemy because fore knowing as he did anything that would occur of course he could have made man incapable of serving. He fore knew that Adam would fall and had he not designed it thus could have had it otherwise and as Adam's transgressions caused all his descendants to be sinners I cannot see why we should be answerable, for it seems to have been the plan from the beginning. The Divine origin of Christ is another subject far far beyond my humble capacity to comprehend and the Trinity still more difficult. I shall not however weary you with these my doubts I have listened to the discussion of those subjects by the most learned and able Divines of almost every sect and either from my own stupidity or the inexplicability of them have never been in the slightest degree satisfied. I suppose I shall go on in this unsettled state until Death stares me in the face and then make a hurried preparation. But oh! should my waning be too short, should the King of Terrors hurry me away before even that could be done, who will answer for my doom? If I have sinned in not believing I have sinned ignorantly

Page 4

Top

and shall be punished for ignorance any more than the heathen?

This is a conclusion which the beginning would not have warranted you to expect and you are no doubt tired enough. When shall we hear from you? I wrote Father New Year's day and found the letter the other day at Crawford's house in staid of its being sent to the office. I shall write him shortly and Isaac too. Remember me to them as also James and Evan, with the kindest affection and for your self my dear sister accept the best wishes of

Yr. S. S. Carter

Bottom

P.S. The Col. had a letter from Fayette of Jany 1 requesting information for some men who wished to purchase his salt works but I suppose he was frightened by the prices which he asked, being \$15,000. I suppose he had heard that the sum was only \$5,000.

From Jim Birchfield:

1845 //3 Lexia She speaks of the home of Gen. Leslie Combs, called Babel, which stood at the site of the later Lafayette Hotel. It was a cubic house, I suppose Greek Revival, and it interests me that she saw it as an architectural benchmark. Gen. Combs was president of the railroad, so I would guess that he and Joseph Bruen might have been on good terms.

Franklin Combs was the son of General Leslie Combs, one of the most prominent men of the early nineteenth century, having served with distinction in the War of 1812 and the Indian Wars. The Observer and Reporter, published in Lexington, on January 15, 1845 says the ill feeling between O'Blennis and Combs originated over a piece of land lying between their Louisiana plantations, which O'Blennis desired and which Combs purchased. O'Blennis in revenge had committed repeated depredations upon Combs' property, for which Combs was suing him at the time of his death. It (the newspaper) prints the following letter from Judge J.W. Black, headed Point Coupee, La., January 1, 1845:

Gen. Leslie Combs:

It is with sincere pain that I have to inform you of the death of your son, Frank Combs. He was killed by a Mr. O'Blennis on yesterday and the only person present was a young man by the name of Johnston. His statement is that he and Mr. Combs were riding home, having been below. O'Blennis came riding past them at full speed, after they had passed O'Blennis house. After passing them some 20 yards, O'Blennis jumped from his horse, having a double barrel shotgun in his hand, and immediately fired both barrels. Frank Combs fell dead. O'Blennis absconded immediately.

The Observer and Reporter for Wednesday, January 22, publishes an account of George O'Blennis' attempt to bribe the watchman to free him. He was at the time confined in the Baronne Street Prison in New Orleans. The same paper for Wednesday, February 26 describes the burial of Franklin Combs, which took place on the 22nd of the month. It was a military funeral. A charge of artillery was fired over the grave, the Lexington Artillery under Capt. W.B. Bradford and the Lexington Light Infantry under Capt. J. Happy attending.

Combs, Franklin b. Nov. 17, 1824 d. Dec. 30, 1844 Old Episcopal Third Stree... Lexington **Fayette County** Kentucky, USA

Combs, Margaret

Old Episcopal Third Stree...

b 1790 d 1844

Lex Fay Cody

solly aim commaa Author them for feit the pleasure of running your delightful letter I that again inflict Apon you on of my huffably shiped mes The have had what the villagers when a mong Christman that in- Mrs. Cartie gave a ball, Mrs. Crawford and the land theo going min who pritind to be lawyers a third. This Craw ford has on loom und a loft to his house, so Cleared out a law office where the dimeing went on and her cupper was let in his chamber which inswers tale the purposes of dinning room, parlow to be The lame and of breath the morning of the party to ast me to make her party and said the had been lip three hours before day making propler abour I made Im puddings de. and when they here done went som with Charlottet chim who had them home. I found her mother in their title Imoby totale, balong cake I but to cake you mon law. The brate fact table in the floor, filling 20. Then for had within my dear amonder when he lady who was the Subjectof goesif made her appear and with him little un por dibility in her aims and put a stop to my tithe which was to have gone by last mondays mail. The have to day heard of Hank Combo death and also of our young fand Thomas Hoods

Who has lived with is was sman I lame to Cartin and I will ferteen my further goesip. Hood left her he nov. for the South. It had been divoled to his books for Thomas months and I frequently total him he was taxing his Stringth beyond what he lould been and that the attainments of Coke himself lould now Compan sale for the sacrefice; he was limbilions towner and his life in the cost. Over fellow! He was tette for pand for that Interior Country to which he has gone, inlip In man went a great change when walk come on. I suppose Frank was if possible as tittle rady as he and they are two of the many instences of the going The , thought top and he peful being Ludden by Called to under an account for the dude done in the body. that we shall him to a green old age and have time to make preparation for durity when the things of time shall no longer afford as pleaser; that is if we reflict at all which I think is not the lase with many For myself I have tittle lacuse to offer Sure Mal of. having bubibed in early life some doubter which in mature years have still lagued wand me. The Subject of a preparation for the wald to tome has bun one of deep tutuet to me and I have sought he bame to make up my mind he Mr regard to it. Could I say with In critiq and froll that I believed the Christian aligion I Should hold my self most guilty in not acting who to its preciples, but I have formed in the bonceptions

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY of Deily as an in com patil ble with the doctrine; How could a being om misceinte and muciful and mortal for prince homest ? The must divist him of miney for knowledge if we believe it. So Lay that his diseyes were four tracked wounds like blue plans for company in his like my king which onto sain of course he and have made m would fall and had he hat their good to the could have had it other wise and is Williams Caused all his de cen d'anto to be drivers d'umol-See why we chould be answerable, for de Leurs to have been the plan from the beginning The Some organ of Christ is and the Sulye ch for far byond my himble tapacity to lompe hand. not have with more difficult. I shall not have listened to the discussion of the suly by the most learned and able Divines of charact my best and either from my own the fieldly or the museple ca billity of them have how been in the stighted degree tatisfied. Inproce I Thall go on in this in attles state with Death oteres me me the face and them make a humis

Steven me me the face and then make a humid for paration. But oh! Should mig waring he too should, the Ling of Lever huming me were before were that could be done, who will answer that could be done, who will answer for my doom! If I have simed in not believing I have simed ignor andly

and Shall be punched for gives

NOTE: Of most importance, Susan Hart Shelby Carter names before her birth, Mary Pindell (after her mother). Also mentioned is Betty Johnson who would be Bettie Johnson Adams. She was one of Amanda's bridesmaids and married David T. Adams in October of 1844. She went on to have three children but meet with an unexpected death in November of 1850. There was a Duck River Steam Navigation Company; Ninon de Lenclos was a 17th-century aristocrat and Parisian belle famous for her wit and beauty. Someone practiced writing Evan's name, as it is unlike Amanda's fine hand. Dating 1845 3/3

Postmarked Grayson Ky.

Double 25 (cents?)

March 3rd 1845

Not so (written in different pen)

Addressed to: Mrs. Amanda Shelby

Richland (near)

Lexington K.

Note: Private and confidential written above her name

From: Susan Hart Shelby Carter (She names Mary Pindell!)

Wyoming March 5, 1845

My dear Amanda

Another letter from your charming person has just reached me. Also one from Father at Cin. and one from Evan. I shall not repeat the expression of my thanks for you and this kind remembrance of me. After procrastinating an answer to Isaac's letter until I should feel more free from my old affection of the head, I wrote by last weeks mail a foolscap sheet as full as it could hold, and why he did not receive it, is more than I can imagine unless the Postmaster detained it on account of being mad with the Col. He is a low creature and capable of almost any means of meanness. In relation to his (Ike's) affair with Miss Baker I feel most anxious for its consummation, persuaded as I am that his happiness depends upon his union with such a woman as she is represented to be. I see no obstacle if she be willing. Tutors, guardians, &c. cannot control her actions unless her Father will give them power. I never had a hand in making any match but my own, but really I should if I were in the white settlement be strongly tempted to aid the matter if I thought I could – not that I desire her fortune in the family, for it is far from being an indispensable ingredient in happiness, but Isaac has reached an age when every man should be married who intends to be, and I should be so delighted to see him settled. But as time will have to develop these things we must await his tardy footsteps. I am sorry to hear that Mary Combs is not to be married to Tom Redd. I was gratified when I heard that she had made so prudent a choice. He has, it is true, but little interest about him, but I know that he was one of the best husbands who ever lived, and believe that he would make any reasonable woman happy. The

girls would be most destitute should their Father die, before they are provided for, and Mary's house would afford them a home if she married as good a man as he is.

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I regret to learn that Betty Johnson is unhappily situated. She pleased me more than any of the young girls in Lex. if I except yourself. If the countenance and manners are any index of the character she surely was a lovely woman. I had hoped that Mrs. Kinkead had given out the idea of making Cosby marry her husband's brother. If she has set her heart upon it, it will have to be, for ever since her Father told her that she was "born to command", she has played the tyrant as completely as he about whom the same observation has been so often made. Do you think Cosby has more independence than formerly – I hope she has.

I had two hearty laughs at different parts of your letter. In the first place the secret which you promise if I will answer you soon and in the next Father and Cooney carrying on like a boy and a girl of 15 and 20. I think the Genl's fame will go down to posterity like Ninon of Parisian memory. And the old thing really complained that he would not look at her in church did she? Now that the matter is settled and there is no probability of its ever being a match, and now too that I feel that Father has the best of the bargain, I can laugh about it. Heretofore I have been too mad with her whenever I thought about it but now I feel that I and mine have triumphed over her completely and if there is any feeling beside contempt it is one of compassion for her weakness and vanity. This the Genl. must not see. I have guessed your secret and congratulate you most cordially. The Col. says he did hope you would keep me in countenance, but like the rest of the women you will leave me in the rear. I shall commence as soon as I get materials to prepare for so desirable an event, and shall forward the results as soon as possible. For myself I see no prospect nor have I even thought there was any, of our old age being charmed by the bright smiles and merry voices of children, but I do not allow myself to repine at this as many woman do, for I feel that there are so many blessings around

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us that I should be most ungrateful to dwell only upon those which are denied us. I have never doubted that good and obedient children were a source of the greatest pleasure to their parents, but how many father's and mother's hearts are made to ache by

those who are thankless? Driving the matter in this way and never allowing myself to grieve about it I am much happier than those are generally who have the same cause for regret. No doubt you feel as most young married folks do that you will be supremely blest should you have children and I pray that they may prove a blessing to you. I shall be delighted when I visit Richland to see a fair son or daughter and hear you called Mama. I am as fond of children as any one in the world and often go to our neighbor Crawford's for nothing else but to play with her sweet, fat good natured baby, never feeling the slightest envy that I have none of my own. How much dearer to me will be the child of my brother, whom I have nursed and fondled when a child himself. If a son you may name him, if a daughter I claim the privilege. Our dear Mother has had no granddaughter named for her unless Richard's last child was, which I do not remember, and I shall never hear of any other name but Mary Pindell Shelby. If our Mother were living and you had lost yours I should insist upon giving her name, but under the circumstances I know you will agree with me, at any rate I shall never call your first daughter any thing else. You asked why I never talk of going to see you all this summer. I have fixed no time and do not know that I shall go at all, but should it be in my power to do so, rest assured that you will see our fat faces without doubt. If Ike is married nothing will hold me here.

Have you commenced your garden yet? My peas

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have sprouted a week ago and would have been up if the weather had been a little warmer. I have cabbage lettuce and radishes quite large. The first stroke of the spade in my garden set all the village women to bustling about theirs. The village over looks us and they generally know every thing that happens in our family by observation and by questioning the servants. Fielding was married the other night to one of Ward's women and caused as much excitement as if some white person had been. Like Chris he has a wife with half a dozen children and some years older than himself.

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Remember me aff. to all our friends. I should be most happy to see them. Tell M. Harrison I shall write her soon. How often I think of her, Mr. H and their sweet family and wish I were there. Tell Mr. H. if times get much harder I shall depend upon him and you the only Sokys in the family to get us an office from the Duck river automatons(?).

I will write Father next week. Kiss Evan for me, remember me to Isaac & James and rest-assured of the unceasing affection of your sister S. S. C.

- March 2.1845 Another letter from your chaming per has just suched me. also in from talter at Cin. and our from Evan. I Shall not aprat the expression of my thanks for your and thin kind amount of m. after morastina ling in answer to Isaacs tetter untill I should feel mor free from my old affection of the head, I wrote by last weeks much a foolscap that as full as it tould hold, and why he did not accive it, is more than I can imagine bully the Post muster delained it in account of being made with the Col. the is a low cuation and capable of almost any museus of meamp. In atation to his (Skis) affair with Mip Baken I fort most linaion for its tom timation, her suaded as I am that his happings apon to mion with such a woman as the is represented to be I Su no obstacle if The be welling. Quelow, quandiano, te. camob land her actions melip her Juthers will give them power. I man had a hund in making any match but my own , but welly I should if I were in while title ment be Thoughy tempted to aid the matter if I thought I could - not that I dising her fortime in the family, for it is fan from being an medis pen sable In happing, but I saine has wached an agent hem long men Should be murried lots intends to be, and I show her so detighted to See him tittled. But as Firm will have to de scrope these thrings has much await his truly footships. I lim lorry to hear that Many Combo is not to be married to Jon Redd. I was patified when I heard that The had made to freedent a choice. He has, it is how but title Interest about him, but I know that he has me . of the best his bands who toom lived, and believe that he would make any useonable woman happy. The girls bould be most distitle Thould thin Julher die, befor they are provided for, and Many's house localed afford Them a home if I'm married as good a man as his is.

I agnet to him that Bettie Tolmon is unhappily tribials The placed me mon them any of the journeygile in the. if I wearful yourself. If the counterwance and man and any inches to the character Show sending was a lovely homan. I had hoped that Mrs. Kin head had give out the idea of making Costy many her his bands brother If the has let her heart whom it it will have to be, for low since him Jabber told him that The was "bown to lommander, then has planted the typent as Completty as her about tolom the Jame observation has been to often made. Do you think Costry has mon independence than for muly I hope the has. I had two hearty linghes at diferent parts of your letting In the first place the secut which you promise if I will answer you soon and in the mut Father and Coming carrying on like a boy and girl of 15 to 50 to. I think the Sent inflorence to postainty like ninon of Parisian morning. And the old thing nally conflamed that he would not look at his in the chi did she? Now that the matter is telled and there is no probability of the low being a match, and how too that I feel that Julie has the best of the benjaming I cam laugh about it - Her tofour I have been too made Sand mine have trimphed over her complety and if there is timy feeling beside continpt it is one of compassion for him weakings and vanily. This the find Bout not be I have genford your feart and congratulate your most Condially. The Cot. Jago he did hope you would kap - in countenance, but like the net of the womes the war. I Shall lommen Coon as I get materials to prepare for to disnable and lout, and Shall forward the acutto to doon as possible For myself I se as profeet nor have I won thought there was any, of our old ager being chered by the iles and merry views of children, but I at this as many womes do not allow myself to afin then are is many blefings brown

is that I should be most imprable to dwell only upon those which an deried us. I have him doubled that good and obdient Children been many fathis and anothers hearts are made to ach be thanklip? Bivin of the martin in cause for right. no doubt you manies folks do that you will be have Children and I I to you. I Stall be delighte - I went Ruchland to Sem a fair Son hear gon Called On y one in the fond of Children as an often go to our an flow Cranford's for within Use but to play with her sweet feet good 2at - feeling the Slightest en y sum. How much dearen to m but the children of my brother, whom I ha and findled when a child himself. If a son if a daughter - I claim provilege. Our dear mother has had no grim de her mulip Richerto last chied was. which I do not cemember of any other - name but Many Pindell Shelly. y and you ha If am mother I should mich afor giving her name, I know you to in any rate & Chale now Call your first-day - luch of any thing class you take why I more In your all this do not know that I shall go at all, be it-her in my power to do So, not assend the will can our fat faces without doubt. If I marind nothing will hold me here. - Commend Join gen dem get ! My

relby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY have sprouled a week ago and would have being up at if the weather had been a little warm I have calebay titlice and radishes quite lange The fiel - Stocken of the Shade in my garden sit all the village bomen to bustlin about this. The velley con looks is and the generally know fung thing that happens in and family by observation and by guestoning the Levants. Fulding was marind the other night to one of hands women and Coursed as much existements as if some while person had been. Tike Chris he has a wife with half a cloque children and some years older him himself. **NOTE**: Lots of crisscross writing. Little Douglas is Sutherland Douglas Smith, born 8/11/1842. He lived until April of 1915 and is buried by his father, Bishop B. B. Smith. He was joined by a brother in 1846, Benjamin Bosworth Smith who was called "Bossy/Bossie" who is also buried by his father. He died at the age of 17 on Jan 6, 1863. I wonder if near death illness mentioned here, when he was 3-1/2 years old affected him? While he lived to be 75 – can find no record of what he did and he is buried alone by father... Note at end of letter: Received April 1st 1845. **Dating 1845 3/25**

Postmarked Louisville KY Mar. 30 10 (cents?)

Addressed to: Evan Shelby, Esq.
For Mrs. A. Shelby
Lexington
Kentucky

From: Lizzie Smith

Kalorama March 25th (1845)

This is the first time for more than two weeks my dear Amanda that I have had either time or inclination to answer your welcome letter received the first of this month. During this time we have been watching with most painful anxiety around what all considered the dving bed of dear little Douglas. Just a week ago last night we were all aroused from sleep to see the little sufferer expire. but God has graciously spared him in answer to our many prayers and now he is recovering quite as rapidly as we could expect. It seems now as if I had just awakened from an anxious dream to the perception of living & moving objects around me and I to the consciousness that I am almost worn out with watching and anxiety – so if my letter is even more dull and uninteresting than usual impute the fault rather to my aching head than to my ever faithful heart.

I do not know of anything that would so entirely satisfy my heart as a visit to your own dear self in your new home. I can imagine the delightful hours of pleasant 'talk' we might enjoy together – the recalling of the past – the living together, the present with glimpses of the untried future, but I do not dare indulge myself often in building these airy castles for their foundations are indeed unstable and I can not by any means promise their realization – However I do not give up the hope that one of these days (that comprehensive

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phrase) I may accomplish the deserved object. Father does not go up in May. I think, he will have then just returned from his southern visitation which has been **delayed some** weeks by **Douglas' illness**. We have just bid him good-bye this morning for an absence of four weeks. Sam is with

us now for a short time. I shall read him some parts of your letters as he always remembers you with much interest and was delighted that I had heard from you once more. He is growing more of a man every week, in feeling more than statue and is desirous to go East for his last year in College. Shelby College is now doing better than it ever has, but still it is but in its infancy and destitute of such of those literary attractions which time alone can give such institutions. I scarcely think it possible that he will gain Father's consent as the College is now his hobby and he could not very well recommend it to others if his own son were educated elsewhere. I cannot realize that Joe has attained the age and statue of a man. He is busy I suppose at the Foundry. Oh, how well I remember that street, the bridge and the White House on the hill! I wonder if the picture will ever be less vivid than it now is?

How have you enjoyed this Lenten season? I hope you have been more within its influence than we have. Although there have been services every morning & evening in the two churches during Passion week we were unable to attend even on Good Friday. It has however been a season of much interest and profit in Louisville immediately following (as it has done) the confirmations – The two churches are desirably suited with pastors, each exactly fitted for his respective sphere.

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(Amanda how can I write with all this jabbering & laughing around me?) Mr. Gallagher – our pastor has already gained the hearts of his people and seems just the man to fill the void left by our beloved Mr. Jackson. He is a much younger man and perhaps not quite such a popular preacher, but he grows upon one and you can never hear him with out profit to yourself. His wife is a sweet little woman with most engaging manners and interesting appearance. She is as actively engaged in the parish as the care of two young children will allow her to be – less course we could not look for a second Mrs. Jackson. I believe there is not another such in the whole world, but we are quite satisfied & delighted. Mother received a letter from Mrs. J. a week or two ago. She speaks of a visit to England to remain a year or two with her brother in law there. I hope she may go. I think it would be both pleasant & beneficial to her. Her heart is still and ever will be in Louisville amid the scenes of her husband's labours & death.

How I wish your people would wake up to see the necessity of a new church in dear old Lexington. I heartily desire that the organ, if they procure one, may prove too large or too handsome for the old – well remembered building – per-

haps it may break down the gallery, without doing any one any damage $-\underline{so}$ be \underline{it} – Do you still occupy your Mother's pew? Do you remember seeing a Mr. Townsend some month or two ago – he was begging for the church in Bowling Green? He spoke of you with much admiration. I think he saw you in town. How I almost loved him for his taste & discriminations!

