

NOTE: Susan and the Col. have returned to Waterside from Arkansas. Little doodle in margin: drawing of a bird – also someone else's doodles around address – possibly Mary Pindell's. Amanda's Father had fallen ill. He will sadly died at the end of the month.

Postmarked: Grayson Ky. 5 (cents?)
Jan 9th (1848)

Addressed to: Mrs. Amanda Shelby

Lexington

(K)

From: Susan Hart Shelby Carter

Waterside **Jan 3, 1848**

My dear Amanda

I have written you a foolscap full of everything but there was several parts the Col. did not like and I burned it. The mail will start too soon for me to write any more than this side as I have to walk to town and carry it. We have been amazed at your unaccountable silence but shall attribute our not hearing since we got home to the irregularity of the mails unless you tell us you are angry about something. Have you received my three letters? Father is waiting for our arrival most impatiently, but we shall not be there before Feby probably not until March. The freshet has rendered it impossible to get the boat built and lumber sawed before that time. Ask Evan to take one of those mammoth newspapers to Uncle Toms and draw the cut trim of Mary Cosby's mantle which was made of Mrs. Kinkead's velvet cloak and send it to me by mail. Tell Ike the Col. says he must marry Miss McClure by all manner of means. I should be glad indeed if his fireside was brightened by some amiable woman even if she had no pretension to personal beauty. I opened a letter from R. Harrison yesterday hoping it might be from Evan, but that is a gratification seldom mine. Tell the boys to kill an hour or two of these long winter nights by writing to us.

As for uncle Ike's pet, Miss M.P.S., I shall share much want of self respect if I send her a message after her sorrowful rejection of my advances to her ladyship. You can say to her however that should she give me the slightest encouragement I shall revise my attentions when we meet again.

When you hear from poor Rebecca and her children
do write. Richard I fear will cause her heart to
ache for many a day to come.

Best love to the boys and believe me as ever
yrs. S S Carter

Nashville ~~Nov.~~ 3. 1849

Answer

I had written you a foolscap full of every thing but there were several parts the Col. did not like and I burned it. The mail will start too soon for me to write any more than this side as I have to walk to town and carry it. We have been surprised at your unaccountable silence but shall attribute it to not hearing since we got home to the irregularity of the mails unless you tell us you are angry about something. Have you received my three letters? Julia is waiting for our arrival most impatiently, but we shall not be there before Febry probably not until March. The frost has rendered it impossible to get the boat built and lumber sawed before that time. Ask Evan to take one of those Memphis news papers to Uncle Tom and draw the picture of Mary Cosby's mantle which was made of Robert Kinkead's velvet cloaks and send it to me by mail. Tell Ike the Col. says he must marry Miss Mc. Lane by all means if means. I should be glad indeed if his fireside were brightened by some amiable woman even if she had no pretension to personal beauty. I opened a letter from R. Harrison yesterday hoping it might be from Evan, but that is a gratification seldom mine. Tell the boys to kill an hour or two of these long winter nights by writing to us. As for uncle I his part, Miss M. D. L. I shall show much want of self respect if I send her a message after her scornful rejection of my address to her ladyship. You can say to her however that should she give me the slightest encouragement I shall continue my attentions when we meet again.

When you hear from poor Rebecca and her dear son do write. Richard I fear will cause her heart to ache for many a day to come.

Best love to the boys and believe me as ever

Yrs. A. J. Carter

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting with some scribbles]

5
 7/10
 Sun 9th
 My dear Amanda
 Mrs. Amanda Shelby
 E. Shelby
 Lexington
 (E.S.D.)
 (R.)

[Small circular stamp or mark]

Joseph Bruen's death -- January 28, 1848

NOTE: This is a funeral notice for Joseph Bruen dated Friday, January 28, 1848. There is also one in Mary Pindell Shelby Stallcup's scrapbook. He died at the age of 53, just 13 months after his son and namesake had suffocated by smoke in his bedroom. She also had a copy of the obituary that appeared in the newspaper.

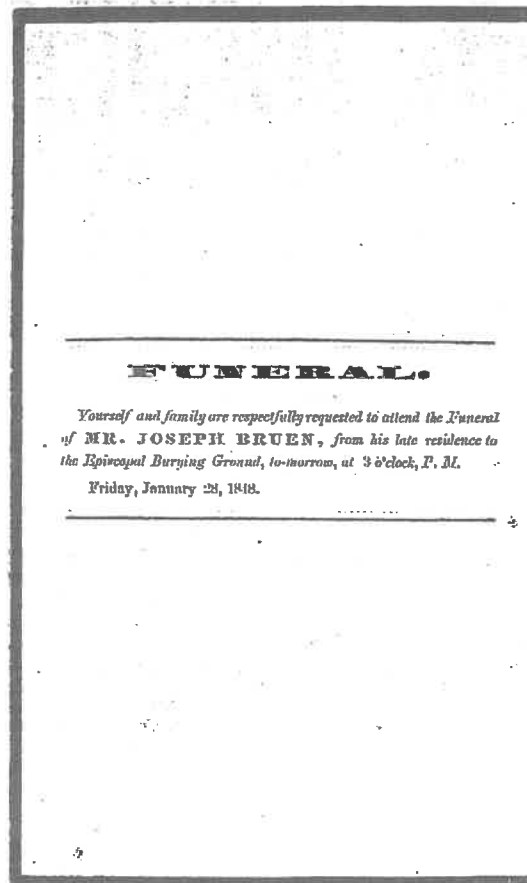
Funeral notice for Amanda's Father, Mr. Joseph Bruen:

Yourselves and family are requested to attend the Funeral of **Mr. Joseph Bruen**, from his late residence to the Episcopal Burying Ground, to-morrow, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

Friday, January 28, 1848

Newspaper obituary:

Died -- At his residence in this city, on the 28th ult., **Mr. Joseph Bruen**, in the 53d year of his age. The disease which terminated his life, was supposed to have been superinduced by a silent, though pungent grief for the loss of his only son, who died from suffocation, caused by his bed room taking fire, thirteen months before. Br. B. was a native of New Jersey, and came to this city about the year 1813. He was industrious and enterprising as a man; kind and affectionate as a father; and liberal and open-hearted to the necessitous and deserving. His good deeds were disclosed by others -- never by himself. It is hoped that he died with a proper apprehension of those things which shall come hereafter, and that his soul now rest in peace. A lovely family of three daughters and a bereaved widow, are left to deplore his loss.

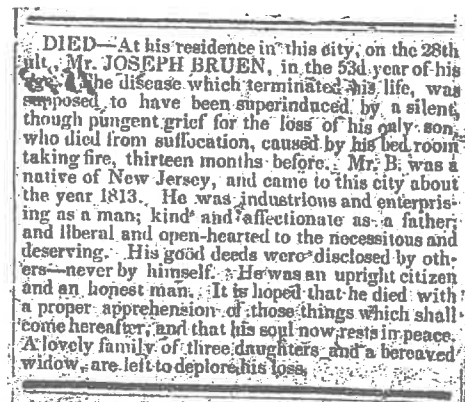


NOTE: See request of I. O. O. F. to be involved in his son's funeral, December 24, 1846

Newspaper obituary:

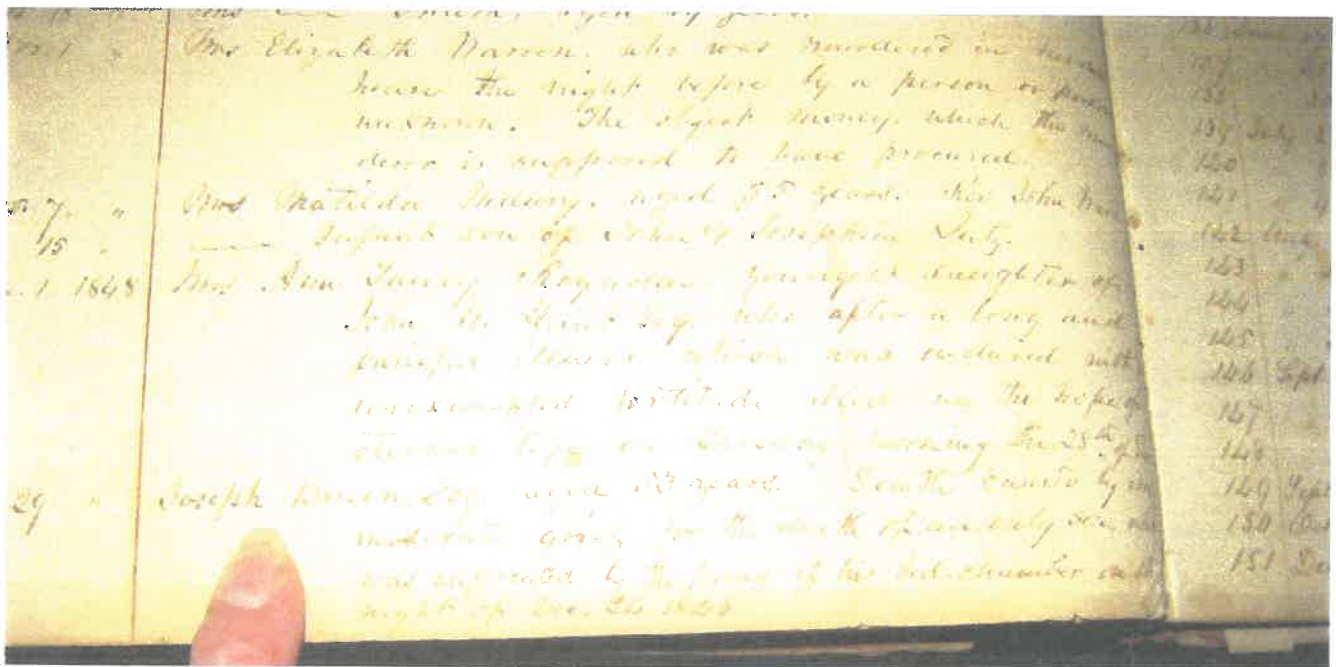
From Lexington Public Library, Local History #46397, Observer and Reporter:

DIED -- In the city, on Thursday night last, after a lingering illness, **Mr. JOSEPH BRUEN**, a highly respected and esteemed citizen.



NOTE: This is photocopy of Christ Church, Lexington, KY record of 1848 burials showing **Joseph Bruen** - sent to me in December of 2017 by Church historian, Carolyn Ware. Such a sad ending for such a grand mind. Will date **January 28, 1848**. It reads as follows:

Jan 29th Joseph Bruen, Esq. aged 53 years. Death caused by immoderate grief, for the death of an only son, who was suffocated by the burning of his bed chamber on the night of Dec. 24, 1846. **Joseph Bruen's death - January 28, 1848**



NOTE: Susan Hart Shelby Carter does not know the Amanda's father has died. She has received the patterns she requested Evan to make and has already used them. It appears that Richard Pindell Shelby had visited in Kentucky and just returned to his home in Missouri. Jimmy (James) Shelby by his first wife Lydia who evidently made a deathbed wish for Susan to raise him) would be about 13 years old and it appears his older brother Richard Jr. did not live long. Cute mention of young Mary Pindell's pronunciation of "Suckle Sike" for Uncle Ike. **Dating 1848 1/30**