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Wm. Cornwall attends Christ church and is superintendent of their Sunday school, thus we see little of him and he seems to be doing much good and will be pleased with L(ouisville?). Mary has never been out to see us but once. I hope when the weather is more inviting we may see more of her & she spoke of an expected visit from Ann Lacy Harper in the spring. How does Mrs. Eaton manage all those children? I do not envy her. I'm sure. Louisa is over every day and her health is now better. She has just received a visit from Sue, a days visit only but enough to allow us all a glimpse of her and her sweet babe. She was looking quite as young and pretty as when a school girl with

Bottom

the same affectionate disposition and sunny temper. She inquired after you and was delighted to hear of your 'enilfase'(?). She is anxious we should pay her a visit in May which I should live to do next to seeing you. I don't agree with you at all in your idea that the married people are too settle down so entirely and quietly. If a husband cannot be left for a week or two for the sake of our older friends defend me from the encumbrance! How I should like to see you in your new character of 'submissive wife'! I am eligibly acquainted with

Side: middle and right

the manners of whom you spoke. One of the daughters was with us for a time & grace naturall stupid gen'l – Her the oldest sister is a dashing hoyden - says and does pretty much what she chooses, but never the less is admired by some. I don't know anything of the male part of the family – therefore cannot judge how Missy(?) is doing. What kind of a

girl is she? The girls in Louisville are marrying off very fast. Many of our dear scholars having become wives this last winter — Ellen Gwathmey is still single — and seems likely to be.

She talks too much and too much at random. She is now absent - The Ward's are the belles 'par excellence' of L(ouisville) They are really beautiful girls – but their manners are quite shocking to those who have the old fashioned ideas of female propriety. I saw them at Ole Bull's concert walk to the upper cut of the

Left side

room and literally stare up a bench full of gentlemen to afford them a seat. I laughed very heartily at one of my acquaintances who most deliberatly returned the stare and kept his seat.

Sally is anxious of making good the place of Miss Conrad who is now 'hors du comstat'(?) being married and in miserable health –

Mary Payne one of her scholars has recently married a brother of your guard one named Frank Johnson. He is a handsome fellow. I wish L. Johnson much joy of her rich husband and five children. How can one so young bow to "filthy lucre(?)" as she is doing?

Across first page:

I begin to think my idea of love & marriage are quite the old fashioned for the present day. One of these days I may find out that I must do as other people do (come of theirs I mean) marry for an establishment or rather a home.

I have been glancing back per the scrawl and am really and truly ashamed to send it to you who are always so exemplary in yours, the neatness and lady-likeness of your epistles

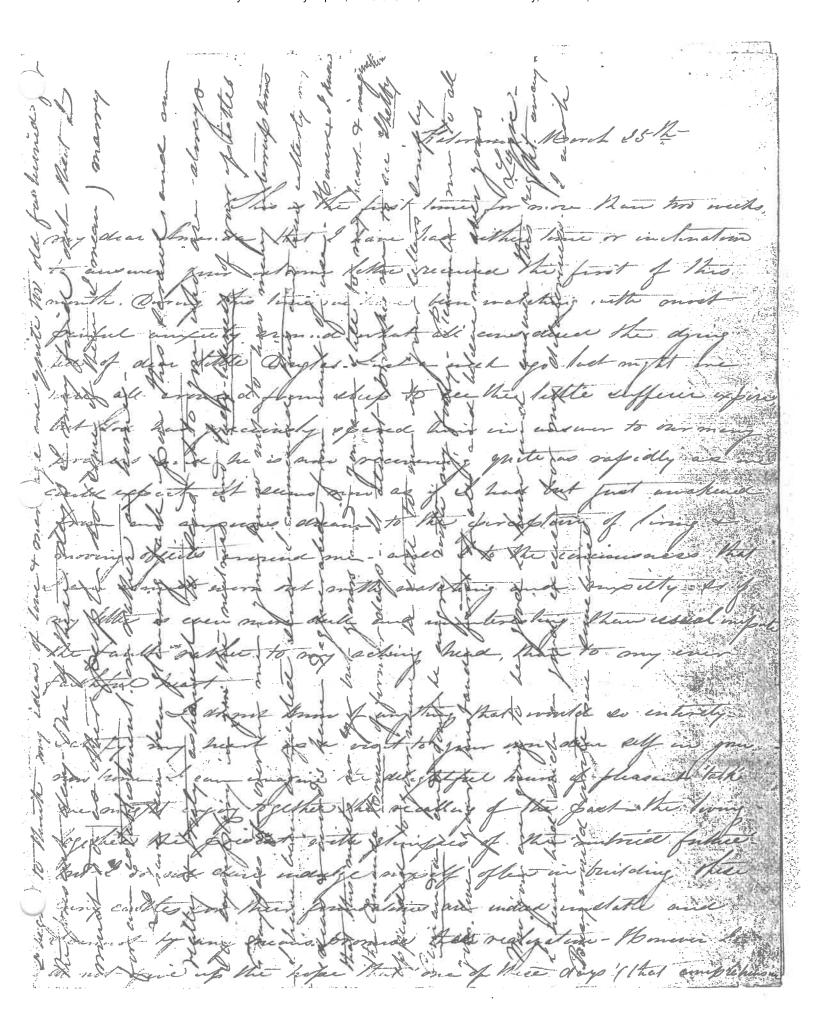
Pray pass it over in me — you know not to how many interruptions

I have been subjected since I commenced this and how utterly my ideas and words have degenerated from want of use. However, I know that this meets with no eyes but yours and you are still to my heart & imagination the Amanda Bruen of former days. It almost provokes me to see Shelby appended to your name, be still to me in your letters simply

Amanda, and don't be angry with my folly — Remember me, to all give love — your husband first of all and believe me ever yours

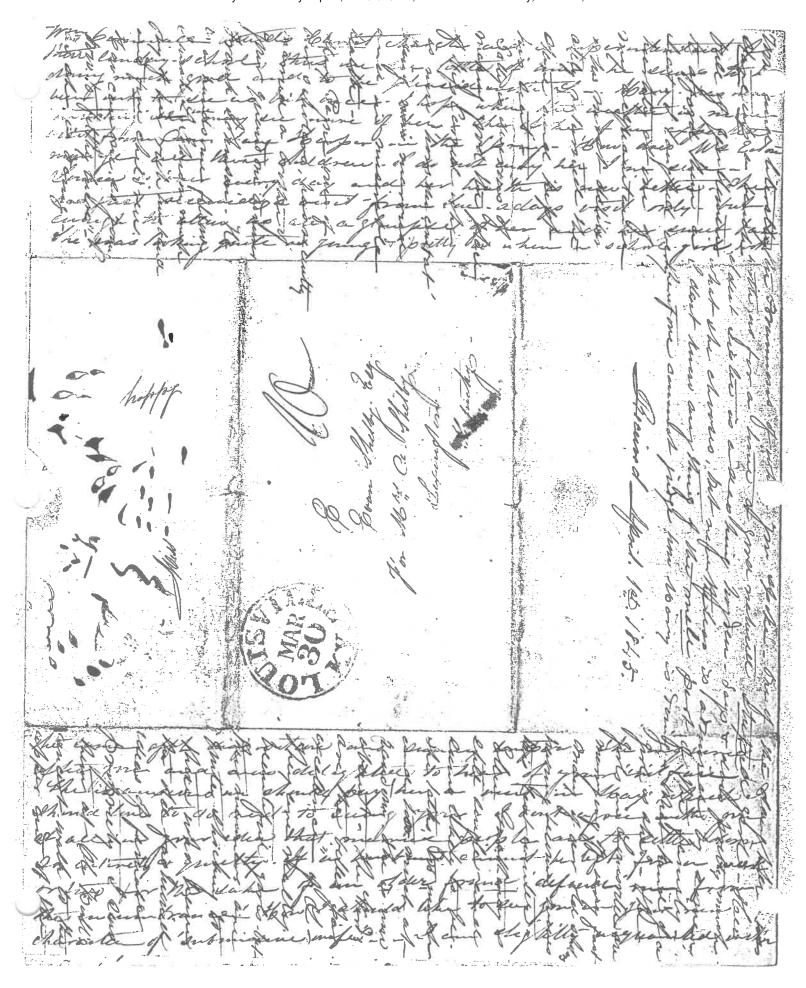
Lizzie

Now you are going to be good I know and answer this right away – I have had such a good excuse for me dilatoriness. I wish Busy would write to me sometimes –



phrase I I may accomplish the desired offect. Hather does out go up on May, I think, he will have then pred returned from his sutherter resitation which has been delayed some weeks by Douglas' Muce . We have fust trid him good by The morning for en absence of four weeks. Jam is with no am fit a short line of Shall view him some parts of your letters as he always semembers you with much interest, and was sulfflet that I had heard from you once more - He is priving more of a man every week, in feeling more than statute remed is desiring to go Each for pist last year in College. Thelly College is own doing bethe Then it ever has but I little it is but in to infalling and destatule of and of three tetering allivetimes within time alone can give which institutiones I scarcely think it portable that he will gain Holhers consent as the College is now his hotog and he could not very well occommend it to there if his own an were educated elsewhere I cannot ocalize that Voe bas Married the age and Plature of a man. The is Oncy I enpose at the Francery . Oh how well I remember that street, the bridge and the White House on the hill I minder of The picture will ever be less vine then it mo is? How have you rigged this Lutere leason? I lope you have her one abor within to influence have see have Allhingh there have been services every murning + evening in the tent churches during Possion week we were instend to attend even on Good Honday. It has however her a season of much wholest and profit in Louisville in mediately following (as it has done the confir material. The two churches are admirably suited with pastors, end exactly fitted for his suspective Where

(amenda her can a wrote with all this jothering & lungling arounds med: Me tallagher our factor has already gamed the hearts I his people and seems fact the man to file the roice left by our beloved the backson the is a much junger onew. and perhaps and quite duch a popular preacher; but he grows upon one and you can never her him with out profit to juriself. His wife is a sencet little woman with much enjaging menners will interesting appearance. The is as actually sugared in the function is the care of two young children with allow her to be - lef course we could med look for a second Most Sackson I believe there is not another duck in the whole world, but me are gon patulful & delightete. Mother occurred a letter from Nov a week or two ogr. The speaks of a visit to England to remain a year or low with her brother in law there? I hope the oney for I think It would be both, please I beneficial to her. his heart is ditte and ever with the in Consider amid the deenes of her husbands labours & deathe. How I wish your people would wake up to see the disconof a new chardh in deer du Laprifon . I hearthy Mine that the expan of they prouve me, may from too large or too hand come for the old well remembered building of hops it may break dans the gallery, without doing any on any danage - 80 be U - Do you tell occupy your Mothers per Or you remember desiry on 100 downered former menth or low yo he was begging for the church in thisting your? Ho spoke of your with much admiration. I think he seem your in land. How I believed linear him for his laster discounisations



NOTE: As Joseph Bruen died in 1848, this Wednesday would have to be April 30, 1845 according to the calendar. Aunt Sally would be Sarah White's grandmother and Evan's Aunt, Sarah (Sally/Sallie) McDowell. Her daughter, Susannah Hart McDowell Irvine's daughter Sarah married Addison White. Susannah Hart McDowell Irvine was the daughter of Ephraim and Sarah (Sally/Sallie) Shelby McDowell. Sarah White's father would be David Irvine. Talking of sharing flower cuttings. Dating 1845 4/30

No envelope or address

Addressed to: Mrs. S. White From: Amanda Bruen Shelby

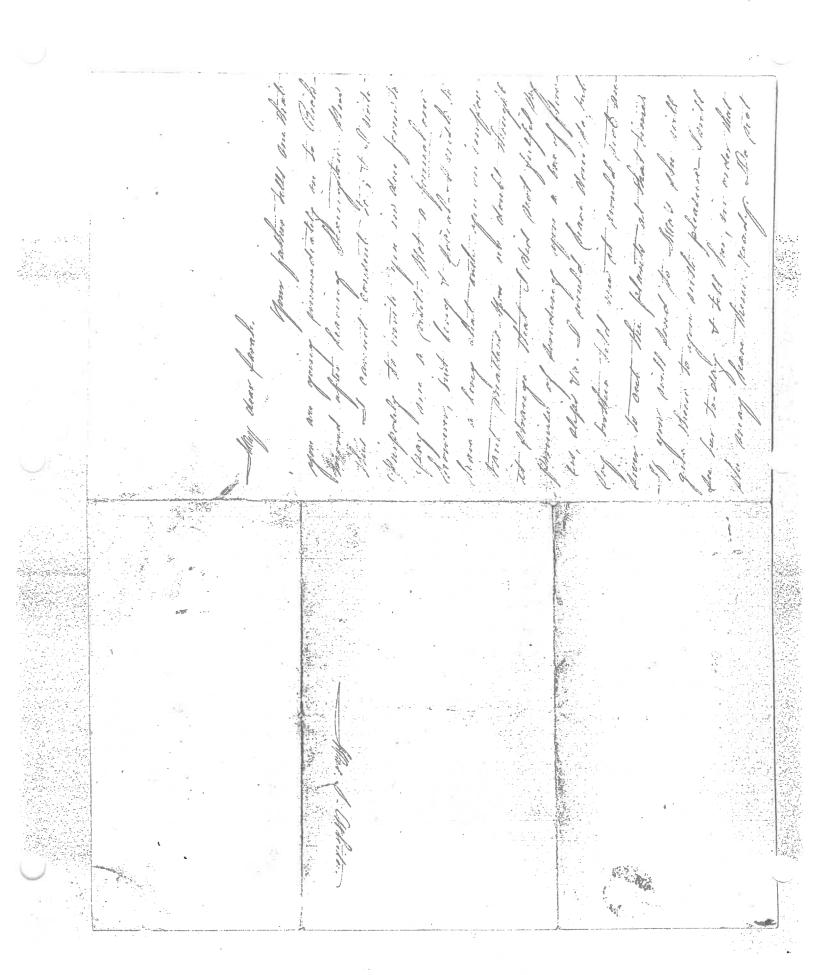
My dear Sarah,

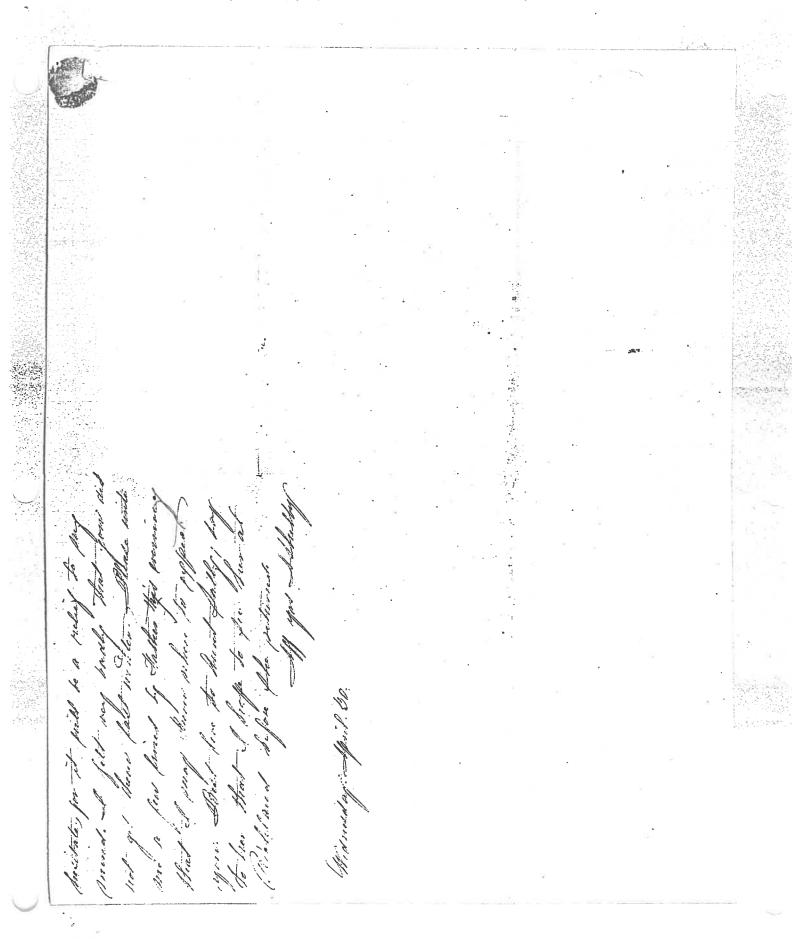
Your father tells me that you are going immediately on to Richmond after leaving Lexington. Now this I cannot consent to; & I write purposely to invite you in due form to pay me a visit. Not a formal one however, but long & social. I wish to have a long chat with you on important matters – You no doubt thought it strange that I did not fulfill my promise of sending you a box of flowers, slips &c. I would have done so, but my mother told me it would not survive to cut the plants at that time. If you will send to Ma's she will give them to you with pleasure. I will see her today & tell her, in order that she may have them ready. Do not

Page 2

hesitate, for it will be a relief to my mind. I felt very badly that you did not get them last winter. Please write me a few lines by Father this evening that I may know when to expect you. Best love to Aunt Sally; say to her that I hope to see her at Richland before she returns.

Aff yrs A. Shelby Wednesday, April 30





NOTE: Susan Shelby Fishback's fourth husband is dying, Dr. Fishback was buried in June of 1845. This is her forth husband to die. She once said she had married four good men. She adopted her brothers child who died with her second husband of yellow fever at the age of 16. Henry and Lucretia Hart Clay had eleven children and lost all their daughters when they were young. In fact, of the eleven children, only four sons lived longer than their father. Lucretia's father was Col. Thomas Hart a correspondent of Gov. Isaac Shelby. Her sister Eliza married Dr. Richard Pindell and their daughter Mary (Polly) Pindell was Susan Hart Shelby Carter's mother, Mrs. James Shelby. Dating 1845 5/5

Postmarked: Grayson Ky. 12 ½ (cents?) May 5th (1845)

Addressed to: Mrs. Amanda Shelby

Lexington

K

From: Susan Hart Shelby Carter

Wyoming May 5, 1845

No, my dear Sister, nothing in your letter gave rise to my silence, for it proceeded alone from the want of something to write. Sorry indeed should I be to loose so delightful a correspondent and you may just attribute my tardiness whenever it occurs to (be) from want of materials for a letter, and continue as usual to write to your isolated sister.

There are many things in yours of yesterday which astonish and some which distress me. I sincerely feel for Aunt Susan (Shelby Fishback) who seems to have been marked by affliction ever since her early life. Lonely and desolate must a widow be and I pray that such a lot may never be our fate. How wisely has the future been hidden from mortal kin and how wretched would we be to learn that as many trials as she has endured were to fall upon us. I suppose from your letter that she has in this buried her fourth husband. We who are blest with kind affectionate ones, can sympathize with her in her sorrow. But I look upon Aunt (Lucretia Hart) Clay as far far more unfortunate than she for she has a double living grief forever praying upon her heart and no sympathy of friends, no kinship of relations, can afford a balm for her, nothing can sustain her but the hand which sent her afflictions. She believes in the wisdom and justice of the Almighty, she is an humble Christian and looks to no source but that for consolation, and may she find it a never failing support in the remnant of days which remain for her. What are Uncle (Henry) Clay's reflections I am unable to say. The tree has born none of the fruit of faith and where he turns in his hour of need is a secret of his own heart. Every family affliction which we can

imagine almost has fallen upon him; for years spent in the service of his country he has had little else, than rivaling, slander and disappointment and as the shadow of the evening of life are gathering around him they seem to thicken and increase. I must believe that no earthly power can afford a solace.

Page 2

I suppose you have heard of the accident which has befallen the candidate in the ninth congressional district. The Whigs in this region are in despair for they thought their cause seems only in the hands of Chilton Allen. The Democrats it appears are called to mourn almost as great a disaster to their chosen champion. Judge French is said to be under treatment for cancer of the face. Should he run the race however the other party will stand no chance. In case his health should not admit of it. Throope of Fleming will be next choice and it is supposed will have little hope of success. This is for Father as I presume you care little for news on this subject.

You ask my advice about coming to see me. You are the best judge as to whether you ought or not – all I can say is, that I should be more rejoiced to see you than any woman in the world and you can decide between leaving your darling for a little while, and conferring so much pleasure upon your darling Sister. Father & Ellen of course I shall expect and be sadly disappointed if they do not come. Could not you bring Mary Eliza Harrison. She is a great favorite of ours and I think they might leave her home for some months. How does John look? I should like to see him. An old man named Warnock(?) came here last Saturday from Lexington and says Fayette Shelby intends visiting us very shortly, but young men are so uncertain in their movements that I scarcely look for him. Old W. was formerly manager on Wickliffes farm and was giving us an account of his stewardship. He says Margaretta once abused him in the most intemperate manner for a difficulty he had with a negro man on the place, calling him riffian and scoundrel. He told her that as she considered herself a lady he was surprised she would put herself in the power of a riffian & scoundrel, at which moment old Duke put his head in the kitchen with an idiotic grin on his face and passed on without speaking for as Warrock says he was afraid of a club which he held in his hand

Page 3

and with which he intended beating him in the severest manner if he had said an insolent word. The old Duke proclaimed at Owingsville in his last speech that the Federalists had led him blindfolded for forty years and that his eyes had been lately opened. A miracle could scarcely cause the scales to fall from eyes so willfully blinded as his have been by prejudice, avarice and incautiousness. I hope I shall not be reduced to the necessity of offending my husband or entertaining the 'old man venomous' in my house.

We expect Judge White to stay with us during the time of the Circuit Court which commences its session on this day week. The Col. is pretty well. I (am) slightly acquainted with him. He is said to be polished and gentlemanly and it is always a treat to us to entertain such men as we seldom have the pleasure.

How is your garden? Mine looks very well for I did not allow it to get any during the day weather, but spent all my time watering it. My peas sown the 20 Feb. an just in bloom. Strawberries very abundant and just turning, plenty onions, lettuce, radishes, &c. &c. The little servants are at work there now and I must go and show them.