Postmarked: Grayson, Ky.
Jany 31

Addressed to: Amanda Shelby

Lexington
Kentucky

From: Susan Hart Shelby Carter

Waterside Jany 30, 1848

My dear Amanda,

Upon the fragment of paper which is all there is in the house I will write all I can think of with my head as muddy as the Mississippi itself. In the first place then, thank Evan for his prompt attention to my request for the patterns, by which I have converted my old blue cloak into an elegant and fashionable wrapping for the remainder of the winter. The next most important event which has transpired in our domestic circle is the sale of Charles, Suvana & child to a man named Geiger for the sum of \$900. C. was wholly disinclined for the sunny South and as they brought their full value I was glad to be rid of his discontent & growling. If our circumstances would have justified it I should have presented Suvana to you for a cook as she is far better than your hateful hand maiden Ninny., but it will be many a day before we shall be able to indulge ourselves in such pleasures, and I trust in the meantime you will have such servants as will render it superfluous as far as you are concerned. L. is entirely subdued and has served me faithfully for two years past. Since my return I have not visited or been visited by Mrs. Crawford for I have hardly taken time to go to Sophia's. Our preparations for leaving this part of the world are nearly complete and by the 10 Feb. we shall shake the dust from our feet. Father will be in Lex. by the 22 and we shall probably meet him on the river.

Page 2

Hearing through you that he was very low spirited I

have felt the most intense anxiety to join him, but our affairs progressed so slowly that the time was postponed beyond, far beyond my patience the stock of which is utterly exhausted. The Col. has bought two boys of fifteen for whom he paid \$500 and \$650 so that we shall have nine & boys & four women, which including a small child makes the number we owned before buying or selling. In little more than twelve months he will have command of \$8,000 or \$10,000 which will furnish as ample an income as two people of moderate desires can wish. You may think me insincere but really I never did desire an overgrown fortune and if I ever compelled to have the care of it, I would not accept it as a gracious gift, particularly if the property consisted of slaves. Twenty servants would be as many as I could ever do justice to and I do not wish that the poor negroes should rise up in judgment against me.

Father has heard from Richard but once since going to Missouri and he thinks he will never get down the river with his servants. If the deepest sympathy could avail aught for poor Rebecca she has mine. Poor little Jimmy with such a father to rear him can never come to a good end unless he is an extraordinary child. I sometimes think I will insist upon taking him but fear Richard would not allow me. When I think of his mother taken from when he was so young, of his father's imbecility and the parting request of Lydia that I should raise him it grieves me sadly that I have not even seen

Page 3

him since he was three years of age. The responsibility of bringing up a child is great, but I would incur it for one who is the child of my brother.

Sophia spent this day week with us and requested a great deal of love should be sent to you all. Can you not come and see her next summer when we come out? This is giving you ample notice but I have already laid the plan. If Cosby is single then we will ask her to join the party then Hood if she does not reject him before that, can come in his buggy. You can put Mary Pindell in and ride some yourself, but let him have a little chance for a tête-à-tête while you ride on horseback. Is not this a nice plan? We can spend a week at Robert's while the Col. attends to his business and then we will wind our way back to the fat lands of Fayette.

Tell Mr. Harrison's Jimmy that Hebe calls herself Hebe Jimmy Carter. She is very handsome and interesting, but Susy is equally so. Make M. P. a good child and she need not shrink from comparison with any of them. How is

Miss Kinkead? Should she be as amiable, sincere and above all as charitable to her indigent relatives as her Mama then you may hide your diminished heads, you young mothers. Speaking of M. P. reminds me of Suckle Sike, who the Col. says you must tell to select a wife before we get there in the spring. He says he insists upon it so of course he will have to do it. It seems to me that the belles are daily picking up worse chances than he, for instance Soo Johnson. Elly was very mediocre before he became dissipated and must be a poor concern now, and then too like the husbands of some of our Kinfolks he was a rejected suitor of Fanny Smith my utter aversion.

The Col. has just started to see the launching of the flat which is to take the materials for a new home to Arkansas. All the neighbors for miles are invited, the millers wife is preparing dinner and the redheads of Grayson are laid under contribution for without their exhilarating contracts it would be 'no go'! I am finishing my letter to take to

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Top

the office and shall complete my purchases for the journey. I have an order on brother Bob's store for as many hundreds as I choose to spend and am laying in a supply of staples to do me until we make some cotton if that should ever come to pass. You would laugh to see four dresses, each nice gingham & calico, buttons, thread 'factory' (as the natives call brown cotton) bleached muslin by the piece and many other things to numerous to mention.

The Col. has bought a dressing gown for Father, one for Fayette and one for himself also some capital farming shoes etc. I wish M. P. S. were here that I might treat her to some dresses for next sprig. But I must close with love to all

Yrs. &c. S.S.C

My dear Amanda Nashville July 31. 1848

Upon the fragments of paper which to all
there is in the house I will write all I can think of with my head
as muddled as the Mississippi itself. In the first place then, thank
Evan for his prompt attention to my request for the fathoms, line
which I have converted my old blue cloths into an elegant
and fashionable wrapping for the numerous lbs of tea which
the most most important event which has transpired in
our domestic circle is the sale of Charter Hill and I should
to a man be seized for the sum of \$900. Consider
totally in child for the coming month and walking through
this full valley I was glad to be rid of his discomfiting
& growling. If our cousin Thomas would have participated
it I think it would have presented seven to you for a week
as she is far better than your first part and we could remain
but it will be many a day before we shall be able to
including our share in her share and I trust in the
month time you will have such a good time as should make
it as full as you can and you can do it if you only
I have been very busy I have been
visited by Mrs. Crawford for a time and by the way
to go to Lebanon. Our preparations for leaving this point
the world and finally complete and by the 10 Feb. we shall
shake the dust from our feet. I shall be in Lexington
the 20. and we shall probably meet here on the 1st

Having thought for some time that he was very much spirited, I
 have felt the most intense anxiety to join him, but
 his affairs preclude the possibility that the time was past and
 beyond for my going, my father's the stock of which he is
 exhausted. The Col. has bought two boys of fifteen for
 whom he sends \$500 and 650 so that we shall have
 him & boy & four women, which in the winter months
 makes the remainder good before being or till of. In
 little more than twelve months he will have command of
 \$8,000 or 10,000 which will give me in ample time to
 see the people of moderate desires can wish. You may think
 me too much but really I know did I see you from
 time and if I were compelled to have the care of it, I would
 not accept it as a gracious gift, particularly if the property
 consisted of slaves. Twenty servants would be as many
 and I could see no reason to send. I do not wish that the
 poor negroes should be in judgment against me.
 Father has heard from Richard but since going to
 his own land he thinks he will never get down the river
 with his servants. If the respect, sympathy could be
 taught for poor Rebecca she has many poor little things
 with her a father to see him can never come to an
 good end but he is an extraordinary child. I sometimes
 think I wish to see upon taking him but fear Richard
 would not allow me. When I think of his father's
 from when he was so young, of his father's imbecility,
 and the parting request of Lydia that I should raise
 him the given me sadly that I have not seen him

him since he was three years of age. The expediency of
 bringing up a child is greater but I would in case it for
 me take in the child of my mother.
 Sophia spent this long week with us and requested
 a great deal of love. She will be sent to you all. Can you
 not come and see her next summer when she comes out.
 This is giving you ample notice but I have already
 laid the plan. If every body were as well as he
 to join the party then I do not see how it can be
 that, can come in his baggage. You can put Mary Pindel
 in and ride some your self, but let him have a little
 chance for a tete a tete while you ride on horseback. Is
 not this a nice plan? We can spend a week at Roberts
 while the Col. attends to his business and then we will
 wind our way back to the gut-heads of Fayette.
 Tell Mr. Hemison's girl that she calls herself Hebe
 Jimmy Carter. She is very handsome and turns out very well,
 Jimmy is equally so. Make M.P. a good child and she will
 not shrink from comparison with any of them. How is
 Miss Kirkhead? Should she be as amiable, sincere and above
 all as charitable to her indigent relatives as her Mama
 than your many kids. Give your dimmies her heart, your
 young mothers. Speaking of M.P. reminds me of duck
 like, who the Col. says you must all to select a wife
 before we get there in the spring. He says he insists
 upon it, so of course he will have to do it. It seems
 to me that the belles are daily picking up worse
 chances than he, for instance, Lou Johnson. She
 was very ridiculous before he became Mrs. Simpson
 and must be a poor creature now, and then to
 like the husband of some of our kinfolks he was
 a rejected suitor of Fanny Smith very wretched
 even now.

The Col. has just started to see the launching of the fleet
 which is to take the materials for a new house to Arkansas.
 All the neighbors for miles are invited, the miller's wife is
 preparing dinner and the red heads of Ferguson are laid
 under contribution for without their facilitating contri-
 bution it would be no go! I am finishing my letter to take

the office and shall complete every purchase for the
 journey. I have an order via brother Bob's store for a
 many hundreds in L. Choate to spend and am keeping
 in a supply of staples to do me until we make some
 cotton if that should be worth to pass. You would
 laugh to see from Dupas, Cache & more via James & Calise,
 buttons, thread, factory (as the natives call the cotton) and
 needles by the piece and many other things too numerous to mention.
 The old has bought a crupper for Father, one for Fayette and
 one for him self, also some capital farming shoes. I wish Mr. D.
 were here that I might treat him to some crupper for next Spring.
 But I must close with love to all.

Yrs. &c. J.C.

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text]

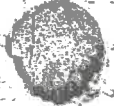
[A large section of the document is heavily obscured by dark ink smudges and bleed-through from the reverse side, rendering the text illegible.]

[Vertical handwritten text, possibly a signature or name:]
 W. J. ...
 ...

[Vertical handwritten text:]
 ...

[Vertical handwritten text:]
 ...

[Vertical handwritten text:]
 ...



[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text at the bottom of the page.]

NOTE: Lewis Richardson (37) might have been engaged to Juliet Sutton, she died unmarried a few years later (buried in Lexington Cemetery). Mr. H. would be Harrison. Amanda is at the Bruen home helping in the settling of her father's estate. Evan is at "Old Fields" the old Indian Burying Ground. Joseph Bruen died Jan. 28, 1848. I think Jim is James Ingels. This would be about Feb. of 1848. **Dating 1848 2/?**

No Postmark – no date

Addressed to: Mr. E. Shelby
Old Fields

From: Amanda Bruen Shelby

My dearest Husband, I have so much to tell you that I don't know where to commence. The first thing I heard was, that Lewis Richardson has accidentally killed himself – he had been hunting & when he entered his yard pushed the gate to with the butt of his gun. It went off & shot him through the body. He was at his brother's plantation. Juliet Sutton & Mr. Hunt are both as low as they can be. The former has been appraised of the situation & could not believe it. Mr. B. spends nearly all his time with her. Mr. Harrison was here yesterday morning & said that he would be Busy's commissioner & that Mr. Gratz consented to act for Ma. He said he would advise Ma to give up all idea of keeping the factory in operation – that he had consulted with Johnson & they both thought so. They also advised her to "put herself under the law" that, at her death she could leave her personal estate to an "unfortunate daughter" or "favorite grandchild". She will follow their advise in every thing. Mr. H. said there would be such a crowd at the Court House tomorrow that Busy must come up on Tues. when the bell rang. She wants you to come in & go up with her. The commissioner will command valuing the property on Wed. Mr. H. said he would advise Busy at all means not to take the tavern & I said that the farm could not be put down at less than 80.00 pr. acre, as every inch of it was worth it. Boon & E. are desperate on the subject. B says that if it is valued over E's share he will borrow money from Jim to pay the difference. Ma & Busy are willing to give it to them unconditionally & say so to the commissioner now. Mr. H. said Ma only had choice of the manner house – that after that she would draw lots with the rest of us & that we would "have to draw to see who