To all my relations and friends my kind remembrances and believe me dear Amanda your aff. sister

Susan S. Carter

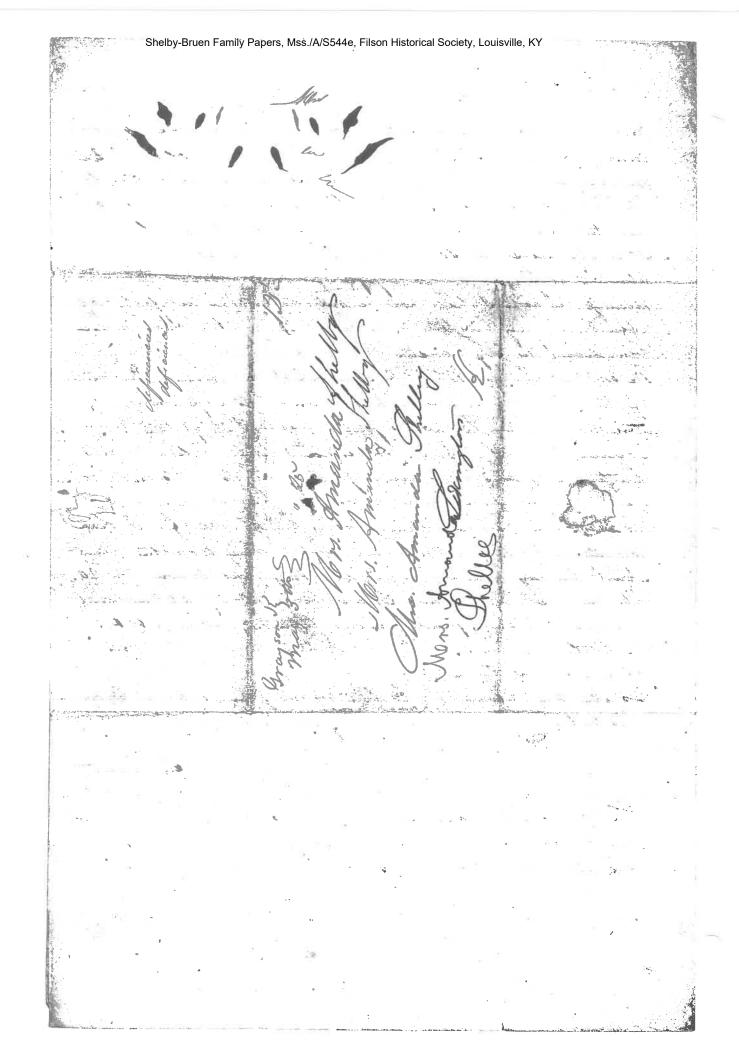
The Col. goes to Lawrence Court tomorrow & I wish you were here with me. How we would talk over the times past and to come

I Suppose you have heard of the accident- which has befaller the candidate in the minthe congrepional district. The Whige in this region an in des pair for they thought their cause Siam only in the hands of Chillion allin. The Democrato it appears her called to moun abmost as grat a disasti to their chosen Champion. Judge French is said to be under treatments for curee in the face. Thereta him. the sace however the aller perty will Climo no chance. In case his health Chould not admit of it, Throope of Theming will be usel-choice and it is supposed will here little hope of Succep. This is for baller as I present you can tittle for meet on this subject. you ask my advice about coming to be me. Jun me the best pedge as to whather your oright or not, all I Can say is, that I should be more reported to see you than any woman in the world and you can dicide between knowing your dealing for a little while, and confusing so much pleasur whom your leading distri-Falten & Ellen of course I Chall soprel- and be cally disappointed of they as hot come. Could not you bring many Eliza Harrison. The is a great Javorite of airs and I think they might leave her have for some mouths. How does John look & I should like to see him. An old men named Hen nock came him last salunday from Lexingle and cays falle I hely intends besiting in, my therely: but going men are so inciderin in The more much that I standed look for him. Old Ir. was formuly manager on Wickliffer farm and was giving as an account of his two and hip. He cango marganetta me speed him In the most intemperate menun for a difficulty. he have with a myro men in the place taking him nofficer and I com dul. He lold her that as the considered herself a lady he was surprised the would just her left in the fown of a sufficien & seven that, at moment old Duke ful- his head in the titchen with an idialic grim on his face and passed on without speaking for, as War nock large he was afraid of, a club which he held in his hand

and with which he tales de d'bedling him in the severelmanner if he had said an insolut- word The old Duke proclaimed at Owings ville in his late Open that The Tederalists has lift him blindfold for forty years and that his uges had been lately opened. a muche could I cancely Cares the scales to full from Lyes Do will fully blinded as his have been by fredge dicorrerice, and himali meany. I hope I shall not be indicad to the melpily- of affending my hus beind on entertaining the old man venomous in my house." The expect - Indye While to May with no during the line of the Circuit-Court Which Commences its Espian an this day week. The Col is pully well, I chightly acquented with him. He is caid to be polished and gentlementy and it is always a beat to us to cute to Luch men as les aldom have the pleasure. Have is your garden? Mine looks any well for I don't hot allow it to get any duing the day weather, but Sport all my him walning it. My peus lower the 20. Seb. an just in bloom. There beines my aboundent and just himy, pluty omons, tittuce, rather her tet. The little Servants are at look there now and I must go and Show them. To all my whaters and finds my kind umembrance and believe dian amanda your aff. It's his

Juan V. Carlin

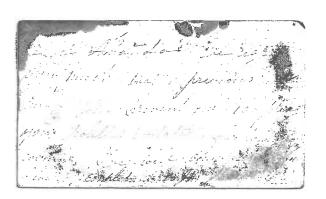
In Col. goes to Lawrence Coul- to. morrow & I hish gan were her willi m. How we would talk our the times paid and to love



Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY

NOTE: This is a calling card reply to and invitation from **Elizabeth (Bettie) Johnson Adams** (Mrs. David T.) to **Amanda Bruen Shelby** and I am guessing at the date of **1845**?/?.

Dear Amanda We regret it
very much that a previous engagement will prevent our accepting
your polite invitation for tomorrow
evening. We will come one day soon.
Give my compliments to Mr. Shelby Yours
Bettie



NOTE: Miss Mary Cosby Shelby, daughter of Thomas Hart Shelby, brother of James – was born in about 1826 (making her Evan Shelby's first cousin – Evan and Amanda were born in 1824 and were surely childhood and school friends. She corresponded with Amanda mostly from Covington, Ky on the Ohio River just East of Cincinnati while visiting her sister, Elizabeth "Liz"/"Bibby" Fontaine Shelby married to William Bury Kinkead Mary died less than three months after she was married in 1856 to George Shanklin at the age of about 30. Mary Cosby's brother Thomas Hart Shelby, Jr. (sometimes called Tommy) married his second wife, Florence McDowell, in 1856 & had a son and then a daughter born in Fayette County at "Belle Air", April 25, 1859 that he named Mary Cosby Shelby (there were other children to follow). This younger Mary C. Shelby corresponded with Mary Pindell Shelby Stallcup. She never married and died 1/18/1943 in Kentucky.

I have not been able to find out anything about Mrs. Edwards and Georgia Edwards nor of Susan (Sue) Lees or the Smedes. There seems to be a lot of New Jersey-New York-Lexington ties...Amanda & Evan had just been married a year when this was written and she is now 3 months pregnant but Mary does not know that yet.

Boyd's City Express Post, later known as Boyd's City Dispatch and finally as Boyd's Dispatch (a private enterprise) was arguably the most important and successful of the U.S. local posts from 1844-1887 in Manhattan.

Postmarked: New York

New York 22(cents?) May 17 Boyd City May 17 90 C or 20C

Express Post

Addressed to: Mrs. Evan Shelby

Lexington

Kentucky

From: Mary Cosby Shelby

New York May 16th, 1845

My Dear Amanda

Now that I have a leisure hour I am determined to fulfill the promise I made you. But amid the noise and confusion of Broadway, and the constant interruptions I have had, I have found it a difficult matter to write home as often as duty and inclination prompted me.

There was so much to be seen and I have had so much shopping to do, that as yet I have not had an hour that I could really call my own. So far my trip has been delightful. I could not have wished it more so. When we first got here we stayed for a few days at the American Hotel, but Susan Lees persuaded us to go to the New York Hotel where she boards, and I find it much pleasanter. We have three rooms, Father and Tommy occupy one, my room opens into theirs, and adjoining is our parlour. And just opposite to us is Sue's room. We are together all the time. She was so glad to see me, her health is better than it has been since she married. I see Mrs. Edwards and Georgia almost every day. Georgia has improved very much since she left Lexington. She is one of the finest girls I ever knew. Some persons here think her beautiful. She is considered one of the finest singers in the city.

Sue and myself spent an evening with her, and she sang some beautiful songs for us. I never saw a mother more devoted to a daughter than Mrs. Edwards is to her. She thinks she is perfection. But she has good reason to be

Page 2

proud of her, for she is an elegant accomplished girl. I find it is pleasant having some acquaintances in the city, particularly when they are as agreeable as Sue and Georgia. Sue is the same sweet creature she ever was and is one of the most devoted wives I ever saw. Like your self she takes the greatest pleasure is sewing for her husband, and the other day she made him a pair of pantaloons, which I thought a wonderful achievement when we were interrupted every few minutes. We do not dine until the fashionable hour of five, then there are many different courses it is half after six before we leave the table. At twelve we have lunch, which I enjoy more than any meal we have. The dinners are elegant, but I do not enjoy them very much because it is too late in the evening to make a very hearty meal. I often think of you then, and wish you had some of the good things I have so often heard you speak of, for instance fine fish, lobster, oysters & etc. Sue and I have a great deal of fun at the table sometimes. There are several very amusing persons at the hotel. If you were here, how much we would laugh. Sue is sitting by my side writing a long letter to Anna Castlemen that was. I presume you were at her wedding. Did you think of me? You recollect we made an engagement to go together if it had taken place before we left. You must give me a full account of it when you write. Enter into particulars, both for mine and Sue's benefit. You know they are very devoted friends. About every other day Sue and I go out on a shopping expedition, which takes up all the morning. Not that I buy so much, but just in looking at things. I must give you some account of a delightful occasion we had the other day to Blackwell's Island. Mrs. Edwards, Georgia, Susan

Page 3

Lees, Mrs. Scott, Miss Mitchell, Mr. Bunnell, Father, Thomas and myself composed the party. We were all Kentuckians with the exception of two. It is three miles from the city, and we went in a row boat just large enough for us, and five men who rowed it. At first I was a good deal frightened, but the rest of our party were so confident there was no danger, and made them selves so agreeable my fears soon subsided. Our object was to visit the lunatic asylum, which is the largest in the Union. We were gone four or five hours and had a most delightful jaunt. I have seen a great deal since we have been in the city, though there are a great many places of interest that I have not been to.

Georgia Edwards asked me a great deal about you. she says, soon after they left Lexington she wrote to you but presumes you never received her letter, she thinks she will write to you again. They intend going to Pennsylvania in a few weeks to spend the summer, and next winter they will be in Washington with Gen. McCalla's family. Georgia says she still looks on Lexington as her home though it will be many years before she expects to be there again.

The polka is all the rage now, and Georgia has been taking lessons. Sue and I went one morning to see her dance it. There is the same impropriety in a gentleman and lady dancing it that there is in waltzing, and I have no fancy whatever for it. I have not told you any thing of my visit to Philadelphia. I never spent four or five days more pleasantly. I stayed at Ms. Tevis'. They showed me every attention. But they had no "rasp berries or whortle berries" you know what I mean. I was delighted with the whole family. I saw an old acquaintance of yours, Mr. Alfred

Page 4

Collins. He inquired particularly for you, and said he heard you were no longer Miss Bruen. His wife is a very sweet woman, a sister of Mrs. Tevis. I saw Lizzie Irvine twice. She has improved very much and is delighted with her school.

I have seen Mary Smedes but once. She looks much better than she did when you saw her. Both she and her mother made numerous inquiries for you.

I have several messages for you from Sue who is sitting by my side. She says tell Amanda I am surprised she is not a mother and still more that there is no prospect of it. But she sympathizes with you in all your anxieties and says hope on, and do not despair. These are her words verbatim. You must excuse this miserable scrawl. I dislike to send a letter written so badly and if it was not to an intimate friend I should certainly write it over.

Across the first page

If you do not answer my letter I do not think I can possibly forgive you. We will leave here next Thursday for New Haven. When you answer my letter direct it to New York so I will be sure to receive it when we return which will be about the last of June or the first of July. I have so many things to tell you but will reserve them till we meet. There is so much that is interesting to talk about that sounds too ridiculous to be written. Give my love to Evan. Sue wishes best blessings attend you. Yours ever

Mary Cosby Shelby

Men York May 16 1845 . Now that I have a lessure how I am to fulfil the promise I made you. But amid the Confision of Broadway, and the Constant interruptions Shad I have found it a difficult matter to make house I gless as duty and inclination prompted me 400 to much to be seen, and I have had to much thepto his that as get I have not had an how that's Had Call my own. Is fan my trip has been delight is not have lished it more so. Then he first-got they for a few days at the American listel, See persuated her to go the skin york hold The Lands, and I find it much pleasantes. The have w, and adjoining is our parlows. And frist is Ine's room. The are together all the time Is that to be me, his resith is better than it about very day. Georgia has emproved very much Ift Surington. The is one of the finish guts with Some persons here think her beautiful. logishered one of the finest danger in the City. I my self spent an evening with her, and the beautiful dongs for is. I never som it mother to a daughter their Mrs Educad o is to her. the is perfection. Wet has good season to be

friend of her, for the is an elegant accomplished girl. I find it to pleasant having some requaintances in the city, partie wharty where they are as agreeable as here and Georgia fire is the same west creature the un he , and is but of the most heated wine of ever saw. Like your left the takes the greatest pleasure in seeing for her husband, and the The day the made him a pair of partitions, which I thought a wonderful achievement where he are interrupted eny few minutes. The do not done until the fashionable how of five, then there use to many different courses it is half after six before he leave the table. It trule he have lunch, which I enjoy more than any meal we have . The Anne are elizant; but I do not enjoy them very much because it is too let in the arming to make a very hearly much I fle think of you thin, and wish you had some of the good things I have so iften heard you speak of for instance fine fish, bolders oysters 40 41. In and I have agreet deal of from the the table dometime. There are desert bey amusing present at the hotel. If you were here how much we would laugh, Sur is now setting by kay side anting a long letter to Anna Castlinen that and I pourum you men the her westing Mid you think of me? you recollect he made an engagement. to go together if it had taken place before he left you must give me a full account of it when you wite buter into patienters, lot for migue and Luco benefit for how thing are long theretal friends. How every when how his kind of go out on a shopping capitation, which takes up all the morning. At the I buy so much, but first in looking at thing I must give you some account of a delightful excusion we had the other day to Blacknells Island Mr Edwards Georgia, Insur

Les No hot Mile Mitchell Me Bernell Gather Thomas and myself compared the party. The see the thinkertian with the magition of two. It is those miles from the city, and we went in a some book first large enough for us, and fin men who somed of it. At first I has a good deal frightened, but the rest of our party were to Confident there was no langer, and made them delies to agreeable my fear dies dubided. Our offert has to resit the lunatic asylum, which is the largest in the Imon. The here gone four or fine hours and had a most delightful faunt. I have been a great deal Lines he have been in the city, though there are a great . many places of interest that I have not get been to. Georgia Edwards which me a great deal about figot the tago, soon after they left Searington the ante to but presumes you never never her letter, the think the will write to you again. They intend going to Sennsylvania in a few weeks to spend the sommen, and next hinter - they will be in Washington with Gen Ale called family. Georgia Lays the still looks on Searington as her home though it will be many years before the input to be there ignion. The Dika is all the sage now, and Georgia has been to dance it. There is the same impropriety in a gentleman and lasty dancing it that there is in hattging, and I have no fancy whatever for it. I have not told you may thing of my sist to Sheladelphia. I never spent from on fire days me pleasanth . I stayed at the Lovis they thousand me were attention that they had no "raip beries or whorter "gries" you know what I mean. I was helighted with the whole family. I saw he the regraintance of yours. Mr Alfred

Collins. He inquired firsticularly for you, and said he hame you were no longer All Bruen. His wife is a very smit homan, a disto of Mrs Jewi. I dan Siggy Irvine their the has improved very much, and is delighted with her district. I have seen Many Imedes but once. The looks much better than the land when you saw her. Both the and her mother Made numerous inquires for you. und of the how not to an entirent found I should entire The number describ, I hallke to down a little do lasty to dist supine the has been toke time. As must wine hothyer with you was brown and days before on, and have other than them is no prospect of the when dide. The days the trumber of an dusproved the is not a mother There desired message for you from due the is setting by my

NOTE: Georgia Combs has had a calamity, "pending marriage to an unprincipled man". Lucy (Webb?) is the one involved with Dick Pindell who is the grandson of Dr. Richard Pindell. His wife is Anna Monroe Pindell. I can not locate first names for the Allens.

Postmark: Grayson Ky. 12 ½ (cents?) June 2nd 1845 Private

Received June 6th 1845. **Addressed to: Mrs. Amanda Shelby** Richland Lexington K

From: Susan Hart Shelby Carter

Wyoming June 1, 1845

I was absent my dear Amanda when your last letter arrived and returned too late to answer it by return of mail which I should have done to express some of the grief and astonishment which filled me upon reading it. At the calamity which has befallen the Combs family I am indeed grieved. I love their mother, have had many kindnesses at her hands & what ever of evil may come upon her children, so dearly loved by her, must be distressing to me, and can any misfortune equal that which has just occurred? If so I know not of it. Poor Georgia! My heart aches for her. I still hope however that the matter may be cleared up & she reinstated in her former standing in society. How differently would she have acted with the guidance & direction of her mother calculated as she was for the raising her family. As for Dick Pindell and his flame their conduct is no cause of surprise or sorrow, the attainment of his end always justified the means. For one of the parties alone do I feel any sympathy. I have always been attached to Anna and thought incapable of any thing mean or imprudent. She has reason to deplore her marriage for she has lost that pearl above all price, her husband's affection, which must ever under the married state one of unspeakable wretchedness. It is to be hoped that his conduct to her will place him where he so long deserved to stand. He always was and will be a hypocrite and the woe of it is that he has such talents for veiling his hypocrisy, deceiving the innocent and unsuspecting. Not that I consider his present victim either the one or the other, I do not.

She has been raised by a weak silly mother, had by nature no regard for truth and equally as little porpincity or delicacy of feeling and conduct. It required no Aaron Burr to victimize her for she had little

Page 2

way to fall. Being the daughter of a widowed mother and knowing nothing against her I was attending to her at one time and really was disposed to like her but at an easy period of our acquaintance I detected some wretchedly low propensities in her and dropped her without ceremony, and so we stood for months before my marriage. I saw a disposition on her part to meet me last summer as though the past were forgotten but it was impossible for me to forget that she was anything but a lady and I passed her unnoticed.

Is not Lexington at rather a low ebb? Such conduct on the part of some of its first citizens will lead strangers to think that the tone of moral sentiment is marvelously low in that western Athens. Scarcely a woman in this mountain region but has forfeited her good name and when one whom I have not seen before comes into my house I hardly know in what way to treat her. An old hag came the other day to sell some thread for corn. I sent her and her daughter to the crib to shell it, while there she, the daughter, who had made an agreement with a vile unprincipled man who has a family, to run off with him and he had the audacity to get into the crib for the purpose of making arrangements with them for the proposed kiss. The Col. was not here nor any of the servants and I went out to see her measure the corn and there I found the villain whom I had seen before. I at once suspected all was not right. Being alone however and knowing the reckless character of the man I of course said nothing to him but he had the quickness to see from my countenance that I was not pleased at his presence and took himself off. The next day they started, the man's wife in furious pursuit with a butcher knife to take the life of the faithless husband and his companion, whose father equally outrageous was following her and breathing vengeance against her. These things we look for and feel no surprise at in this miserably ignorant and degraded population, but among

Page 3

those who enjoy all the advantages of light and knowledge it seems most strange, passing strange that such occurrence should be so frequent. It must be that society has reached that degree of refinement which is productive of as many evils as the opposite extreme. If your fair townswoman make as rapid progress in that way as they now promise, this modern Athens will long have rivaled Paris itself and the day will soon come where standard for female excellence will have been most shockingly low.

I need not say how much we are pleased with the prospect of a visit from Father and Ellen, but will repeat my regrets that you will not be of the party. As to my leaving home, nothing save the marriage of one of my Richland household will take me away until our affairs are in better train than at present. Dearly should I love to be with you all again, but my husbands interests must be paramount to my pleasures and therefore I cannot promise to go to Fayette at any time saving for the before mentioned festival should it take place. The Col. is as anxious for this success as you or I and great as the inconvenience would be insists that we shall go at what time so ever it shall happen. You ask about Nannie Shelby and all I can answer is that my opinion is the same which Liz and Mary formed of her, though my acquaintance has been slighter than theirs. Her Boswell blood is the worst kind & shows itself in many mean ways. And the genl. flamma has wedded "petticoat Allen". What says the gen'l? The Col. says d _ n the woman, she is well mated. His account of A. is that he is not admitted into good society in Chillicothe and is much despised by her family. The night is closing. I am sleepy, my paper filled. My kindest affection for all our kindred and friends and for my dear Sister

Susan S. Carter

Page 4

Bottom

P.S. The first time you go to town ask Sim Christy if still in business, to get a braid bonnet of mine from J. O. Harrison & have it altered into fashionable shape, bleached & lined. Should Father come out to see us he can bring it. Do not let him know anything about it until you send it as I do not wish him to pay the bill, but tell Christy to charge the same to W. G. Carter & he will settle it when we go in or remit it by private opportunity should we not go. If the bonnet cannot be made to look well I do not wish it renovated but shall send for a new one to Cincinnati. S.S.C.