Page 2

would draw first." Put 4 strips of paper in one hat numbered 1, 2, 3, 4. & 4 in another numbered the same way specifying the parts allotted to the different heirs. The one who draws number 1 in the first hat will draw number 1 (meaning draw first) in the 2nd. If you can't understand I can't help it – I have no business writing such things on Sunday any how. E. is so distressed at the bear prospect of leaving the farm that she seems like a different creature – I have only seen Boon a few minutes. Ma says he thinks you & me want it & as Ma & Busy resign it to them

we are all that prevent the accomplishment of his wishes. Kit has been here – also Laura & Judith – Miss Sydney & your Aunt Susan were her yesterday afternoon & nearly talked Ma to death – not on business however. She thinks Dr. Pritchard, (who will move to N. O. in two weeks) will buy Daniel. He wants 2 men & 1 woman. I am such a hurry I can't write. Ma has been worse again since I was in Tues. George don't want to live with Ma on any terms. Boon has come so I will wait until after dinner to conclude – Lewis went to the car to see if your father had come – he had not. B. said at the table that there would be a great revolution in money affairs if ever any one gave a hundred dollars for land again. I did not say a word. Him & E. have each told me of D. Sayre's great bargain with T. Boswell. I was in the back room just now B. commenced again. He bit his lip & showed terrible excitement when I told him I had nothing to say about the division of the property. He then said that you had "solemnly" & emphatically told him that you wanted them to have the farm" & E. says she will not give it up without a struggle. He will see Rogers tomorrow & get him to swear that before half dozen men that he heard Pa

Page 3

say he wanted E. to have it. All this is said & done because I wont give it up unconditionally. Boon wants to compel me to say that I wish them to have it before it is valued. Lewis is waiting – Burn this if you please for I am ashamed of it.

Good bye my dear Evan
Yrs truly Amanda Shelby

Boon says Johnson says the tavern is personal estate & will be divided as such -

Packing List on Page 4

5 dresses for M.P.
2 dresses for E. & A.
6 pillow cases
2 white aprons
2 hank'fs
2 nightcaps
1 little flan body
1 little chemise
1 big chemise
1 tan cloth
2 (spoiled by seal)

NOTE: This shows the Maria is Eliza's daughter by a first marriage. Widow, Maria O'Bannon has remarried to Dr. H. L. Jones and given birth the a son, Lewis Jones (Jan. ?, 1849) who is on the 1850

Jan 30. 1848

My dearest husband, I have so much to tell you that I don't know where to commence. The first thing I heard was, that Lewis Richardson had ^{accidentally} killed himself - he had been hunting & when he entered his yard pushed the gate to with the butt of his gun - it went off & shot him through the body. He was at his Southern plantation - Julia & Mr. Hunt are both as low as they can be. The former has been apprised of her situation & could not believe it. Mr. B. spends nearly all his time with her. Mr. Harrison was here yesterday morning & said that he would be Betsy's Commissioner - & that Mr. Lyate consented to act for Ma. He said he would advise Ma to give up all idea of keeping the factory in operation - that he had consulted with Johnson & they both thought so. They also advised her to "put herself under the law" that, at her death she could leave her personal estate to an "unfortunate daughter" or "favorite grand child." She will follow their advice in every thing. Mr. H. said there would be such a crowd at the Court House to-morrow that Betsy must come up on Tues. when the bell rang - she wants you to come in & go up with her. The Commissioner will commence valuing the property on Wed. Mr. H. said he would advise Betsy by all means not to take the tavern - & said that the farm could not be put down at less than 80.00 per acre, as every inch of it was worth it. Brown & C. are desperate on the subject. B. says that if it is valued over Ed's share he will borrow money from Jim to pay the difference. Ma & Betsy are willing to give it to them unconditionally & say so to the Commissioner now. Mr. H. said Ma only had choice of the Manor House - that after that she would draw lots with the rest of us - & that we would "have to draw to see who

would draw ~~draw~~ first. Put 4 strips of paper in one hat numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, & 4 in another, numbered the same way specifying the parts allotted to the different heirs. The one who draws number 1 in the first hat will draw number 1 in the 2^d. - If you can't understand I can't help it. I have no business writing such things on Sunday. Any how, E. is so distressed at the bare prospect of leaving the farm that she seems like a different creature - I have only seen Boon a few minutes. Ma says he thinks you & me want it & as Ma & Boon resign it to them we are all that stands present the accomplishment of his wish. But has seen Sam - also Laura & Judith. (Ma's saying & your Aunt Susan were here yesterday afternoon & nearly talked Ma to death - not on business however. But thinks Mr. Prickard, (who will move to M. D. in two weeks) will buy Daniel. He wants 3 men & 1 woman. I am such a hurry I can't write - Ma has been work again since I was in Ind. George don't want to live with Ma on any terms. Boon has come so I will wait until after dinner to conclude. Lewis went to the car to see if your father had come - he had not. B. said at table that there would be a great revolution in money affairs if ever any ^{one} gave a hundred dollars for land again. I did not say a word - Ma & E. have each told me of Mr. Sayre's great bargain with J. Rosewell. When I was in the back room just now B. commenced again. He bit his lip & showed terrible excitement when I told him I had nothing to say about the partition of the property. He then said that you had "solemnly & emphatically" told him that you wanted them to have the farm" & E. says she will not give it up without a struggle. He will see Bogard to-morrow & get him to swear that before half a dozen men that he heard Pa

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I want give it up unconditionally - Boon wants to com-
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it is valued - Lewis is writing - Boon this if you
please for I am ashamed of it.

Good bye my dear Evan

Yrs truly Amanda Shelby

Boon says Johnson says the farm is personal estate & will
be divided as such -



Mr. C. Shelby
Old Filson

- 5 drawers for W.P.
- 2 " " " E & F.
- 5 pillow Cases -
- 2 white Aprons -
- 2 handkerchiefs -
- 2 nightcaps
- 1 little flannel body -
- 1 little chemise
- 1 wig
- 1 tall cloth
- 2 pair

[Faint handwritten notes or scribbles]

NOTE: Her father Joseph Bruen had died Jan. 28th – Bishop Benjamin Bosworth Smith (about 54 years of age) Friend, mentor, Past Pastor and father of Lizzie – her best friend. Bishop Smith might be referring to his son and wife; Samuel and Lilly?

To: Amanda Bruen Shelby

From: B. B. Smith

Kalorama Feby 16th 1848

My dear Amanda,

Our intercourse so long entwined
by child like glee, must it now be ever
marked by some new occasion of sorrows?
Must the dwelling of my friends the Bruens,
so long the scene of almost uninterrupted
innocent hilarity, become hereafter only
the abode of desolation & sadness?

What a picture it is of human
life! And yet I think amid the mem-
ories of the past, few images less mingled
with regret can arise, than those
of childhood with its studies, its
music, its sweet spirits & its flowers.
How much of my life is there embedded?
And when sorrow comes, what a terrible
tearfulness is there mingled with its regrets.

Page 2

Behold your house is left unto you desolate.
We have had our great trials, but Samuel
and I both live. Your house for long knew
nothing but prosperity, and now Father
and Joseph are both gone! What a
mingled cup is that of which our Heavenly
Father hath given us to drink – never
at its sweetest, without some bitter drop,
never, at its sweetest, without a cordial
in its existence! Oh for grace to profit
by the drinking, however proffered to our
lips.: a chastised gaiety, if prosperous –
a cheerful sadness, if chartered!

We, of late, have been singularly blest!
And yet the wide separation from us of
Samuel and Lilly is a great trial. They
are both well and pleasantly situated.

Lilly speaks of this winter as one of the happiest of her life. Surrounded by the

Page 3

sweet children of her Aunt Fanny – the best inmate of a very happy family in as delightful sweet retreat – all her best affections, have been cherished – all her chosen tastes gratified, and I hope her heart & character strengthened and improved.

Ah! it is this strengthening, improving, and developing the character, in which life really consist! Without its fortitude, without its energies, without its hopefulness, without its aspirations after heaven, what is human life?

God bless you dear Amanda, and make you to realize this – may He indeed so bless you, that, if you must suffer, you may be made perfect through suffering!

Thus ever prays your
ancient friend B. B. Smith

Kalamazoo, Feb'y 16th. 1848.

My dear Amanda,

Our intercourse so long continued
by child like glee, must it now be even
marked by some new occasion of sorrow?
Must the dwelling of my friends the Bruens,
so long the scene of almost uninterrupted
innocent hilarity, become henceforth only
the abode of desolation & sorrow?

What a picture it is of human
life! And yet I think amid the sor-
row of the part, few images less mingled
with regret can arise, than those
of childhood with its studies, its
music, its social sports & its flowers.
How much of my life is thus embodied.
And when sorrow comes, what a tender
tearful perhaps is thus mingled with its regrets.

NOTE: This is a hand copy of Gen. James Shelby's newspaper obituary which Charles Steward Todd wrote (see letter dated August 16, 1867).

For the National Intelligencer
8 Sept. 1848

Obituary –

The late General James Shelby of Kentucky –

The periodical papers published at Lexington Kentucky have recently announced the death of the eminent Citizen who thought in the 65th year of his age, was in the exercise of the buoyant spirits, energetic habits and chivalrie deportment which distinguished his career in life. It is said that a protracted visit to his estate on the Mississippi led to the fever which developed itself on his return and in a week terminated so fatally – It forms no part of our purpose on this place to dwell upon the social ties that have been so suddenly sundered by this agonizing circle where the hearts that have been wrung will best feel the force of the sympathy – To his children, to his brothers and sisters and a numerous connection the wound inflicted by his death is yet too recent to authorize a detail of the noble qualities by which he held the first place in their affections; but as he was the first born, in the wilderness of Kentucky of a Venerated Sire whose history is identified with the history and glory of the state, your distant Leaders, Messr., Editors, may feel an interest in a brief notice of one whose life represented a just specimen of a native Kentuckian –