Myoming Sum 1. 1845

I was absent my dias amande when your last letter arrive and returned too late to answer it by return of mail which I Should have close to express some of the grif and as time hunt which filled how whom wading it. at the calamily which has befaller the Combo family I am traded grived. I look thin mother, have had many lindnesses at her hands to while wer of wil many come upon him thildren, so dearly loved by hu, must be destrepting to me, and can am misfortime equal that which her fist occur 2? If so I know not of it : For Georgia! my heart ache for her. I Sitt hope however that the matter may be cleared up to In hinstated in him for mer Standing he lociety. How difficulty would In have acted with the quidence to duction of hu mother calculated as the was for the naving her Jamily. As for Sich Pindell and his flame Then conduct is no cluse of susprise a Conow to me. I have believed for many years that that no contify frencipled governed him but lelfishness, the all animulof his lands allowing pritipied the means. For one of the parties alone do I feel amy Sympathy. I have always being attached to anna and thought incupable of any the meen a his present. The has reason to deplow her muriage for the has lost that fearl above all price hur him burnes afgetion, which must love under the married State one of him Speakable with thedrup. It is to be hoped that his conduct to his will place him When he is long deserved to illund. He always "was and will be a by possile and the war of it-is, that he has In the talents for victing his hypociney, deciving the Innocente and unsur pecting. Not that I low leden his present breation letter the one or the other, I do not-The heir been wised by a weak silly mother, has by trature no negard for touth and equally as little proprinty a delicary of fuling and anduct. It rigined no haron Bun to ordinise her for the had tittle

way to fall. Being the dunghter of a widowed mothers. and knowing nothing against him I was attention to his at one time and nally was disposed to the her but at him cally pined of our acquain times of ducted form with edgy low proper tities in her and dropped here without aremony, and so we stood for mouths before my manage. I saw a disposition on hu part to mut me last summer as though the past- were forgotten but it was impossible for me to forgit that the lows any thing but a larly and I paped her knowed. Is not Easington at rather a low ebb. Inch conducton the part of some of its first citizens will lead Swengers to think that the tone of moral Sentiment is moullously love in that western tethers. Scencely a wom an in this mountain engion but her forfeiled hu good and whim when he whom I have hot-being before comed into my house I heartly know in whatway to heat-him. An old has Come the aller day to the crib to Chill it, while then She, had made an agreement with with a vile uprincipled man who hus a family, to um aff with him and he had the andweilig to get into the cirb for the pur poke of making anengements with them for the proposed bep. The Col was not here now any of the Severals and I went out to see her measure the come and their I found the Billian whom I had seen before. Lat- once Sur pechet all was not right - Deing alone however and tens The rich lip Character of the men I of come said rolling to him but he had the guickensp to Ce from my Combine that I was not pleased at his pessence and look hundly off. The heal day they started, the men's being the Jenious pursuit with a butter bright to take the life of her futty husband and his Companion, whose father equally outrage was following him and butting stengeance against his. These things we look feed and feel ha Comprise at in this misuably you cont and digraded population, but among

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I I The first time you go to town ask Sim Christy of Still in busimp. to get a braid bommet of mine from I. O. Harrison's to have it altered into fashion able Mape, bliached & himself Thould Father some out to see us he can bring it. Do not Let him know any thing about it tmitt you send itas I do not wish him to pay the hill, but till Chris by to charge he same to Tr. G. Center the will Sittle it to

go. If the bonnet aumot be made to look well I do not

Cir Con matte.

novated but shall send for a her one to

NOTE: When Amanda and Evan married they moved into Richland with General James, and Evan's brothers Isaac (Ike), Lafayette (Fayette and sometimes James (Jim) – making young Amanda the mistress of the estate – a position once held by the author of this letter. It was overwhelming and the atmosphere was volatile and was not what Amanda was raised in. The tension was more than Evan or she could stand. Evan traveled to his sister's and evidently took Amanda's younger sister Sarah (Busy) Bruen with him for a visit to Susan Hart Shelby Carter in Grayson. She writes to her father on the attached half. I do not know if the Postmaster Mr. Crawford is Susan's neighbor Mrs. Crawford's husband. In Amanda's handwriting: written on the edge: Received June 12th 1845. She would be four months pregnant with Mary Pindell. Evan dates at the end of his letter. I believe that then the original Richland was refurbished so Evan could be close to family business. **Dating 1845 6/9**

Postmark Grayson Ky

12 ½ (cents?)

June 9th 1845

Addressed to: Mrs. Amanda Shelby

Lexington

Ky,

From: Evan Shelby

My dear Wife,

I arrived here on Saturday to dinner - half a day later than I expected. My journey was a long & tedious one. The heat on Friday & Satdy was so excessive that we were frequently obliged to stop and rest our jaded horses in the shade. At Owensville I fell in company with a Mr. Crawford (the P.M. & a merchant of this place) his wife, brother & two women relations, who had been on a visit to their relations in the interior. I had occasion to regret this companionship, as I will convince you on my return. For a description of the town, the people, their manners & customs etc. you must also wait until we meet. As for Susan & the Colonel, I will only say, they are neatly & comfortably fixed & I see no reason why they should not be as they are, happy as the days are long. For my own part I have not felt so well wither in body or in mind for a long time. Your presence my sweet wife is all that is necessary to render me perfectly happy at least for a while. But I trust you know me well enough to know that I can never be perfectly happy where you are not. Enough of Grayson for the present. I can only say it is a most fortunate thing for us that we followed your Pa's advise. Dependant, altogether upon my profession for a support, we should have starved in a very short time.

I have felt great anxiety about you my Amanda since I left, more perhaps than I am justified in doing, surrounded as you are by so kind and affectionate a family. I feel that I was too hasty in leaving you

Page 2

in a house full of strangers, without ever waiting to see if you could be contented there. But I felt that absence from the scene of my trials & vexations was all that could bring me relief, & I longed to be away. And even now the the thought of returning to Lexington to live in dependence & idleness makes me sick. There is, however, no alternative, & we must make the most of it.

Poor little Busy was taken sick on yesterday, & I shall not be surprised if I were delayed on account of her indisposition. At all events, my sweetest you must not expect me back until Tuesday or Wednesday. If you knew how glad Susan was to see me & how reluctant she will be to let me depart before the end of the week, I am sure you would not blame me.

Susan desires room for a P.S. & I will close with assurance of the sincerest & fondest love of your affectionate husband E. Shelby

Grayson June 9th 1845

Page 3

Evan has left me space for a P.S. my dear Sister & I must say how much I was disappointed not disappointed either because I was not expecting him, but how much I regretted you did not accompany him. I was delighted to see him but should have been more delighted to have seen your bright face here in the mountains. From all accounts we shall not if ever have the pleasure in several months.

I am amazed at Evan's account of the manners in which Lucy Webb has been treated by some of the Lexington ladies. Those who thus give countenance to vice have certainly much responsibility upon them.

But I have not time as the mail is just starting to write any more except my love to your Father, Mother and Sister. I wish you were here to join us in a cup cake which is standing before me but as you are not adieu & believe me

Yrs ever

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY My dear wife. to the arrived here on Tation day dinner half a day later Man I espected My Journey was a long & tedious one The Frield, & Satol, was to excessive that we were Fruntly obliged to stop & west our faded horses in the Shade. At Owingville I fill incompany with a Mon Corapport / the P. M. Farmer chains of this place) his wife, brothers two women relations, who had been no a visit to their allations in the interior. I had occasion to recret This companionship, as I will convince you on my retioner. For a description of the troop, the people. Their manners, Bustines Ve you must alsowait mitil we met. As for Luxan & The Colonel, I will only Ray, they are neally I comfortably fixed, & I seemo measons. The days are long. For my five part I have not felt as well little in body or in mind for long time. your presence my smut wife is all that is necessary to render he perfectly happy at least for a while but I trust you know me well enough to know that I can never be perfectly hap When you are not Enough of From The present, seem only Day it to a most forther mate thing for us that we followed you I as advice. Sependont, altogether upon My foro. pession for a support, we Thould have Starved su a very shorthine I have felt great awriety about you my Amounda Dince I left more perhaps Man an justified in doing, Lurrounded as you ne by 20 kind & affectionate a familyfeel that I was two hasted in leaving you

ma house full of atrangers, without even waiting to Lee if you could be contented there But I pelt that absence from The scene of my trials & verations was all Mat would vring the while the I longed to be away. And even know the in dependance Vidlenspiniakesme to siek here is, hovever, no alternative, I we must make the most ofit day, & I Should not be surprised if e delayed one account of him At all events, my Iweetest you must not e k mitill Tuesday or Teduesday If you knew how lad Sie on wood to see me of how The will be to let me depart bego the end of the week, I am sure you would will close with assurance of accened of fondest love of

NOTE: The Col. wrote for Evan to hand carry to Isaac (Ike) Shelby, Evan's and Susan's brother. Both the Col. and Susan are hoping Ike will marry. Ike is 29, James is 27 and Fayette is 25 and all three are still bachelors living at their home, Richland, with their father General James and their youngest brother Evan (age 21) and his wife Amanda (age 20) the only female in the house. Life at Richland with a gruff General and three bachelors must have been rather shocking to Amanda and the genteel life she experienced at White Hall. I imagine "the boys" were hardly obedient to any type of schedule. On top of this major adjustment, she is a little over four months pregnant. Some type of confrontation between Evan's concern for her wellbeing and his own sanity with the General has Evan in Grayson County at Susan's and Amanda back at White Hall. I believe, as the farming income of Richland was Evan's source of income and his ability to manage it, caused Joseph Bruen to encourage them to move out to Richland's original home. Col. Carter's writing is very hard to read. If Col. Carter's birth date is 1788 it means his was about 50 when he married Susan two years ago. Ike did not marry until 1854 to Sarah Barton McClure

From: William Grayson Carter Also: letter to Gen. James Shelby

To: Isaac Shelby
Lexington

From: Susan Hart Shelby Carter

Grayson

June 16, 1845

Dr (Dear) Isaac,

K

I embrace the opportunity by Evan, who has gratified us by a short visit, to express the hasty interest, that my better half & myself feel in your welfare and happiness, and as you appeared much captivated with a certain fair lady, to wish you all an agreeable success in the prospect and consummation of your wishes, – Upon the announcement of the affair being settled, I shall want upon Susan being present, to witness how happy a bachelor may become by so great a change in his condition of life. – If I could venture to give any advise to one so well blessed in this court of love I would suggest that you be let to participate, all is lost often by too great a desire to bring matters to an immediate denouncement, a little policy my dear fellow as frequently necessary, but you may have made such progress, as would when you from all imputation of that I know nothing. – I have little of any thing to communicate that would interest you, much occupation and engaged on my domestic matters. I have hardy time to think of the many inconveniences that can sometimes labour under, and I the great I sacrifice we make in permanently locating here – A mans patrimony is dear to him and in that suspect I partake of the portability of the scribe who wonders afar, but shall cherish their mountain home. I have but little doubt that in time I shall not only be independent but have some thing to show, and Susan as only opinion I despair, but I really think is so – even if otherwise it would amply embellish my enjoyments. – In her is every

it would amply embellish my enjoyments. — In her is every hope of my life comparably connected and I shall ever to my pride to do all for her comfort & happiness - we shall soon have an agreeable companion in my bother's wife, a very dear sensible lady, that will relieve some of the tidiness of a secluded life, - he has sold Wm. Springs, but not upon any advantageous terms - present me to James & the Gen'l (gentlemen) & believe me that I entertain for you all affectionate remembrance

WmGCarter

Page 2

Attached to the above letter on page 2 is a letter from Susan Shelby Carter to her Father, Gen. James Shelby.

(Grayson – June 16, 1845 – back page)

My dear Father

I intended writing you as soon as Evan came, knowing that you would feel anxious to hear his determinations, but I thought I would wait until he considered the matter calmly and deliberately. We have talked of it daily since his arrival and his first resolution seems unchanged and unchangeable. Nothing can swerve him from the purpose of not returning to Richland and of endeavoring in some way which he has not as yet fixed upon, to make a living for himself and family. His visions are that he has tried effectually to attend to your affairs and has given you no satisfaction, that neither Amanda or himself ever enjoyed any happiness there and that the peace of all parties will be enhanced by a separation. Mr. Bruen has promised to put him into business when he returns and he assures me that idleness is entirely distasteful to and that he has no idea of any thing but constant and unremitting attention to whatever employment he shall go into. For myself I am greatly grieved that they could or would not remain where they were, and that your house is again without the superintendence of a female. I had flattered myself that they would be happy and confer much happiness upon you, but it seems there is no prospect now. He has listened coolly to all our suggestions and advice but holds out no idea that he will return. I could not be contented until I had made you these communications and I will add in conclusion that we shall be much dissappointed should you not pay us the promised visit. Remember me to the boys and believe me ever

Your aff. daughter S.S. Carter

Grayen

June 11.12 1845-

In Isaac

I embrace the opportunity by Elaw, who has qualifient _ as I a short aunt, to expose the level, interest, that my beller half & - myself feel in your last fore and haffs inely, and as you appeared - much capteraled with a certain fair lady, to week you all - une granth suich in the progret and Consum maken of your - toucher - before the arecommend, of the affair buy sellted, I - That went afrom Suran being present to lorthely how happy - a backeton ency became by so good a change in his landhum - of the - If I could bentin to gum any a strin to som so look - bessed in the court of love I would suggest, that you he - het to presipulate all es lost offen by too quet a desen to - brung maller to immediale denom much, a lelle fertice my Cha fellow as presently unchang, but you amy how knowing - buch progress, as dround releve you from all unifor Totum, of - What I throw nothing - I have lelle of any they to consume whe - that would enleased you, much occupsor and enguy en - my domester westers, I have hadly been to think of the Many wice summy that em same lum laham wellen, and 9 Min goed sacrefus we note in permanently locally him a mans palmenary or dear to him and we that restrict 9 halake of the portralet of the beach, who wander afar, but Still chearle them mount lum home - I have but telle doubt that in lame I that hit and he encloped about las have some they to show, and deson and and offerers John fund, but I re ally think is as - lover it other wars I would qually imbelled my enjoy ments. In he a com hope of my like insuperally banceled, and I shall can to my producto do all for him comfort & happening - how thall soon have an expressible companion in my brothers coste, a very clean anable lucy. What were relem some of the techning a suchucled left. - he has sold his springs, has set afear any a Ivan layour terms - fromt on to Fames V. the fint & below me that I cale law for you all affectional somewhours

My Ass

My dear Faltin

I inter ded witing you as Soon as Evan lame, knowing that you totald feel anxious to hear his deter musalions, but I thought I would wait untill he considered the matter calmy and Olliber atty. We have talked of it daily since his arrival and his first-usolution seems unchanged and unchangable. Nothing can sweet from his perspose of not returning to Richland and of enduroning in some way which he has not as yet fixed upon, to make a living for himself and family. His wasons are that he has bud effectually to attend to your affairs and her gevers you no Latisfaction, that within amanda a himself. wer enjoyed any hupping there and that the peace of all parties will be enhanced by a Separation. Mr. Brun hus from seed to put him tolo business when Me ntuins and he lissues me that wellings is entirely distractiful to and that he has no ille of any thing but wintant and imme mitting attention to Whaliver qualty gives that they loud a would not umain when they love, and that your house is again without The Supertreten dance of a female. I had flattened surgery that they would be happy themostores and longer much hupping upon you, but it - seems then is no prospect now. He has listened wolly to all our Luggestions and reloice but holds out no idea that he will retire. I could not be antented milell I had made you there com munications and I will add in Conclusion that we Shall be much disappointed Should you not pay us the fromised visit. Remember one to the boys and believe me ever your aff. daughter

S. S. Cartin

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY

NOTE: Written across address: "I have gone down pray wait til I come—" in Evan handwriting. Susan writes beautiful encouragement to A & E and tribute to their mothers.

Postmarked: Grayson Ky. 5 (cents?)
July 21 (1845) single

Addresses to: Mrs. Amanda Shelby

Lexington

Kentucky

From: Susan Hart Shelby Carter

Wyoming July 13, 1845

My dear Sister

I should have complied with your request to write you by last mail, but for the excessive heat of Sunday and Monday. There is but little abatement in the intensity of the weather, but I cannot bear the idea of your supposing that I feel one moments in difference to you and my dear brother, whose situation meets my deepest sympathy. I once indulged for a while, the hope that your residence at Richland would prove a source of happiness to yourselves as well as my Father and I assure you that I left him on my return last summer with much less sadness than on a former occasion when he was without the care of any female relative. A recapitulation of the causes which induced the present difficulty would result in no good and I forbear to mention them. I know that no man living ever made greater sacrifice for a family than he did for thirty years of his life, and no one can nurse them in sickness with more tenderness. I have always thought however that his great error was in expecting and exacting too much from young people, forgetting as many old persons do to make allowances for the follies and inconsistencies of youth. When I look around me and see how few there are who have the talent of rearing children as they should, of inspiring them with feelings of affection and respect without instilling too much fear I am forced to conclude that the task is one requiring almost super human power, and I feel greatly disposed to look mildly upon the mistakes and errors of those to whom the lot has fallen. I know that Father has a high opinion of Evan's intellect, that he had set his heart upon his being a professional man and looked forward to the day when he would be distinguished. He had been

grievously disappointed in Fayette pursuing the course he did and less prepared to bear the disappointment of his expectations in regard to Evan. I hope and trust that matters may now turn out better than they at first promised. Evan's devoted attachment to you is this safeguard in hours of trial and vexation and were he now single I could greatly fear for him. O! how often have I rejoiced that he was so fortunate as to secure a wife, commanding his highest esteem and respect as with affection, and that he was capable of appreciating the treasure. With such claims upon him I know that his course is bound to be onward and upward however dark and gloomy his prospects may now seem. There is no human heart which has not its own sorrows, and happy are they who can turn for consolation to kind husbands and wives, whose firesides shine ever brightly and kind faces meet them there, frown as the rest of the world may. The storm without may spend its fury and rage in vain when they know that every pulsation of fond hearts is for them, in their own happy homes. Heaven is wise but I look in vain through its wisdom for wiser provisions than this. Such my dear Sister is my experience of married life and such I know is yours. Be then of good cheer, let not despondency take its abode with you and the day which has dawned so darkly will brighten towards its noon and set with unclouded splendor. You are the children of pious mothers and I feel assured that their many anxious prayers will be heard for their beloved off spring, And that she who has gone to the home of the pure in heart will be guardian angel for those to whom she clung so fondly in life.

I grieve for poor Georgia Combs. What does her Father say? He should have been at home and prevented that greatest calamity, the marriage of a daughter to an unprincipled man. She has not only secured her own wretchedness but has injured the prospects of her younger sisters. Poor thought-

Page 3

less young girl! She has taken a step which no after prudence can retrieve. If Lucy is still an innocent woman how galling the treatment she is now receiving. How mortifying to her to be scoffed at by those whom she looked down upon in her days of prosperity. I hope her fate may be a warning to those who come after her. For the sake of our sex which every woman is interested in upholding I would believe her innocent, but if so why did (she) persist in her intimacy with such a man as Dick Pindell, with nothing on earth to fascinate a woman, at least so

far as I could see, and he a married man too? And in the name of all that is good and pure, what was her mother doing? But she was always an old simpleton and we could look for nothing else. The poor girl had but little way to fall for she never had any purity of heart. Your account of Mrs. Warfield's health distresses me. She has ever been a kind and affectionate friend to me. She is the center of a family devoted to her, the idol of her husband and it seems a breaking up stroke for such a woman to be taken. I would almost be willing to go in her place for there is but one to give up for me. But of all the unfortunate does not Aunt Susan exceed? What will she do next? It is generally agreed that habit is second nature and of course she will marry again. I remember when Mr. Shannon died I ventured the opinion that she would marry again, and those who were sympathizing with her almost slapped my little jaws. She has committed the same folly as many times as twice since then.

From your account of the Lexington ladies there is no danger of the world coming to an end and I need give myself no care that my part has not been performed in the great work of multiplying and replenishing. An old Dutch woman, an amateur connoisseur granny says the 'Mishter Carter that is I'bs making family about one month' but her granny-ship is much mistaken. I am looking sufficiently pale, and black under the eyes to justify her suspicions but it proceeds from my old complaint – dyspepsia, which has of late

Page 4

Top

grown much worst and I fear has at length fixed upon some viscera and will occasion much more suffering than I have known as yet. I have made up my mind to being a Baroness and will let you and Liz Kinkead keep up the family. July 20 Thus far had I written my dear Amanda when I was called away and prevented from finishing my letter, which I now do, hoping for your forgiveness in the seeming neglect. Our week has made strange developments in my health. Some of the strongest symptoms that an "accident" such as you allude to has befallen me, present themselves, and the Dutch woman assures me that there is no doubt of the fact. After eating an unusual dinner the other day I was the sickest mortal you ever saw and she came in the height of it. She felt my pulse, asked some questions and shook her head, then ran to her house and brought me some medicine which relieved me in five minutes. I told her that there were reasons the week before to suppose I was not in the situation she suggested but she said it was nothing. She had known many instances of the kind. It seems that I am one inexhaustible reservoir of froth for I am sure I have expectorated a gallon per day for one week. I had a kind letter from Father last Sunday offering me a handsome wardrobe ready made if I

Tryoning July 15. 1845

My dean Sister

I Should have Tom plied with your nguest to write you by last mail, but for the la cepier heat of Junday and Monday. There is bat tittle abate hend. in the intersity of the weather, but I cannot bear the colar of your Supposing that I feel our momento in difer en to you and my dear brother, whose situations mulo m despect sympathy. I once indulged for a while, the lope that your residence at Richland would provide a Some of happing to yourselves as well as my Fulle and I asseme you that I light him on my return last Summer with much lep sadnep than on a for me recasion when he was without the Can of any female relative. Of recapitulation of the Causes which induced the present difficulty bould well- in no good and I Jorbean to mention them. I know that no man living low made quater sacrifices for a family than he did for thirty years of his life, and us one can new them in lickness with more tender neps. I have also anyo thought how ever that his guat know was in expeding und exacting too much from young people, for getting as many old after do to make allowances for the fallies and he con fisturies of youth. Ihm I look wound me and for how for there are who have the takent of Ocaring Children as they Shoulds, of in spring them Julings of afgection and respect without that the task is the of almost on perhan an power, and I ful qually disposed to look mildly apan The mitakes and enors of those to whom the lathas fuller. I know that Fulle has a high opinion of Esan's intellect, that him had set his heart whom his y a profiperral man and looked forward to her would be distances to. He had

grisously disappointed in Tengettes pursuing the course he did and less preparts to bear the disap pointment of his capitations in against to Evan. I hope and trust that matters many now him out better than they at-first promoced. Es and devoled allack ment- to you is this dafaquand in hours of brial and weathour and was he now single I Chould gually few for him. O'how after have In picad that the was So fortunate as to become a loife, commanding his highest toler and Un pact as well as affection, and that he was capable of appreciating the breasure. With inch claims whom him I know that his come to lower to to be onward and up wand however dank and glooming his prospecto many now seem. Them is no humain hearty which has not its own sorrows, and happy and they who can him for contolation to kind his bounds and hipes, who he firedides things were brightly and linds faces multhem thee, from as the net- of the world may. The storm without may Spend its fing and rage in sain when they know that every pulsation of fond hearts is for them, in their own happy homes. He arem is wise but I look in Dain through its los down for and lover procesion & than this. Such my dear Sister is my seperience of married life and such I know is yours. Be then of good Chur, let not des por dency take it's abode with you and the day which has downed so darkly will bughlin towards its moon the destil with undouded Splindown. you are the children africus mothers and I fel assured that this many, anxions fragues will be theard for their beloved off ofmy. and that The colo has gone to the home of the pure in heart will be a guardian angel for those to whom the clung so fondly be lefe. I guive for poor Georgea Combo. What does her Falher Ley ! He should have been at home and prevented that qualist Calamity, the marriages of a daughter to an infrinipled man. The has not only is comed his own west the drups but her injured the prospects of her younger resters. For thought

lep young gist! The has takens a step which no after fruden can retiron. If Juay is still an imstant woman how galling the treatment The is now new ang. How mortifying to her to be scoffed at by those whom I'm looked down whom in him days of prosperity. I hope him fate may be a warning to those who come after him. For the sake of our Is which way women is tutues led in appolding I would believe hu innocut, but if so why did percent in her tationacy with such a man as Dick Plondelle, with nothing on car the to faircinate a woman, at least-so far as I could be a married man too? And in the name of all that is good and pure, what was him mother cloing? But The was alivery am old Somptition and we could look for rolling clam. The poor gut had but little way to fall for the mon had any Gom account of mrs. Wanfields purity of heart. hallto distripes me. The has were been a Lind and affection. ate freed to mus the is the center of a family divoled to her, The idol of her hus band and it- Lamo a breaking up Stroke for such a woman to be taken. I would almost be willing to go in her place for their is but one to git for me But of all the importunate does not Clint In or exceed? What will she do must? It is generally agreed that habit in Second nature and of come One will morning aga Vamember when Mr. I hamon died I ventured the opinion that The would marry again, and those who were Lympathang with almost chapped my little jaws. She has committed the same folly as many times as twice Ince thew. From your acoust of the Lex inglow ladies there is no danger of the world conings to an end and I med give sange elf no care that my part has not been performed in the great works I multiplying and uplinishing. An old Dulch woman On amateur connoiseur graning sugo that Michtin Coulin that is I, be making familie what he mout; but her great Thip is much mistake. I am looking suffice alty pale, and bluck under the upes to partify him das picions but itproceeds from my old complant dys paper ca, which has of later

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers; Mss./A/5544e, Filson Historical Society Louisville, KY Thur I have you and Ling Kinkead Kup up the family Valy 201. I was Called away y dear amanda lohin ig my tetter, which I now do, hopmy One wak has made Strange d the Outob at there is no doubt of the - the other do The Est Ingo till Con in tol surge till amanda" I don't know what is going and won bees; but he will be delptional with

hands thank the second to the hands the hands to be the form of the hands to the second to the hands to the second to the second

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY

NOTE: This letter has bad blotting made by Amanda or Evan blotting their pen which is done on many of these letters. I have not been able to locate these three firstborns of Robert and Sophia Carter. Also, can not find a Mr. Cash that started a newspaper...

Postmarked: Grayson, Ky. 5 (cents?)

Oct (blotted out)th

Addressed to: Mrs. Amanda Shelby

Lexington

K

From: Susan Hart Shelby Carter

Wyoming Oct. 12, 1845

How happy I am my dear Sister to receive your delightful letter and how grateful to Heaven for the agreeable intelligence it contains. All this morning I felt depressed. I scarcely knew why and I really trembled until I saw the announcement that you were going to the country. I have several times seated myself to write you but I felt so unhappy and anxious about you that I rose from the table fearing that I might throw over you the same desponding feelings, but I feel now so buoyed up that I can scarcely refrain from screaming with delight. May you be happy and contented my dear Sister in your new home (Green Fields) and may the anxiety and con which you have experienced for some months past be forever strangers to your breast hereafter. If I could only see Fayette happily settled I should indeed be relieved of a weight of sorrow. Remember me to him with all sisterly affection. It is pleasant to hear that Father is engaged in profitable and agreeable speculations and I hope Uncle Tom may be amply remunerated for his trouble. You ask what the mountains think of Kinkeads being judge & I answer that they never heard of Kinkead, but think Judge Owsley might have appointed some lawyer living in the circuit or at least practicing here. There is a report that Kinkead will endeavor to attach Clay to this District in order to reside near his property, in which case there will be violent resistance made to this, by the whole country. It must be gratifying

to Uncle Tom that his daughter's husband need eat no longer the bread of dependence. I fear the news of our having Mary Combs for a neighbor is too good to be true, but I rejoice that she is to be well married. Is there no mistake. Since my disappointment about her to Tom Redd I feel rather skeptical. I loved their Mother and most sincerely desire the welfare of her children. Tell Mary or send her word to locate as near us as possible if the news be true that she is to come at all. Our brother and family have arrived and we are getting along remarkably well. His wife is an excellent woman, well bred and kind hearted and they have three lovely children, the youngest of which is a most special favorite with us, resembling her aunt Susan as her Uncle William thinks, and her uncle William as her Aunt Sue thinks. Can you imagine a more lovely creature than a blended likeness of two such handsome people? By the way judging from the enormous size of a certain body there is a prospect of more blended likenesses shortly if not sooner. She has continued to expand since her return saving and excepting which there is no other symptoms of any such calamity & of course no preparation for the same. I am much occupied making winter clothes for my household which comprises at this time 35 or 40 members, all of whom however I do not perform this office for. The Col. begs I will have the cutting and sewing

Page 3

done by woman in the neighborhood, but they spoil every thing they attempt and I prefer doing it myself. It is my pride and pleasure to advance his business in every possible way and I shrink from no duty which devolves upon me. About January I shall have to attend to Mrs. Robert Carter through the same trouble which await you and although I shall do it most cheerfully for her yet if we were near enough how gladly would I do all that a Sister can for you. Tell Ellen that the Col. is more in the notion of going to Texas now than ever and she need not be surprised to see us there in a year or two at sthist.

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY

Robert leaves shortly to investigate the titles of some land offered him in exchange for some property near Lewis County lies on Trinity river and if they are acceptable he has offered William _____ he wants if he will go there.

My sheet is nearly filled and I have told you nothing about "Our Village". I was dubbed while absent with the title of the Durham aristocrat and my only associates in the village share it with me. The title is derived from our Durham cows. Mrs. Crawford has recovered from a severe attack of spasms occasioned by hearing that Mrs. Carter had a dress ten yds in width. Her mother says she is glad the poor thing, that is Mrs. Carter, has some new clothes for she was nearly naked. I wore the polka blue to meeting and was sorry

Page 4

I did for all devotion deserted the congregation when I entered. Here you have a sheet filled up with naught but Ego, Ego, Ego. But you brought it upon yourself and can blame no one. There is nothing here to write about but oneself and if you get an answer to your letters your get egotism in perfection. What do folks in Fayette say of Cash now? Will his paper go on? Did Evan send the Col. a number? I think Cash sent it.

Remember me aff. to all my friends and your Father's family and believe me as ever

Yrs S. S. Carter

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, K happy I am my dear thinks to receive your delight

to Itaide Tom that his desighted his been No longer the bread of dependence. of our having Many Combo for a mighton is to be bus, but I rejoice that unieds. Is then no mistake. Times mi disappointment about her to Tom Redd & fee sather Replical. I loved their Mother come Sincerly dising the welfers of he Children. Tell many on land her wood to tout locate as new us no suble if I Our brother and family have arrive get of which is - a most especiale favorito with un resemble so the March William and her mich Williams as how lind live Kniks. in more lovely anature there wir a prospect of de Comom all of who

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY. by loss whole devote and allhough I shall do it mos on her get if low and the med as then in a y lows: Mrs. Carofa has n mrs. Contis had a drup time gos. in - Thing, that is Mrs. Cartie, has lem how elother for the lover nearly habed. I won the Polka blen to miting and was loving

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY told fo dup the gls. in he the poor thing, that is More. Carte the for the le bless to miting and

NOTE: Evan's announcement of Mary Pindell's birth Susan Carter named her in a letter dated Mar. 3, 1845 written to Amanda

No address.

To: Dear Sister (Susan Hart Shelby)

From: Evan Shelby

Nov - 6th 1845

Dear Sister,

On Sunday at 4 ½ o'clock the long expected event took place. After a protracted labour Amanda was delivered of a fine girl - Mary Pindell, of course. They are both now doing "as well as could be expected." The child is very large & perfect in all its parts. They all tell us she is the most beautiful thing of its age that has ever been seen. It is impossible to tell who she is most like. But all agree that her mouth & chin are yours to perfection. The most remarkable thing is, she has long dark hair. Amanda, however is dreading every day that it will become flaxy as both hers & my own were so when young.

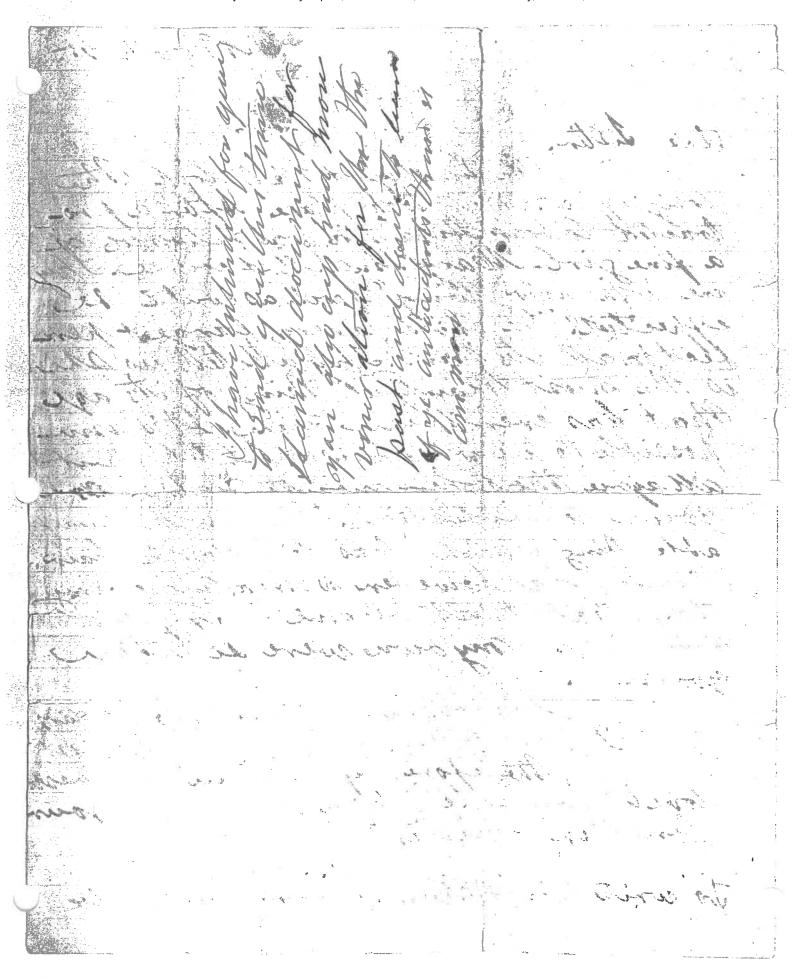
Our room is necessarily so dark that I can scarcely see to write, & I must conclude, therefore, by sending the best love to yourself & husband, of your brother & sister

E. Shelby

Do write soon & cheer poor Amanda

On back: Probably written by Susan to Mary Pindell years later

I have intended for years to send you this time stained document for you always had more veneration for the past and desire to learn of yr. antecedents than is common



NOTE: Mary Pindell "Pinnie" Napton (born Shelby), 1844 - 1923, daughter of Richard Pindell Shelby (Gen James' first born) had a daughter named Mary Pindell Shelby 18 months before Evan Shelby (Gen. James last born) had a daughter named Mary Pindell Shelby.

Mary Pindell "Pinnie" Shelby Napton was born on April 16, 1844, in Saline, Missouri, United States, to Richard Pindell Shelby and Rebecca Williams Shelby Dating 1845 11/2

Mary married William Barclay Napton on September 9 1862, at age 18 in Saline, Missouri, United States. William was born on January 5 1839, in Saline Co., MO.

CHILDREN:

No Children	Blanche Early NAPTON b: 16 OCT 1863 in Missouri Death: 02 MAR 1890
Has No Children	Malinda NAPTON b: 29 AUG 1865 in Missouri Death: 15 FEB 1888
Has No Children	Richard Shelby NAPTON b: JUN 1867 in Missouri in MO 1920
Has No Children	William Barclay NAPTON III b: 25 JAN 1874 in Missouri Death: 02 APR 1892
Has No Children	Evan Hart NAPTON b: 12 OCT 1876 in Saline County, M) Death: 02 SEP
1884	
Has No Children	Suzanne Frances NAPTON b: 05 NOV 1878 in Saline County, MO in MO
1910	
Has Children	John Reid NAPTON b: 11 FEB 1883 in M0 Death: 30 NOV 1950 -three children
Has Children	Roberta Bagwell NAPTON b: 1885 in Missouri Married Cordell, in LA 1930

Mary passed away in 1923, at age 78 in Marshall, Saline, Missouri, United States. She was buried in Smith Chapel Methodist Church Cem., Saline Co., MO. beside her husband.

The two Mary Pindell's kept in touch as Naptons live in St. Louis for several years and their father's sister Susan Hart Shelby Carter Magoffin lived just outside of St. Louis

NOTE: This is a little group of pages sewn together that were probably a part of a book at one time and are in Amanda Abigail Bruen's style of journaling.. This first pages are dated February 20, 1843 – to February 24, 1843 and reveals, I think, her first real encounters with Evan (son of Gen. James) Shelby with some veiled disclosures, hence its being saved. Dates then jump to May 18 - June 29 of 1843, possibly when he returned home from school with what appears to be his initials in reverse S -- E --.

There follows several blank pages and then Pages 16 & 17 show a list of the names of female and male slaves This list is written in different ink and as was her habit of not wasting paper - writing on list and notes on backs of letters, scraps of paper and like this on a few blank pages in this portion of her 1843 journal. I will date this list in October of 1846. Pages 18-22 show, penmanship practice and some written names. A list of Amanda Abigail Bruen's school subjects on July 13th & 29th and August 10th 1840 and her daily school schedule. She had just turned sixteen and within the year would tour Europe with her father, older sister and Lexington architect, John McMurtry. Also noted and possibly written at a later date, the name Miss Anna Jackson of New Orleans, Mary C. Shelby, her own and the name of Evan Shelby, Cincinnati Ohio. Mary Cosby Shelby's sister lived in Cincinnati for a while. Dating 1843



Feb 20th 1843 Attended the Presbyterian Fair given by the ladies of Lexington for the purpose of raising funds to be devoted to charitable purposes. On my return home a singular disclosure made by my companion. Feb 21st a second disclosure and in addition a singular proposition. Feb 22nd Several speeches made appropriate for the occasion...Feb. 24th called on the Harrisons with S---E--and had a very pleasant visit. * * * * * * * May 18th Visited the country. Passed a week with Elizabeth

Shelby. Went out on Wednesday having attended the evening before the nuptials of Laura Warfield and Christopher Rogers - Very

Page 2

unpleasant weather. Friday had a visit and Busy also from Evan Shelby. Saturday took a ride on horseback with him - Sunday went to Mt. Gilead with Fayette Shelby in the afternoon a visit from Susan Shelby & Morrison Pindell Mon. & Tues, a visitation from Mr. David Fields & Curtis Burnson

of Richmond - Tues - spent the day at Richland. Wed. returned home - Thursday Commencement of the annual State Convention of the Episcopal Church - Sunday Ordination in the Ministry, Confirmation in the afternoon. Among those

Page 3

who received this holy rite were two of my young friends Jane Mitchell & Fanny Curd. May 26th A visit from Louisa Smith, Sammy and the Bishop. May 29th Attended the marriage of Susan Shelby & Col. Carter -It took place Tues' morning at 11 o'clock - the ceremony performed by the Rev. Dr. Fishback - In Isaac Snelly daughten the evening a visit from S-E-Wed. 30th Went to the Sewing Society Thurs – June 1st spent the day with Mary Pindell Shelby. At the same time visited Mary Epps Scott -Had my fortune told by J. Jacobs. "Was to have a formidable female

Page 4

rival who would finally displace me in the affections of my lover." Fri. Called of M. A. Tomlinson, Sally Ward took a long ride with Sue Waller charged with an important secret. In the evening a visit from Mr. Hart Charles Bodley & William Waller. Sat. a letter from S-- E--also a visit from Miss Tomlinson - Sunday a fine day 143 scholars names registered on the roll book - morning and afternoon a sermon from Rev. Mr. Rennoe of Boston + + + June 5th Studied "Good's of Nature" Read Byron. Commenced reading the "Wives of England" by Mrs. Ellis In the morning a visit from Mr. Robertson. June 6th The Same

Mr. Edward Clarke, Mr. Allen, and S—E—called in the morning. In the evening attended a small party at Mrs. Breckenridge's June 7th Pursued my reading - A visit from J Mitchell & A. Darby - Informed of the death of Dr. Scott - In the afternoon a visit from Mr. Allen, also from Mr. Davis - June 8th Walked before Breakfast. Attended the funeral of Dr. Scott. In the afternoon call from Marie Hankins, Louisa Todd & Sister Aunt. In the evening attended a small party at Mrs. Curds. June 9th Walked again befor breakfast pursued my studies. In the Louisville, Kentucky

Page 6

morning a call from J Legrand and Mr. Doyle. June 10th Cloudy - did not walk - continued my reading - - - -An interesting visit from S-E—in the morning – June 11 Again cloudy. Attended S. S. heard Mr. Berkeley preach morning and afternoon. June 12th Visit from Mr. Noland & E. Shelby in the morning. Attended Mary Frazer's funeral. A call from Mr. Robertson & Mr. Noland in the evening again June 12th Still cloudy pursued my studies. June 13th A visit from the Misses

Page 7

Johnson in the morning
June 14th Thursday, Studied in
the afternoon visited Miss Warfield
and the Bodley family – June
15 Studied and sewed in
the morning, afternoon visited
Mrs. Mentelle's and Mrs. Dunham
also a visit from S—E---

Saturday the 16th a visit from S—E—called with him on S. Erwin who has just returned from Cincinnati. In the evening went with S. E. to a party at Mrs. Incho's given to the bride Mrs. Burrows formerly Louise Dudley. The 17th a pleasant day – attended S. S. and church – Mr. Berkeley being sick Mr. Sheppard officiated.

Page 8

June 18th A bright day In the morning a visit from Sarah Erwin and Gab Morton. In the afternoon a long visit from Mary Combs, went with her to see Mrs. C. Rogers Liz Shelby & S. Erwin. Also called on M Baldwin, the Misses Curds, Mrs. Burrows, Miss Ludlow and Miss Febbiger of Cincinnati. A Call from W. Dudley and E. Waller June 19th Very pleasant, walk befor breakfast. Party at Mrs. Fishback, given to Susan Carter. June 20th Pleasant. In the afternoon called with Laura to see S. Carter & L. Johnson - a visit from Mary Shelby. 21st of June In the evening attended a party at Mrs. Harrison's given to Mr. & Mrs. Col. Carter with S_E__N____

Page 9

June 22nd A call from Mary Shelby, Went to Mrs. L. Warfield's A visit from S – E – also from Mr. Wickliffe & Mr. Baldwin Mrs. Craig & Mrs. Sutton 24 June attended church & S School – had 150 scholars – Heard Mr. Berkeley preach – 26th Walked befor breakfast studied and sewed A call from R Verbiren and Lou Johnson invitation to spend the evening at Mr. H. Johnson's to meet Mrs. Carter

Went to Mr. Shelby's in the afternoon stayed until the next day Tues 27 a visit from S_E_ Daniel Breck & Mr. Meeker of Richmond

Page 10

28th Walked / a visit from G. Morton S _ E _ Mrs. Bell Timberlake – Mr. Cable – M Baldwin, Sue Waller Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. N(?) Shelby An invitation to a party at Mrs. McAlister's to be given to Susan Carter. Went to the sewing society" at Miss Curds – Have met Evan S----y & Noland – Stayed to tea – went to prayer meeting in the evening – 29th Took a long walk befor breakfast. pursued my studies in the morning –

11-15 Pages Blank

Some torn out

Page 16 - ½ Page Female Servant names: I placed this information under the date of October 1846

Clary
Milly
Winny
Ester
Charity
Ellen
Big Sarah
Little Sarah
Mary
Priscilla

Page 17 - 1 Full Page of Male Servant's names.