The subject of the notice was the eldest child of the late Gov. Shelby and was born in 1874 upon the farm in Lincoln County which was the first settlement and preemption granted in Kentucky; his Father having been let to the selection of the tract of land by killing a buffalo while hunting at the Knob lick, to supply meat for the garrison and families at Boonesboro – The buffalo was killed at the spot upon which he erected his first cabin and where the state has done herself honor by placing a monument over his remains – Young Shelby received the best English education which the frontier condition of the County afforded and was bred to that noblest of all professions – the Cultivation of the soil – He developed in early life the same energy method and perseverance which had given success to the efforts of his Father upon the public and private theatre of action – History Ancient and Modern occupied his hours of recreation, he was intimately acquainted with the current events and politics of the day and was distinguished for an enlightened and practical knowledge of the system of Agriculture which he aided in introducing around Lexington, the Garden of the World – He established himself about 8 miles from the Town upon a rich tract of land located at an (date) by his Father – This he beautified by the system of grafts culture while his sagacity and energy made it the source of great profit and the seat of a generous hospitality – The companion of his bosom was a daughter of the late Dr. R. Pindell, then of Hagerstown Maryland who was the Surgeon of Lafayette at the Battle of Brandywine and dressed that great Patriot's wounds on that memorable day – She was, also, the niece of Mrs. Clay, whose illustrious husband was the intimate friend of the deceased –

As the son of Gov. Shelby, the subject of the notice inherited, also, a martial spirit which was honorably manifested in the campaign of 1813 where he served as Major in the Kentucky militia destined to the relief of Fort Meigs – It was his fate to form part of the detachment under Co. Dudley and to be made a prisoner in the disastrous affair on the North side of the Maumee while the forces under the immediate control of Gen'l Harrison were achieving a signal victory on the South bank of the River – after the War, he rose to be a Major General of the Militia and much of the Military ardor and efficiency characterizing the Militia of that portion of Kentucky is to be ascribed to his skill and energy –

It is no small prize to have been regarded as the most intelligent Farmer in Kentucky in a class of men, entitled, if any men are, to be designated as the Nobleman of Nature – This merit was ascribed to the deceased while his varied intelligence and frank manners rendered his society attractive to a most extended

circle of friends – Such was the elevated character of his principles that like his venerated Father and the Equally glorious General Taylor, no man could approach him with a mean or dishonorable proposition; and long will the community of which he was so bright an ornament cherish a recollection of his useful and noble qualities -

Copy

For the National Intelligencer.

8th Sept 1848.Obituary -The late General James Shelby of Kentucky -

The periodical papers published at Lexington Kentucky have recently announced the death of this eminent Citizen who, though in the 65th year of his age, was in the exercise of the buoyant spirits, energetic habits and chivalric deportment which distinguished his Career in life - It is said that a protracted visit to his estate on the Mississippi led to the fever which developed itself on his return and in a week terminated so fatally - It forms no part of our purpose in this place to dwell upon the social ties that have been so suddenly sundered by this agonizing event - such a review best comforts with the privacy of the domestic circle where the hearts that have been wrung will best feel the force of the sympathy - To his children, to his brothers and sisters and a numerous Connection the wound inflicted by his death is yet too recent to authorize a detail of the noble qualities by which he held the first place in their affections; but as he was the first born, in the Wilderness of Kentucky, of a Venerated Sire whose history is identified with the history and glory of the State, your distant Readers, Messrs Editors, may feel an interest in a brief notice of one whose life presented a just specimen of a Native Kentuckian -

The subject of this notice was the eldest child of the late Gov. Shelby and was born in 1784 upon the farm in Eminence County which was the first settlement and preemption granted in Kentucky; his Father having been led to the selection of the tract of land by killing a buffalo while hunting at the Knob lick to supply meat for the Garrison and families at Boonesboro - The buffalo was killed at the spot upon which he erected his first cabin (and where the State has done herself honor by placing a Monument over his remains - Young Shelby received the best English education

which the frontier condition of the County afforded and was bred to that nobility of all professions - the cultivation of the Soil - he developed in early life, the same energy, method and perseverance which had given success to the efforts of his Father upon the public and private theatre of action - History Ancient and Modern occupied his hours of recreation, he was intimately acquainted with the current events and politics of the day and was distinguished for an enlightened and practical knowledge of the system of Agriculture which he aided in introducing around Lexington, the Garden of the World - He established himself about 8 Miles from the Town upon a rich tract of land located at an early by his Father - This he beautified by the system of grape culture while his sagacity and energy made it the source of great profit and the seat of a generous hospitality - The Companion of his bosom was a daughter of the late Dr R Pindell, then of Hagerstown Maryland, who was the Surgeon of La Fayette at the Battle of Brandywine and dressed that great Patriot's wounds on that memorable day - She was, also, the niece of Mr Clay, whose illustrious husband was the intimate friend of the deceased -

As the son of Gen. Shelby, the subject of this notice inherited, also, a martial spirit which was honorably manifested in the Campaign of 1813 where he served as Major in the Kentucky Militia destined to the relief of Fort Meigs - It was his fate to form part of the detachment under Col. Dudley and to be made a prisoner in that disastrous affair on the North side of the Maumee while the forces under the immediate control of Gen. Harris were achieving a signal victory on the South bank of the River - after the War, he rose to be a Major General of the Militia and much of the military ardor and efficiency characterizing the Militia of that portion of Kentucky is to be ascribed to his skill and energy -

It is no small praise to have been regarded as the most intelligent Farmer in Kentucky in a class of men, entitled,

if any men are, to be designated as the Noblemen of Nature -
His Merit was ascribed to the deceased while his varied
intelligence and frank manners rendered his Society attractive
to a most extended circle of friends - Such was the elevated
character of his principles that like his venerated Father and
the equally glorious General Taylor, no man could approach
him with a mean or dishonorable proposition; and long will
the Community of which he was so bright an ornament
cherish a recollection of his useful and noble qualities -

NOTE: This is the funeral notice for Eliza Pindell Ross, wife of George Ross. She, like Gen. James Shelby's wife, was the daughter of Dr. Richard Pindell and the mother of Margaretta Ross Harrison and Ellen Hart Ross Reily. She was Even's aunt and her daughters his cousins. It was found among Amanda's papers. She died **September 25, 1848**. She had been near death in 1847.

FUNERAL.