Dick Moses Jacob Hark Lewis Charles Andrew John Alfred	1 pr cut & made 1 shirt cut & made 1 pr cut & made 1 shirt cut & made 1 pr cut & made 1 shirt cut & made 1 pr cut & made 1 shirt cut & made 2 pr cut & made 1 shirt cut & made 1 pr cut & made 1 shirt cut & made 1 pr cut & made 1 shirt cut & made 1 pr cut & made 1 shirt cut & made 1 pr cut & made 1 shirt cut & made 1 pr cut & made 1 shirt cut & made 1 pr cut & made 1 shirt cut & made
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Page 18

A list of Amanda Abigail Bruen's school subjects in August 10th 1840 and her daily schedule. She had just turned sixteen and within the year would tour Europe with her father, older sister and Lexington architect, John McMurtry. Also noted and possibly written at a later date, the name Miss Anna Jackson of New Orleans, the end of the quarter August 14th 1840 and the name of Evan Shelby, Cincinnati Ohio.

Punctuality
Neatness
Deportment
Sermon
Poetry
Composition
Theology
Spelling
History
Chemistry

Page 19

This page is full of penmanship practice of letters

Over the top she has written:

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Amanda Bruen
Lexington, Ky
May 28<sup>th</sup> 1843

Mary C. Shelby
Lexington, Ky

Miss Bruen
Lexington
Ky
```

Page 20

A list of Amanda Abigail Bruen's school subjects in July 29, 1840 and her daily schedule

Punctuality Neatness Deportment Sermon Poetry
Composition
Good's Nature
Theology
Spelling
History
Chemistry

Page 21

More penmanship of practicing her letters

Page 22

A list of Amanda Abigail Bruen's school subjects in July 13, 1840 and her daily schedule

Punctuality
Neatness
Deportment
Sermon
Poetry
Composition

Good's Nature Theology

Spelling History Chemistry

NOTE: Found in the back of a collection of Amanda Abigail Bruen's journaling dated February 20, 1843 is this list. After she and Evan were married in May of 1844, they moved into Richland, Gen James Shelby's estate. His only daughter, who had been mistress of the estate until she married in 1843 was now living out of the county. The General was still living, and Evan's three unmarried brothers were there, Isaac (Ike), James (Jim), Jr. and Lafayette (Fayette). I believe the General to be rather contentious with his sons and their abilities. Sadly, they had no war to go fight in and none, with the exception of Evan, seemed interested in education. In 2005 when I visited Lexington, I wrote a poem about this called "General Shelby's Sons. Fayette suffered with ague (characterized by regularly recurring/intermittent stages of fever,

I believe Amanda did her best at being Mistress of Richland, but coming from a loving and joyful family, it was more than she could handle, being young and the only female there. By July of 1845, Evan and she had moved out (I believe to the White Hall, the Bruen's large home in Lexington) and came back to the lands of Richland when the original Richland was refurbished for them, just 6 months later. By late 1846 Fayette had left the area, and in late 1847 Jim was serving at Fort Barrancas in Florida. The General died in August of 1848 and left Isaac (Ike) as executor and Master of Richland. The oldest son, Richard Pindell Shelby was back and forth between Richland and Saline, MO Salina, MO as he over saw the salt mines they owned.

I believe that this is a list of the servants* that were at Richland in the fall of 1844 and that she helped to sew winter clothing for. Or perhaps during a later winter 1846-1849 noting that Milly died before the winter of 1850. I am Dating 1844 10/? as that is the month the winter sewing usually began.

1/2 Page Female Slave names:

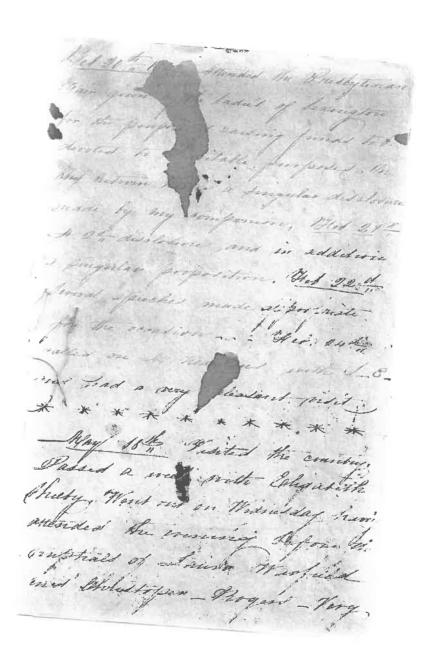
1 Full Page of Male Slave names.

Clary		
Milly		
Winny		
Ester		
Charity		
Ellen		
Big Sarah		
Little Sarah		
Mary		
Priscilla		

	Save names.
Henry Harry Tom Dave Basil Berry Dan Ben George Dick Moses Jacob Hark Lewis Charles Andrew John Alfred	1 pr cut & made 1 shirt cut & made 1 pr cut & made 1 shirt cut & made
	1 pr cut & made 1 shirt cut & made

It was Susan Hart Shelby Carter Magoffin's desire at her death in 1901, That the graves of the Black people of Richland be located and a suitable wall be built around them. Also, that those family members buried at Richland would be removed to the City of the Dead - Lexington Cemetery and a substantial monument be put up for them. While the attorney in charge fulfilled removing the family members, he noted that he could not locate the black peoples grave and thus could not fulfill that part of the request

Henry 1. po cut & made 1. whist and made . I made I shirt out formade " if made I shirt out & made . I made / Shirt out & made I made 1. Shint est tomade " I made I Staticut & made " I made I shirt ent formade facol " " I made historit cut made. Bark " Il made I Shirt cut & grade Lavied In " made Behits cot of made Charles I. pri made! shirt Cut. y made Sprane f. . D made 1- Shirt cutternade Alfred , Smade. I. Short coffend



unfeleadant greather " vider received this holy rite had a wait from weed Vindy now the of any young friends also from from theche Ind from Mitchell & Francy Gurd, Saturday took a ride on horse love May 20th A risit from with Paris - Amenday wort to him Sonian fruitte Commenty und Filead with Mayette Shorty -; the Bishopo May 1 agh _ I see the afternoon is well of -Attended the marriage of, Delan Mully & Mondal Pier Sudan Shelly & Al Cather = Mon y Trust, a wisitation from Il took plante Tued' proming at pur David Hield V Gasta Linne 16- o'clock the security parforme of Michmond - "Inch - Spent the by the Hear Boxes the Shack - In luy at Hickory . Hed_ the evering a mit from 1 6. adversed horry - Thursday Wed soll I Went to the forming loving "convencement of the samuel Thurs - fine 1th from the day with State Communical of the Lessites Any Pindell thely . At the home thurst - Show day Salander time visited Aging Chas forth to the marine, Confirmation Find my fortune total by A Proceed in the appointer Phinony Hode. The tot have a formiditie female

rival, who would finally displace one in the affections of my lover " Fin. Called of M. S. Torntinson Inlly Warns Jost a long ride with fine Where charged with in important) Secret. . An the prening a post from Mr 14 Wharles Bodley & William Wallen Sat I letter from & - 8 - Also a wilet from Muft Formendon - Anniday -. A fine day, 143 - Scholast drawne) tregistered on the roll food and after over The Hermoe of Both June of 3 Studied Goods B. fraise lommineed reading the Wires of Progrand by Mrs Ellis In the evening a just from Mobertsond, June 6 the fame.

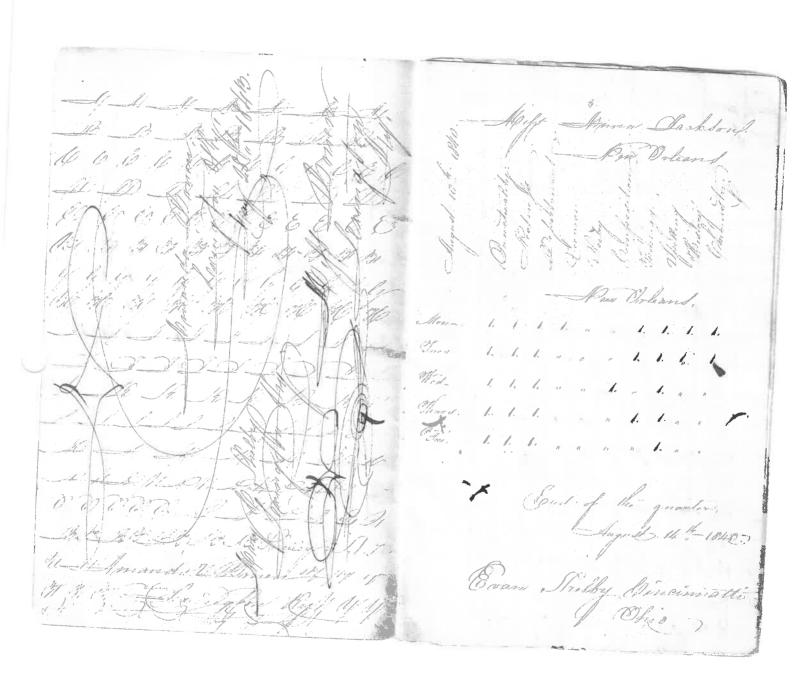
Age Edward Clarke, Mr & Hen wed V. C. called in the morning -for the coming schendes Small party at Nors Breck radges - June 19th I was ned my nekaning - I wist from & Mits VI Darry - Superined of the de Dir Scott - In the afterno west from her steen, also then Dars - Jame 8th Walke befor breakfall. funeral of Dy footh . In the afternoon call from mana minking Louda Gold, Vy Sisten String, In The grening thinded a friends. at the amold - Jan 9 7 again Sefor freak fait) my Stride In The ouldville Ventucky

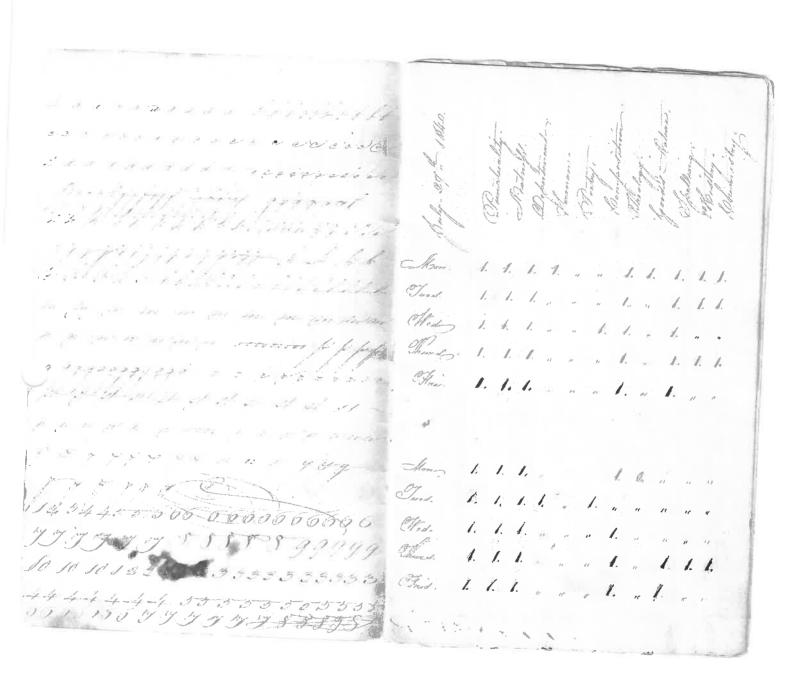
monning to call from & Leginia. Arhadone in the programme used Mr Woodle, Gine 10th I Gam Mt Murday, Andred por - Um This afterior visibled May Marfield - a red. The visit from I for 6 - in the proving - from 112 the morning, of from file called with funeral -In the focusing Parkertern V MW to a party a frence of the Arfale mos Louis Dudley. The day attended 19. 3 . A dist from the Musico and abuset I Mr Benkely being Lick Mr Mepperd officialed of

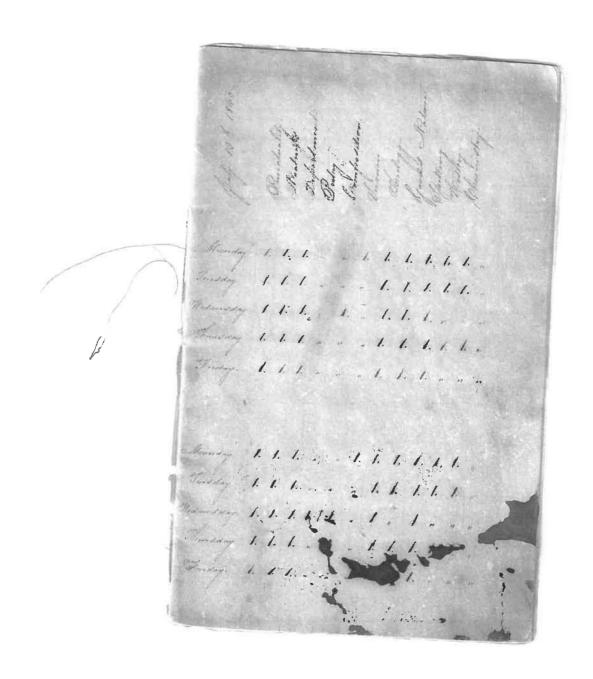
Jame 18 " - A bright day Ame 224 - I call from the If i The minning a brist infor Stick Sheety went to Mul I Daipided Growing and Cat Mortons. Is the I wiset from I - 60 - nelo afternoon to long rades from many from Mh Wickliffe Y Mr Baldwin Grand to ment with her to fee mile Mis Cong Y Whi Suttine Id Some Thogeth for Shelly & Lower Alse Mended church Y & Dekrot called on the Baldwin the miller had 100 tchelars - Heard Invols; Alist Burrery, Will predict Mer Borkely Spreach - 20 0 Walked Vacfore pragreat Andred and forced. before breakfull Party at Boss A care from the Vertuen and Hashbacks, given to Dusan Charten. Low Attendon unitation to Jame Doth! Pleasant - In the Afterd the greening at the Afternoon called with form to fee The Johndon's To prices fles Carter & Carter y L Getendon - I viset Gulfdent to Me Sheeky in the from May Milky . 21th of June aftertion struged with The In the ferenty attended a rice + day Suit - 27 - a order party et Will efamiliand given tion I - P - Daniel Break of on y cars list cearter with of the Miches of Richmond

4 Markon J. C. Mr. Bell

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NOTE: This is a little folded note written to Amanda from daughter of Issac Shelby, Jr. (Evan's uncle that lived at Arcadia) with the ever popular name of Mary Pindell Shelby She married Henry Lloyd Tevis, Sr. She must have been visiting the Lexington area. The only Aunt F she would have would be Aunt Susan Hart Shelby Fishback, her father's sister who married 4 times...she was living back in Lexington at that time.

Dated: June 29, 1843

From: Mary Pindell Shelby

To: Amanda Bruen

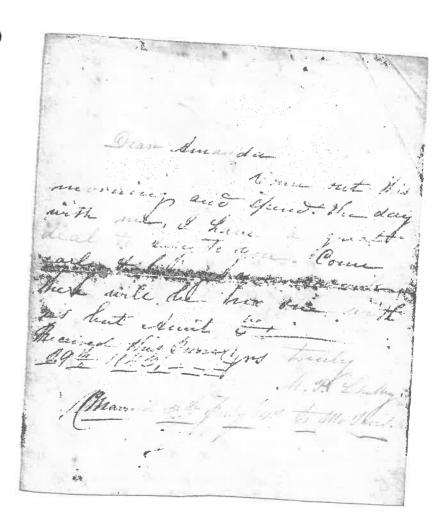
Dear Amanda

Come out this morning and spent the day with me. I have a great deal to say to you. Come early & bring your work. There will be no one with us but Aunt F

Yrs truly M. P. Shelby

Received this June 29th, 1843

(Married 5th of July '43 to Mr. Tevis)



NOTE: It was fashionable to remove to the Springs in the heat of summer and often during a siege of Typhoid Fever or Cholera. Amada was out of the country during the summer 1841 and letters do not seem to give an adequate time frame in 1842. By the summer of 1844 Amanda was married – so I am placing these undated notes in the summer of 1843. Elk Horn, Blue Lick and Estill among the most

The writing and signing of "Mary" also does not match Mary Smedes. This leads me to believe that this Mary is: Mary Jane Hawkins who married William A. Dudley in Dec. of 1845 and was a childhood friend of Amanda's. She would soon be one of Amanda's bridesmaids. I doesn't match Mary Cosby Shelby's signature. Guessing at Dating 1843 summer

Addressed to:

Miss Amanda Bruen At Brenan's Hotel Ivan Baskesy(?) Elk Horn Kentucky

From: Mary Jane Hawkins (?)

No date or salutation:

Many thanks my dear friend for your kind note. I was out of all patience with you for not paying me that promised visit and am not yet entirely satisfied with your excuse for I am sure we have had some beautiful days this week. We will say no more just now but settle our accounts when we meet which will be this evening if God is willing and the Devil has no objections.

You asked me if John B. is married, no not (John B. Tilford would wed Catherine Curd 6/1844) yet but from all accounts he has but few days to live in single blessedness, Latitia has just left me, she staid with me last night. She says her brother is to be married Sunday morning and leave immediately for Frankfort

(Latatia Tilford? - can find no record of her)

Page 2

she goes with them and will remain the balance of the winter. You say you have agreeable news from Johnny, opr (O pray ?) mention not his name to me, he like Alex has proved a heartless deceiver only to think of his being here for two long weeks / Long indeed have they seemed to me / and has not even called to see if I was dead or alive, how dear Amanda shall I revenge myself upon two such heart murders as himself and Alex -

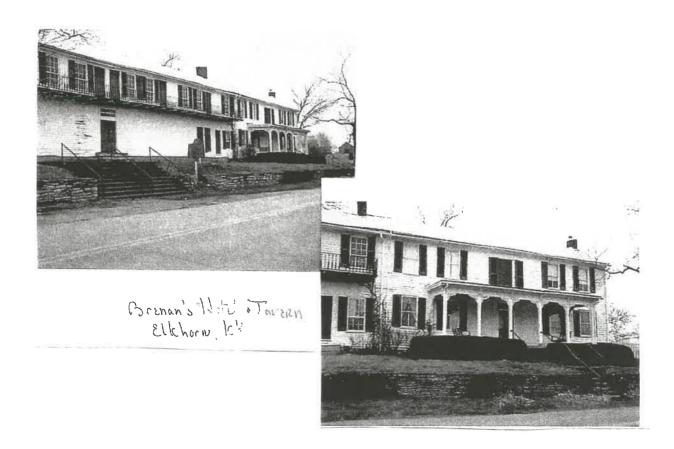
heart murders as himself and Alex by taking the suit, no that would be too gratifying to their vanity, but by marrying the first man that asks me black or white, it now makes but little difference with me which, enough of such nonsense. You mention not Ivan What has become of him, I hope he

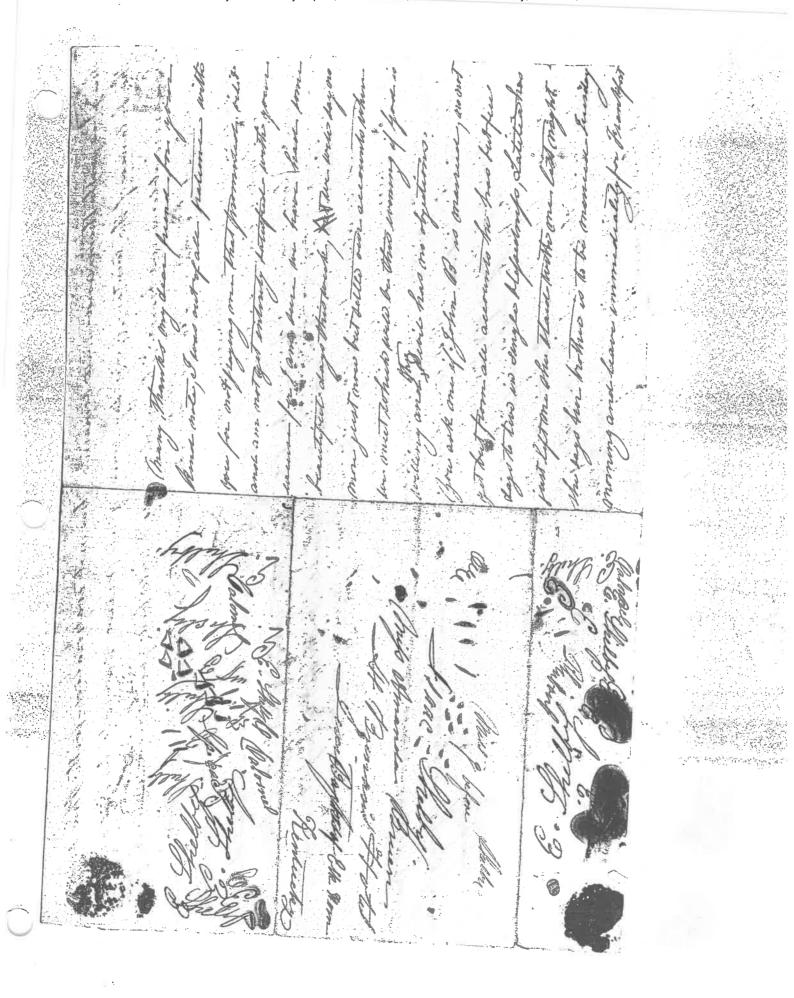
Page 3

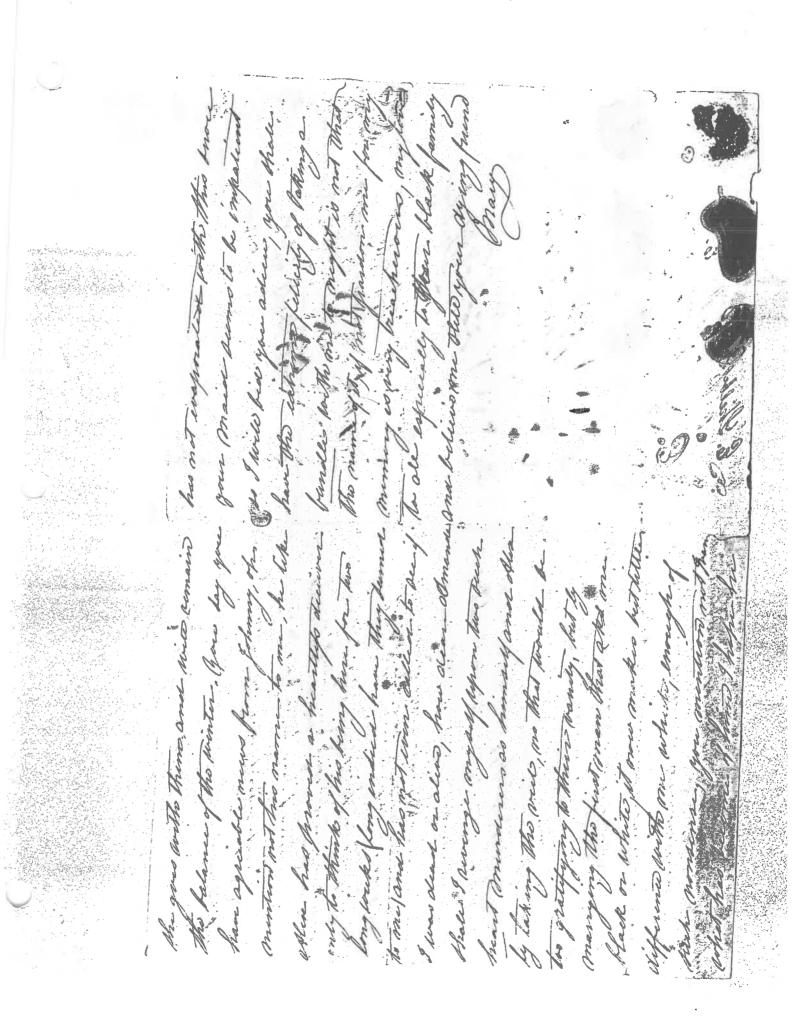
has not evaporated with this snow. Your maid seems to be impatient so I will bid you adieu, you shall have the extreme felicity of taking a bundle with me to night, is not that the name of it, if not pardon me for my memory is very treacherous, my love to all especially to your black family and believe me still your dying friend

Mary

Lots of scribbles all around including: Isaac Shelby, E. Shelby, Colonel (lots of) & Rhubarb...







NOTE: In this letter Lizzie identifies herself as Lizzie Smith and reveals that Amanda has not appeared for a promised visit to Louisville. Her older sister Louise apparently visited Lexington and Amanda was to return to Louisville with her.

Addressed to: Miss Amanda Bruen

Lexington

Kentucky

From: Lizzie Smith

Kalorama July 11th 1843

It seems almost strange to have to be again addressing you by letter my dear Amanda, and I feel that it will require at least a few more communications before I can feel the same ease and freedom in our intercourse as formerly. It would be strange indeed if in this long promise of our silence, new thoughts, associations and interest should not have risen with both of us; not that these should separate or alienate our hearts, but the failing to impart to each other as they occur, these growing realities of life has, I am sure you will allow, placed a greater distance between us, than a short days journey would seem to warrant. Do not imagine dearest A. / nor shall I of you / that I do not love you as much as ever. Yes! indeed I do for how could I cease to love one who for so many years has been my chosen friend and who has shown herself so insanely kind towards me and mine? Then as life goes by let us in our mature years, as in childhood and girlhood, love and confide in each other and afford one proof at least that a school-girl friendship is not so universally inconsistent as is believed.

How disappointed I was in the failure of

Page 2

your promised visit I leave you to imagine. I had thought "Well, if Amanda can really tear herself from all the attractions of her home and admirers to give us a week of her society in our quiet country home, I am sure she gives the most convincing proof thus she loves us as much as ever;" and then when Louisa returned alone I felt so disappointed, so discouraged, that I had neither the heart or wish to answer your tantalizing note. But time you know heals all wounds, and now that Father is going to honour your little town, once more with his presence, I feel a hearty desire to recommence our correspondence with renewed resolutions of punctuality, confidence &c, &c. I will take your part of the agreement, for granted / which by the way would not answer in all bargains / and dismiss at once and forever this disagreeable subject.

How provokingly you did excite and have unsatisfied my curiosity in the latter part of your note. Do tell me on paper what I am sure you would whisper in my ear were I near you. Assure me of the truth of the many reports I hear on all sides, respecting you and a certain "other". Just put yourself in my place and imagine how interested, how anxious I feel to "know the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth", on the most momentous subject, of changing your name, place of residence &c. Oh! I fear all is but too true that I hear. You will leave me in my loneliness as so many of the others have done; and Liz Shelby among the number!! I have scarcely recovered my breath since I heard of her marriage, not that

Page 3

she should not be married as well as any one else, but it took me so completely by surprise. Was it not very sudden? Did you know anything of it when L (Louise) was in Lexington? Answer all these questions when you write / and that must be immediately, and tell me every particular of the courtship, wedding, departure, etc. She has done well, has she not? I am delighted for her and congratulation her with all my heart. But dear A - you don't know how strangely, sadly it makes me feel as one after another of my old school mates leave the "sisterhood". It makes me feel that life is wearing on and that in a few short years this life will be over forever! It is not a happy thought, that this is not all and that in a brighter happier world the intercourse, the love of this may again be servered without fear of parting or change. To none of the names proposed in your letter did my heart answer, nor will it - I fear, ever have aught to impart in return for your "reveship". I begin to think that it will never be my lot to find exactly the right-one, and until I do be assured that not even the fear of remaining all my life in single blessedness would induce me to give up that much abused but time honoured acronym Smith.

I suppose you have seen M. Robertson e'er this and she has told you all there is to be told of interest. We visit town so seldom that I doubt not – you receive Louisville news before we do. I did not see Mary Craig when she was down, but have heard since that she is engaged certainly to a Mr. Dupay, I think. Whether she was admired or not

Page 4

I am unable to say. We heard of the arrival of Mrs. Carter in town and Father & Mother called upon her, but she had left the day before. She had several parties given her while here. I think that the Shelbys are doing pretty well, three married within so short a time. By the way, can you tell me when Susan Shelby's younger brother, Evan, I think is his name, is to be married? Perhaps you do not know him, if so I advise you to

Bottom

make his acquaintance as soon as possible as I hear he is a very fine young man; you may have the honour of being invited to his wedding. What an offensive is this! I am positively ashamed to let it meet your eye, but you must recollect that my pen and brain have lain so long in desire that it is not to be wondered at that they should both be a little rusty. If you will only answer this with one of your good long letters

Side

I will promise most faithfully to arise from my lethargy and astonish you with one of my brightest efforts of genius – Do not wait to write by father but sit right down the moment you have deciphered this and open your heart to your most indulgent and loving father confessor

Lizzie

Across the first page:

Louisa wishes to be remembered most aff. to all, would have written if I had not.

Virginia thinks upon racking
her brain that you owe her
instead of she you –
better it between you -

Note: Mary Craig did not marry Mr. Dupay, rather Mr. J. S. Brannin in Oct. of 1850

Halorama Valy 11th /45 It seems almost strange to be to be your dancing you by lite, my dear Amanda, and I feel that I will beginn at hat to few more amunication afine I can feel who same have and friedom in par into course as formely. It would be strange undered of in the his period of on blue. mus thoughts, exerciations and white to shale and and their with Tell of us; out that the Hable depende on alienale our hearts, but the ofacting to impart to each other as they seems, there growing thatitus of his has, I am some for will allow, plant a greater distance between us. There a short days jurious amel from the warrent. Is not imagine hearest of your that I of you that I as out how por to much as ever . Is! enduel I do for how could I crose to love one who for so many great dis been my chosen fried and who has Plone thought so amaria Hy kind towards me and mine? - Then as life gres by let us in our malures pears, as in shill lovel and girl hand, love and empide in each other and afford one proof, ch best that a selost girl friends lip it sich do unicessaly, in constant is is believed. How disappointees I was in the failure of

Jour primised visit I have gon to imagine. I had thought " Thele If amenda can really has herself from all the other hims of he home and admirers to give us a wat of her driety in pur griet-country home. I am live the gives the envel. converienceing from the the loves in as much is ever; bude there when Louise aturned close I full for disoppositely to to consequel, that I lad wither the heart or wish to angul jour tantelying note. But the you have heals your little love once more with his presure, I fue il walnes and some that taken is a least, leave to recommence our correspondence with tomively resolutions of purctuality, confidence gar- ga. I will take purposh of the apreciant, for granties / which by the way would not answer in all bergains and dismiss at some and firews the disagreeable suffice How proorhingly you mie exacts and have musetisfield my curiosity in the latter part of your auto . fo the one on paper what I am done you would whis per in my ear were I mer you. descure me of the truth-of the many reports to hear on the sides, respecting you and a certain ther what put providely in my place and imagine how interested, how any ins I feel to know the truth, the whole thinth- and mothing but the buth" on the juret minutares suffert, of Shonging your name, place of residence for . ah! I fear de his but too true that I hear. Here will leave me in my line times as to many of the others have some; and Lig thelly surrey the sumber !! I have cleavely receiver my breath since I heaves of her marriage so met that

The should not be pursued is well so my me day, but it - in Tiel jon him digthing of I when I was in Leguiton? A have all these goes hours when you write I and that mus. suntohip, me alling - de per line ge. Ih has ame well, her with see my heart. But then it - jon dent hum has shought, sade it makes me fue do me after an. other of my de better mates have the " is to home" all-makes me feel that life is wearing on and that in a for what years this fle will be over forever! It it - sut. a laffy thought, that this is not all and that in a bight happen untel them atten, the intranse, the line of this may again to semential authors from of porting to change do home of the names projected in your letter this mis my heart answer, our with it-I fear, out love aught to simpart in return for your "reveshings". I begin to think that it will ours be my ist to find yoully the right one and mutil I do The assured that not men the few of perising all my by in single bluescenes would induce met to give up that and were but the house of hours I suppose for have been M. Thestoon on this and the las total for the three is to be total of indust. The sisit win it selden that I with our you have downieled news before me to I die not be sally Evaing when the was derver, but down have fine that the is by agent estant to a M's fleggy of think. Whether the was Edmined or red.

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY with one if firs me lux Then eyes had green Museum the way, earn you the a Thelp are don't pretty ouch, there

NOTE: nine months before Amanda's wedding to Evan Shelby. She mentions the grip — "In the year of 1843 a general malady disseminated in Ohio. It was an influenza, called the French La Grippe or "Tyler grip." Its most prominent symptoms were sore and tearful eyes, copiously discharging nostrils, pain in the forehead and over the eyes, sneezing and soreness of the lungs and throat, and cough. Sometimes diarrhea prevailed to a large extent. There was remarkable depression of strength, and this symptom was sometimes so pronounced as to cause death of aged or weakly persons. Patients with weak lungs would often recover very slowly, or would eventually die by the super added weight of the influenza. Ordinarily the worst symptoms would abate in three or four days, but the full recovery of the strength was a work of considerable time." (found on the internet) Years later Amanda's only and beloved Shelby sister-in-law would succumb to this disease. While growing up, anytime we were sick and achy, mother would say we had "the old fashion grip".

Postmarked Lexington Ky. Sep 1 18 3/4 (cents?)

Address to: Mrs. James O'Bannon
Paducah

Kentucky

Lexington Aug 29th 1843

From: Amanda Bruen

Joy, joy dear cousin that we the only scions of our noble race in this western country shall again be within a few hours ride of each other. It is what I have hoped and prayed for. If you could have seen with what glee I ran though the house communicating the news, and with what wild expressions of delight it was received, you would feel that our professions of love and affection were not all empty words.

Little Maria is no less pleased than the rest of the family. She claps her sweet little hands, and with her sweet little lips says, "O Mamma and is Cousin Fanny coming up to see me and <u>bud Joe?</u>" She is digesting many plans in which Miss O'Bannon's comfort and amusement are much concerned.

You did not say whether Cousin Eliza and Hunt Saunders intended leaving Paducah. Do write immediately and inform us of the designs. What could they do without you and the baby? Not at all in my opinion.

Now you must not disappoint us, come the first of October, and before if you can. We are anxiously looking forward to the time of your arrival. I think with pleasure of the possible visits we will pay each other; for you know that it means of steam, (which, perhaps you have heard is a great improvement on horse power), we may see each other in an hour and a half. But you doubtfully wish to hear something

Page 2

more interesting than my sage reflections. I suppose Mr. O'Bannon

heard all the news from our famed watering places, Harrodsburg and Blue Lick while he was in Frankfort, so I will not repeat. Have you heard of Rosa Vertner's intended great wedding? If they have not been holding out false lights to the citizens, it will be a most brilliant affair. The bride will be adorned with pearls and orange flowers; Mary Wickliffe, bridesmaid the fourth will appear in a full blaze of diamonds. Nor will their jewels and laces be the most elegant part of it, the house and garden will be as brilliantly illuminated as the ball of St. Peters during a carnival. It will eclipse anything of the kind ever witnessed in this back woods. It is not kind in dear, old aunt Vertner to astonish us simples so much. If we get over it this fall it will be well. The Johnsons will catch an idea and therefore give three magnificent fetes at their respective houses. Each of the bridesmaids of whom there are four will give her parties. Claude and Rosa are surely divinities to be so worshipped. All jesting aside, Mrs. Vertner talked as much of her Rosa's nuptials as if she were a priceless royal. They, that is, Miss. V. & Mas. Claude Johnson will have very warmest wishes for happiness, although the old lady has almost talked me to death of her child's beauty and golden prospects. There are several other marriages in contemplation, but the ladies concerned have made me their confident, and therefore I am not at liberty to tell of them. You will hear of them very soon however.

Page 3

Do not imagine for a moment from this appearance of secrecy, that I am one of the parties concerned. The report of my approaching marriage mentioned to you by his green generalship, Flournoy is untrue. It is universally believed here, and the gossips of the place have gone so far as to appoint the day. They say it is to be the 17th of September. Lo! how it makes me laugh; and when I laugh they think it affection. Tell Cousin Eliza that I have not so soon forgotten her good advice, not to marry at all events until I am twenty, and if I have sense enough wait until I am twenty-five. — Some kind friends are afraid to visit me for fear they will interrupt preparations. The origin and foundation of such surmises they will find in their own inventive brains.

Since the close of the fashionable season at the Springs, our city has been crowded with strangers and some of them distinguished ones. S. Carneil, the Great Western among ladies, has caused a great deal of gossip by her flirtation with the beaus. She had rejected Mr. Willis, and sent him in a dying state across the ocean; she is now a candidate for Mr. Murat's hand! a son of the king of Naples' says Aunt Vertner. If she marries him, wont she be a

queen? You would have a severe attack of fever if you could hear the fashionable scandal in this dear 'Athenia".

But I must tell you of home, and house folks. Except an occasional complaint of the "Tyler grippe' the health of our family has been excellent this summer.

Page 4

Top

Maria is angelic, Joe would not to soon remind one of an angel, tho' quite an interesting child, but Maria always was, and always will be uncommon. She reproves us in her sweet way for any act of impoliteness or any neglect in our dress — If there were many such children the grown people would have to give up to their better reason and judgment. You must excuse

Bottom

a <u>fond</u>, <u>young Aunt</u>, for boasting of her lovely little niece. Quite a la Vertner! I went last night to see an exhibition of two paintings, "The City of Seville" and "Belshazzar's Feast". I only mention this in order to advise you as you are an admirer of the fine arts, to go to see them if they are shown in Paducah. Your too short letters seem to say I do not like long ones, so I will not

Side

tax your patience. All send love to all, my humble self included. If you love me answer this immediately.

Amanda

The Maid of Orleans (alias fat Betty) just now raised her silvery voice to say "that she was most happy to hear that there was a possibility of Sister Hannah's coming to Ky." She insures her love to be sent to all coloured and uncoloured.

more interesting than my page perfections! heard all the owns ow farmed unter and Polin Lich while he was in Brandful & B. refer Man you heard of Mode Mutacian medding? If they have not been helding out to the atigent it will be a most Sulliant affair will I believe for problement only flowed of the first will affect the fresh will affect to a full of - and Mor will them just find had be the prost dignit fact of its the houle and gran will be at Soul hartly illuminated at the ball of I Deterd during a comand It will color my trung of the hind can putualled in this book mode. It is plat hand in dear old and thating to astroich is simple to puch of in get on it this fire I will be seel. The Tokulows pill ratch son pales and Humpon give three magnificent fited At their respective housed. Each of the brides- maids of whom there are from will give her partiel. Claude And Mola in fruit dimitied to the proshipped. Ill jesting aside, Most Western tacks as smich of bur Bode's purptuals as if the more in principle juyal. They, that is, Mr I Alfor Claude Solmbon will have my warmed pushed for my happined, although the old lady had almost talked me to death of her child's hearty mid golden prospects. There are formal other marriaged in contemplation, but the ladies concerned have made me their confident, and therefore I am not at liberty to tell of them. You will hear of them very from frommer.

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY oment from this apparais in the flate the place have instance from the class of the fashion able feator at the Apr city has been crowded puth strangers as them distingueshed and I barned, the Great couled . Is great that of gottef with the beauge , the had rejected dying state served the ocean; the is Munuto hand In Low of the hunt Vertuer If the married neen ? Mon smeld have a . feren attack ashionable Soundal But I must tell you of home, Except an occasional somplaint of the " by. health of our family has been excellent this firminer.

NOTE: This is a folded invitation I am assuming to Amanda Bruen. Daniel Vertner married Elizabeth Abercrombie Harding (his 4th wife – other three had died – no children) and adopted Rosa (she was Elizabeth's orphaned niece - John T. Griffith married Harriet Abercrombie) and later might have written a poem for Rosa in one of Amanda's school journals. Also included and calling card signed on this date, assuming at the wedding – cannot read names. This is an oval photo of Rosa – not sure where it came from but the age looks right for here **Dating 1843 8/30**

Dated: August 30, 1843

From: Mr. & Mrs. (Daniel) Vertner

To: Amanda Bruen

Mr. & Mrs. Vertner request the pleasure of your company on Tuesday evening at half past 8 o'clock

> Thursday August 30th 1843

Inside in Amanda's handwriting:

Rosa Vertner married to Claude Johnson the 5th of September 1843.

The ceremony preformed by Rev'd Edward F. Berkeley



Mr & Mond Vertown Uguest the pleaser of Your Company on Tuesday woming athalf bust & O Clock

Thur o day, 1843.

Dland Portrue married to Dlande Definson The 5th of The commony performed by Mortely

NOTE: Another letter from her dear friend, Lizzie Smith. Dating 1843 10/24

Postmarked: Louisville KY Oct 29 10 (cents?)

Addressed to: Miss Amanda Bruen

Care of Joseph Bruen, Esq Lexington

Kv

From: Lizzie Smith

Kalorama Oct. 24th 1843

How can I address you my dear Amanda after this long silence? I felt as if I had entirely forfeited all right to your affection or your forgiveness, and I can assure you that is no pleasant feeling towards a long loved, long tried friend. One would think that my stock of friends was much too small to throw aside in this way one of the very dearest; but if my silence has appeared in this light, be assured you have done me great injustice. I have never forgotten, much less ceased to love you, but absolute shame prevented me often so long a silence from answering your last. Oh! how often in visions of the night as well as in my waking dreams has your image with that of dear Mary Smedes arisen before me, carrying me back to the days of our childhood, when we were so constantly together and loved each other so entirely without the intervening shade of absence or coldness. These happy days were very fiercely recalled a few weeks since, when on coming out of church I was accosted by no less a person the Charley Smedes!

I did not know him, nor did he recognize me at first. I fancy we are both much changed since we last met, I <u>feel</u> so, I know. He was very cordial and in the short time we had together we recalled "auld-lang-syne"

He was (two marks?)

Page 2

and spoke of you. He left for the South that very day and so could not come out to see us. He is not so hand-some as he use to be.

Last Sunday I saw in Church another old friend, Mary Crosby – but the crowd was too great for me to get to her and being obliged to ride directly out, I was obliged to give up seeing her. How disappointed I was! I did so long to hear of Liz and you. Tonight however Louisa who has been in town has returned and brought tidings of you all. She called on Mary, found her at home and had a long talk about dear Lexington. I felt myself almost

transported to the old Seminary and its now delightful neighborhood, in hearing of Elizabeth Shelby's (I must call her so) nice house so near it. How delightful it would have been for us all to be so near together. I do not like to think of it, it makes me almost discontented with our present situation. Do write me just how she is situated and of your intercourse with her; and above all tell me truly of these reports I have on every side of your intention to change your name situation, and your very being, for if you do marry you will be lost to all your single friends. So tell me truly, dear A, as truly as I would confide in you in the same circumstances, be sure that it will be as safe with me as in your own breast.

There has been a great deal of gaiety in the city these last two or three weeks owing to the wedding of Miss Jacobs. I don't know what has made more talk, for this many a day than her wardrobe, wedding etc. Annie Atkinson was one of her bridesmaids and has given her a party. She (Annie)

Page 3

is one of the most beautiful and fashionable girls in Louisville. I could scarcely recognize her as the quiet school girl of two years ago. I hear Miss Frank Smith will be married very soon and you will have her in your city. But I dare say you know a great deal more of all these things than I do, and so will spare you.

I am beginning to shutter already at the approaching of winter with its bare dissolute fields and trees. To you in L (Lexington) it rather brings an accession of gaiety while it takes from us the little that embraces us in Summer. I cannot complain however of being lonesome or eminge (French), I have so much to occupy my every moment. Our school is quite full now, quite as much so as is pleasant. I do not however become as much attached to the scholars, as I used and we never have had I think as sweet a set as in L (Lexington). Of that number how many are settled in life and the others in a fair way to be so! Lizzie Hall is to be married in three weeks and there is some talk of Mary Herens intentions. She is now in L. (Louisville) but will soon leave for New York, where she is henceforward to reside. She is "frisky" enough, as Annie A. used to say - but dresses elegantly and is a good deal admired. Of Ellen Gwathmey I hear nothing. Eliza Jane is with her in Missouri.

What an unconnected scrawl this is! But I have written amid much bustle and noise and just exactly what popped into my head first, and indeed it has been so long since I have written at all or to anyone

that I have actually forgotten how to form my letter and spell. You must not be shocked then if you meet

Page 4

Top

with sundry errors. You must receive this however bad as it is, as a piece offering in a forgiving and forgetting spirit and above all, revive that spirit by one of your own long interesting letters written if not the first moment after the perusal of this at least written three days of it and I promise you – no! I will not promise, but you shall see how promptly it will be answered. Do tell me how Elizabeth (Ingels), Busy, Maria your mother and father &c

Bottom

all are, and just what you do and propose doing. You were of course at Rosa's wedding. Was it very splendid? How does E. Brand appear? &c &c &c. God knows just who and what I should like to hear about, at least if you have not forgotten. Since I wrote we have been to the Mammoth Cave and I should like one of these days to tell you all about it. I wonder if I shall ever see you again? Now don't laugh when I tell you I don't feel much as if I ever should. Our paths in life will be so different.

Side

All send very much love to all, Virginia especially to you, which receive with a large, large share from your still devoted

Lizzie

P.S. I haven't said half I want to but it is so very late and I am so very tired, having been in school all day that I must indeed go to bed. I think I shall dream of you to night. May you visit me as a pardoning angel!

Received Oct 31 1843 (in Amanda's writing)

Across the top of first page:

I was surprised last week by a visit from Mrs. Brand and Amelia. They were on their way to St. Louis. Amelia does not look
well. They could tell me
nothing of you - Sam Kennedy was with them
and made me enjoy
by his positive assertions
with regard to your marriage to - you can guess
who - One would have
taken him for your
confidential friend I contracted all
flatly, for which I
suppose you will not
thank me -

Have you seen any of Miss Bremer's morsels(?) Are they not delightful?

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY . I dith you, my dear Amen blinee ? - I full as if I had entirely of expertises que affection or your firgioeness, while I came assure you that is no poleasant feeling timesas, & long ed I ling truck friend. One would should that my selock of friends yes much to small to this still int disusty but if any silence has opposed in hight, be assured por have boone me great injuste I have never forgottens, much fess ceased to live zone, Our atsolute theme prevented one ofter to long for filme for answering your last. Oh! has often in he visins of in any making dreams pas The but that of dear hard Imales aprises before me, comfin me back to the days of our childherd, when constendly together and level each ther to entirely without the intervining shall of absence or coldness. I. These hoppy days where very fireity recative a few weeks - an coming, but of church I was accosted by no fels a person them, tharty foundes! I did not know him, dos dies be successive me as ney me are both much changes for feel so, I know. He was afor cordial and the thirt time we had together we rehalled 'andel long De was

and spoke of your. He left for the South that very day and to could not come out to be us. He is dut ad handdome us he will to be. Least Sunday I law in Church another del frience, Many Costy - but the cruce was too great for one to get to her and being oblique to vice Miety out, I was obliged to fine up sails her. How disappointete de vies! I dike de leng to hear of Ly and you! To might however Lemien who has been lin town has returned and brought trough of you all. The called on Many, fund his at himed and had a long talk about deal Lexington. I felt supelf about frams furtice to the old chimney and its show delighted cale her do mice house so men it. How delight fut it mould, benfor us all to be so mean together. I do not like to think of it; in crakes me almost discentented with one pusent situation. No write me put how the is situated and of your interemese with her; and above all tito me truly by these reports I have on every side of pere intention, to takenge your hence betwaters, and your very being, for If you do many you will be list to all your single fruit To tele one truly, deer of ... as truly as I would confide in you in the same circumstances; be luce that it-will be as lefe with one as in your own breach. There has been a great del of gaiety in the city these best two or three weeks vering to the wedding of Migh Sacols. I don't know what has made more tato, for this many a day then her ward tobe, wedding Se . Amie Alkinson who ones of her brides maids and the grien her a party, The lawie)

is me of the most heartiful and fashinable girls in Smissilles I could scarcely recognize her as the quiet behol-girl of two years ago. I fear this Frank Smith will be married very I fin had for with have her in jun into That I dane hay per hours la great deal more flate the things than I do. and to will space you. with its have world fills and trees for you in I - it nather brings an accession of griety while it takes from was that little that enhanced us in Junear. I count complain homer of hing lovesome so eminge, I have so much to seempy my Every moment. I Que school is quite however become as much attached to them, as I was and we never here had I think as freet a lett as in I. If that own he has many are felled in fife and the others are a fair way to todo! Lyin Hall is to be married in their weeks, and there is some talk of Mary Morrers intentions. The is new mind- but will som lefter for new Book, where she is hereefined to reach. the is "frisky" enough, as limie an usice to pay but dresses elegently and is a good deck admised . Of Ellen Swather I hear on thing. Of justine is with - her in what en enconnected perant this is! But I have i written amid much bustle and noise and just exactly what popped wito my herse first, and I deed it has been to long since I have written at all or to any one that I have celestly forgother how to form my letters and spele; you must not be shocked then if you must

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY with smidty errors. Whe much received this himaer had as it is as a bester flering, in a forgaining and forgetting spirit, and above ale, comice that appoint they are of put order, ling the principal the principal the first primary of the principal of the first primary of the first primary of the first of the sound of the soun and I primite for, - no! I will not primite, but you shall be how promptly it will be enswered. To tell me how Elizabeth (Lightes). Busy- Marie four mother & father & all are, and first what you do and propose during In were of course at Mosa's medaling loss it very splendice to them were does & Branch appear go go go by the know frest who and for gotten. Ince I wrote me have feer to the Manualt Cave, and I should him one of their days to lite for ale about it. I muder if I shall our see you again? Mars, don't laugh when I tile you I clent feel much as if I eve Handel. Our pottes in life wile he do afferent -

NOTE: Susan Hart Shelby, only surviving daughter of Gen. James Shelby, married for the first time at age thirty, May 30, 1843, to Col. William Grayson Carter. She has been a bride for only a few months when she began a long standing correspondence with Amanda, her sister-in-law to be. Which eligible bachelor cousin she refers to is a mystery – possibly Isaax Prather Shelby, Maj. Thomas Hart Shelby's son.

I believe "Wyoming" to be an existing Carter Estate in Carter County, KY (about one hundred miles from Lexington), possibly his brother Robert's.

Mary Combs is the daughter of Gen. Leslie and Margaret Trotter Combs. He bought Maj. Thomas Hart Shelby's farm in 1892. Mary married Alexander J. Mitchell in March on 1846. **Dating 1843 11/6**

Postmarked: Grayson Ky. 12 (cents?)

Novr 6

Addressed to: Miss Amanda Bruen
Lexington

From: Susan Hart Shelby Carter

Wyoming Nov. 6, 1843

My dear Amanda

I intended before leaving to have requested the pleasure of a correspondence with you but as an opportunity did not occur and as Evan has requested me to answer his letter by writing to you I am seated for the purpose. In the first place then let me request that you will not criticize very severely the many faults which I fear from the commencement I have made, you will find in this my first. The hour is late, the fire nearly out and the Col. impatient for me to read him to sleep. I had a long letter from Mary Combs to day giving all the news from your fair city. Who will captivate our handsome young cousin. Will he be satisfied with any of the Lex. belles? Pity you have put your self beyond the power of using your bright eyes for that lawful and commendable purpose. However I guess he will be so flattered and spoiled by the admiration he will receive that there is little hope of his ever being good for any thing but a ladies' man, who of all other characters is the last in my estimation

Page 2

Do you think that La Norman and Blain will make a match? Such seems the prevalent opinion on the subject. Mary is a sweet girl and I do hope she may be happy as long as she lives. She was early deprived of the care of both her parents and I feel a deep interest in her welfare.

I have become one of the most quiet and sober old ladies you ever saw and am so happy in my new station that I would advise all the girls when they can get as good a husband as I have to accept by all manner of means. I have now no wish in connection with him and my home and should be perfectly happy if that home were ten times more remote from what is called the world than it is. I often heard my acquaintances say before I was married that girls know nothing about happiness until they were married and I felt disposed to doubt what they said but am now fully prepared to substantiate all they can testify in its favor.

The people of this country are generally very poor but there are some who are warm friends of my husband and upon whom I could depend in case I wanted a friend with

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far greater certainty than upon most persons in fashionable life who like you and seek your society only as long as you can add to their pleasure. I lived long enough in society to ascertain that fact and have come to the conclusion that as refinement advances so selfishness keeps pace. A man or a woman of the world looks upon one who does an act for which he can expect no adequate return, as perfectly green and he who understands the quid pro quo best is most to be commended. But you are young and untainted with the world and I will not enlighten you as to its hollowness while ignorance may be bliss. If I were to again mingle in its heartless circles it will not cause one sigh from me.

I have dwelt much of late upon the subject of religion and would be glad to feel its sacred influence but there are many things which we are called upon to believe which I do not understand. Why should God at one time have revealed himself in person to his creatures and have given them his commandments, and at another hide him self from them? How can we believe that the Almighty was thwarted in his designs as regards man,

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that he fell contrary to his expectations and consequently did not act as God designed he should? Why did he send his son for the purpose of being crucified and then punish those who crucified him? Those and many other things are beyond my power to understand and I should be acting the hypocrite to say but I believed until I do understand. But let me not weary you with my doubts and fears.

Remember me kindly to your Mother and Sister. and believe me dear Amanda yr. aff. friend

Susan

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P.S. When I write again I shall endeavor to improve as to penmanship and diction. Therefore give me an opportunity very soon.

Do your think that La Norman and Blein will make a match? Ind Luns the privebut opinion on the Subject. Many is an Sweet- girl and I do lope may be lappy as long as the lives. The was early defried of the care of both her points and I fee a day interest in his bullying. I have become of the of the most quitand lober old ladies gue wer dans and arm as happy in my new thation that I would advise all the girls when they came get- as good a husband as I have to accept by all manner of mesens. I have now no wish in connected with him and my home and should be perfectly happy if that home were tien times more under from what-is called the world them it is. I often heard my acquintances say before I was manied that girls know nothing about happing mitte they were muriced and I fell-disposed to doubt what they daid but an more fully prepared to dubstential all they can testify in its form. The people of this country are generally my poor but there are some who are warm finds of my hus beind and upon whom I lould depend in lave I wanted a fined with

for quater certainty them upon most preson in fashon able life who like your and Luke your dainty only so long as your am and de to this pleasure. I have long enough he locaty to assentime that fact and how come to the conclusion that as upine ment advances de delfishing keeps pace. a man a coman of the world looks when our who does an act for which he " an expec no adequate when, as perfectly green and he who well clauds the grid for gus best is made to be commended. But you are young and testainted with the world and I will not bulighten as to its hollow neps while ignorance may be help. If I not again mingle in its hearthy circles do will not cause one ligh from me. I have dwell-much of late upon the dutfeel-of ningion and would be glad to ful its laced influence but them are many things which we are called upon to believe Which I do not huder sleund. Thy Should fad al-one time have availed himself in person to his en atures and here given them his low mandments, and al-another hide him delf from them? How can we believe that the alweighter was thought in his designs us negards man.

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY that he fell contact to his expectate comis gently did not ust as face been he should ? They did he show his is P.S. Blum I write again I chall

NOTE: Amanda's references to having seen "a book of sorted words" (she would have loved one). A note written in blue pencil with instructions in another's writing – of gathering Amanda's writings for her daughter, Mary Pindell. I believe there was a concerted effort to amass some of Amanda and Evan's writings to be persevered for Mary Pindell, that she might know her mother and father. We have to be very grateful towards: Aunt Busy (Sarah Bruen Cronly) and Susan Hart Shelby Carter Magoffin and for Maria Leonard Halstead O'Bannon Jones for the preservation of these letters. The earliest letters we have from Amanda come from her correspondence with Aunt Catherine Halstead Saunders, her daughter Eliza Halstead Maurous and her daughter Maria Leonard Halstead and begin in 1838 when Amanda was just thirteen years of age. Elizabeth Bruen Ingels third child was named Eliza Maurous, born at White Hall on October 31, 1843. Dating 1843 11/13

Postmarked: Lexington, KY November 13 9 (cents?)

Addressed to: Mrs. James O'Bannon 9 (cent?)
FrankfortKy.

From: Amanda Bruen

Lexington November 13th (1843)

It is a delight my dear Cousin to think that we are once again so near each other, and yet 'tis difficult to realize it; for we have had no more communication with each other, either personal or written, than when you were in the Southern part of the state. I would have written to you before, but I know that Joe told you all the news. In spite of his sober, demeanor looking phis he loves a little gossip now and then, and can retail it with a good grace, when fairly under way. I had hoped to have the pleasure of being the first to inform you of Miss (left blank) Ingels arrival and for fear he has not done her justice, I will by giving a brief description of her charms. Picture to yourself a little cherubic form, a face of Grecian proportions, eyes soft, blue or black & hair of the hue of the raven's plume! But strange to say this dear, smart, piece of humanity has no name. Do suggest one. Elizabeth was obliged to you for preparing such exquisite ones, but she has declined them intending to look a little further. I once saw a list of names in Mr. Webster's sorted spelling book that comprehended all from Abigail to Zanilda. Oh! that some one would furnish us with a copy of them, and then I am sure Miss Angel's fastidious aunts and mamma would find something to meet the exigency of the case.

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Elizabeth's sickness has in part been the cause of my not having accepted your invitation to visit Stony Point. And now I have concluded that (unless a very assurable opportunity offers) I will wait until Elizabeth can bundle up her youngest responsibility and accompany me. She is so well now as to sit up all day, and go wherever her inclination may lead her. Therefore I can look forward to the pleasure of

seeing you as not far distant. But why can't you in the meantime pay us a visit? You say we owe you two or three, and what if we do? I am sure my dear Cousin is above such littleness as slavery to fashion or ceremony. What is there to prevent? You can take your sweet, little Fanny, and your good husband, seat yourselves in the cars, and be here in a few hours. If I had my own way not a day should elapse before I would be safely lodged in your domicile to make a cousinly visitation. If Pa would only take it into his head to visit the Capital I would be most delighted, suppose you send him some word on the subject. All I wait for is his pleasure; how I wish he would understand me when I tell him that to visit F (Frankfort) is the first wish of my heart.

But I know that you would fain hear some news from our fair city. If ever people had cause to be vain they are the Lexingtonians. Within the length & breadth of this small place, there are five hundred students, comprising those in the different departments of Transylvania, and at least five hundred ministers collected together to attend this Christian Debate. Far be it

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for me to judge the motives of any one, but it does appear to me that they are mistaken in their object. It will not/cannot advance the cause of Christianity. They whose motto is peace and love should not be those to show a contrary spirit. I have not attended the Debate, for I think I would be preferable to read the arguments at leisure, after they have been published and moreover such a number of persons attend that it would be impossible for a lady to attain a good seat unless she went almost immediately after breakfast, and to sit from that time until two would not be remarkably pleasant.

Have you heard of Mr. Parson's noble effort in behalf of the Orphan asylum? The ladies selected him as the best champion of the Orphan's cause and well may they congratulate themselves that they chose such a giant. His report so moved their heart and purses that nearly five hundred dollars rolled smoothly out! (That is, he raised that amount, one half by subscription, the other in cash.)

Except such excitements in the churches, Lex. is as dull as can be. This dullness however is to be relieved by a large wedding next week, Miss Waller's. She will marry Mr. Lees of Louisville. What is to be done about it? To dwell nearer home, Mary Jane & Charles (Crow) are going to Ireland next Spring, and will leave the young crows in the old, original nest. Mrs. Huggins says that "Mary must go while the rose in her cheek" and "let them see how pretty she is" etc. etc. Emily Hale keeps such a distance that I have not yet had an opportunity of

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informing her of your removal to Stony Point. Why she keeps at such an unaccountable distance I know not. Ma & Elizabeth paid her the <u>last visit</u>. Daniel is waiting to carry this to Office before the mail closes, so I <u>must</u> hasten through & have so much to say, I could write <u>pages</u> more. Do answer this soon, and tell me how the O'Bannon's health

Bottom

is at present. Tell me a great deal about little Fanny, and a good deal about her mother, what she is doing &c. &c. Joe (Joseph Bruen, Jr.) says he never saw Mrs. O'B looking better. May I have the pleasure of deciding that for myself. I so much wish that you would pay us a visit. Is there no possibility of it? Ma, Elizabeth and all join me sending their best love and requesting your immediate presence at Whitehall. Come I beseech you. Maria says she does wish that little Cousin Fanny Bannon would come to see her and Cap Skruker (Joseph Bruen Ingels) and little sister—and so does her aunt Amanda, most heartily.

Side - Top

If nothing prevents, you will see me and some member of the family at Frankfort in a few weeks at least.

I will get Busy to come with me if E is too long getting ready, for I am waxing discontent. Time

Across bottom:

and paper press me, good bye yr's sincerely Amanda

Write in a few days 'tis my parting request.

Side - Bottom - written in another's hand in blue pencil

When Mr. Jones returns from Arkansas I will get A's letters to me from her, if she has preserved them & send them to you. There are some I would so much for you to read about yourself.

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY It is delightful my dear boulan to think that me are once regain to man pack other, and get this difficult to making for in han had no more commissionation with pack other justies personal or written, than when you were in the fruthers fait of the state I would have written to you before het I know that In told you all the print his fator, demon looking plus he love a little gods now and then, and can retail it with a good of when fairly preder any - I had proped to have the plant on of being the first to inform you of Mis - Layer Anisal and fort for he has not done her justice I will by giving a Saif discription of her channel . O roture to. emself a little chembia form, a face of Gracias propor trans, yes faft, blue or black of him of the time traverid plume. But stronge to pay this dear, fruit, piece of humanity has as yet pla prance: Do fugget one. Bligabeth pour obliged to you for proposing buch exquisite ones, but the boat declined them introducing It look a little farther. I once fan a list of named in Mr Webster's protest spalling book that comprehended all from Signil to Stordeda. Whit that tome the souther frieh is pith it copy of them, and then I kin Line Midd Angels fastidioned hunted and manine mould find fromthing to could the expenses of the cade.

Elizabethis from that in part been the rand of my not having accepted your production to past Stony South And mil I have concluded that airly a very of assemable apportunity offers) - I will mast worth Elizabeth can family of his young at responsibility and so hopeny one the is so will show had her Whenfor I can black forward to the pleasure of surely you as not for distant. But why country in his the Eman have fay and a posito for day on over you have as there, and what if me do to from from prof than blonding is a form fuch littlings as placing to father in commany alless of his the franche you can take your first little land, you good husband, but grandeled in the and had to her has a few hours of I find my more any out a day thould diept before I conted to toply hodged in your ldon with to mak a consing withting If In mald only take it into his head to wist the Profital I would be most delighted, supporte you find him form and on the Supered All I mit for is his pleasure, how I wish he mould understand one when I tell some him that to visit I'm is the first wish of any breast. But I know that you would fair hear forme seems from our fair city of ever people had cant to be sain of this family place, then we fine hundred strickered compositing that in the Different departments of Fran-Sylvaine, and at least fine bundred. Aminister Collected together to altered this Shinstian Debate. Har hist

Shelby-Bruen Family Papers, Mss./A/S544e, Filson Historical Society, Louisville, KY from me to judge the anothers of any one. but it does. appear to me that they are mittaken in their of ict. It will pot yearnest advance the cause of Christian motto is peace and for should not be that to for contrary spirit. Allow not otherwood the Debate, for I In freferable to read the my · leiden after they have been fullished . And mount a pumber of persons attend that it mult be impossible. for a lady the obtain a good feat pull the south about is me distily after breakfast, and to fit of until the would put to permankably More you heard of Mor Davinis moll offert on believe Me faded beleated burn as the Popland Caste: and nell pring hate therest out they choose frech it they charle fuch it willed fromthy out, that is he naised that smound half by fulscription the other, in each. Orgent frech experients in the churched Sep is as dull as can be. This dull mile however is to be relieved by - a large midding most week, - Miff Walling the mill phanes Mr Sees of Somewille. What is to be down about it Go dwell pleaser hoine, Many Jane of Wharles are to Ineland very foring, and will leave the young in the old, original most. Mrs Manggind lay that Man count go well the have jor her about, and get them fee Seen pusty the is " for you land that beings of freet distance that I have not got had an appartunity