Yourself and family are respectfully requested to attend the Funeral of **MRS. ELIZA ROSS**, from her late residence on Limestone street, to-morrow afternoon, at 3 o'clock.

Monday, Sept. 25, 1848

From Local History – September 27, 1848 Observer and Reporter p.3 col.6

Died – At her residence in this city, on Monday morning last, Mrs. ELIZA ROSS, relict of George Ross, Esq. and daughter of the late Dr. Richard Pindell – a lady universally esteemed for her many excellent qualities by all who knew her.

FUNERAL.

Yourself and family are respectfully requested to attend the Funeral of **MRS. ELIZA ROSS**, from her late residence on Limestone street, to-morrow afternoon, at 3 o'clock.

MONDAY, SEPT. 25, 1848.

DIED – At her residence in this city, on Monday morning last, Mrs. ELIZA ROSS, relict of George Ross, Esq. and daughter of the late Dr. Richard Pindell – a lady universally esteemed for her many excellent qualities by all who knew her. At his residence in Woodford county, on Monday the 18th inst. Col. WILLIAM BUFORD, an old and highly respected citizen of that county. At the Red Sulphur Springs (Va.) on the 25th inst. Judge LAFAYETTE SAUNDERS, of Clinton, Louisiana. The deceased was a native of Tennessee, but many years ago removed to Louisiana, in which State he was much respected, and filled in a manner highly honorable to himself several offices of distinction. He was recently a delegate to the Whig Convention in Philadelphia, and was the organ through whom the delegation of that State made the exposition of the political views and opinions of Gen. Taylor, which has been so much commented on in the public prints. He has left a widow and several children to deplore his loss. Nat. Int.

NOTE: I believe this to be **To: Margery Parker Bruen**, wife of Joseph and mother of Elizabeth, Amanda and Sarah (Busy). Leonards connect by Parker – possibly Adair Parker Leonard could have been a sister of Margery... Alexander's S. could be for Saunders and was he Aunt Catherine Saunder's granddson? Still don't have this connection firm in trying to find Margery's people. Found one Alexander Saunders Leonard b. 1807 d. 5/17/1878 in NY that seems to fit, but no more info...Margery Parker Bruen doesn't fit as a great grandmother to his children although, Catherine Saunders called aunt by the Bruen daughters might. **Dating 1848 10/6**

No envelope

From: Alex. S. Leonard

New York 6th October 1848

My dear Madam, Some months ago I addressed a letter to you to be forwarded by Col. Wooley, in reply to one recd by my father from you, which his age and infirmities made impossible for him to answer himself. The time that has elapsed without a response from you leads me to suppose that my letter has by some means miscarried. In that idea I write again, for I confess I greatly desire that the intercourse so long unhappily broken off between us and our connections in your neighborhood should be resumed in at least that we should not live and die as if we were utter strangers to one another. Surely, surly, in a Christian land, we should shew at least, that we have human feelings and sympathies, and above all, for then in whose veins flows the same blood as in our own. And yet long years have gone by ~ since I who have now reached the middle age was quite a lad, and not one word of even recognition has passed between us. Death has entered into our circle an into yours, and neither knew what had been the trials and afflictions of the other. It seems as if neither cared to know. My children have grown in years, and never knew by spoken word or written letter, that their grandmother's mother was in being, or that there lived beyond the mountains, a patriarchal woman who had been to blame for such a state of things for blame there must be on both sides ~ the greater in mine I confess, because I have so far practically neglected the 5th command in regard to one, who I doubt not once loved her eldest daughter's oldest son. I pray you, dear Madam, to be the means of offering to her my late repentance, and of making my present regrets acceptable to her declining years. That we shall ever meet in this world is little probable. Our years of course make the journey

Page 2

impossible for her and the imposing duties of a parish and a school, which I am obliged to attend to – to eke out a very narrow income, make it in the highest degree improbable that I shall ever come West. My father's affairs, never flourishing as many supposed, have greatly suffered by various mischances ~ his health is precarious and his faculties impaired ~ His family is large and dependant solely upon the little remnant of Ma's family income. It is not to be looked for therefore, that we should ever meet in this world, but we may if we answer together and comfort one another with the thought that the absent are not necessarily forgotten. When you went away I was a mere boy, and of course can

retain but a faint recollection of any of you ~ and so many years have gone by, that a mere catalog of events interesting to us as members of a common family would occupy a volume. I can only glance at such of them as present themselves to the memory, as my pen runs over the sheet. My grandmother died I think in 1823 and Pa married his present wife in 1824. If this were not a family letter which she as one of us will see, I might tell you what we think of her and how she deserves to be thought of by all of us, but you have probably heard from other sources, that she could ill be spared from our affections. Aunt Caty still lives in a green old age, unselfish and ever careful for others. John the youngest of the first family died in 1828... and Alfred the second son died at Pueblo in Mexico 18 June 1847. Maria the eldest of the second family died in 1834. There remained therefore of the first Alex (myself) aged 42 last(?) Irene and Margaret (Mrs. Robert Gray of Maryland) aged 38 last August. Of the second family, Eliza, Catherine, John, Bruce, Sam Halstead, Maria, Adair and Phebe, aged from 24 to 6 years. I married in August of 1832, Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Cooper Esq. of this city, and have 3 children, Louis aged 15 last August, Adair (named after Ma) aged 11 and Joseph aged 8 years. My sister Margaret resides at Towson town, near Baltimore with her

Page 3

husband Robert Gray and has two children, John Leonard aged 7 and Ellen aged 5 years. After 20 years spent most unprofitably to myself and disastrously to others in business, to which I never evidenced, and which I dislike the snare the longer I continue in it, I understood the business of instruction in 1845 and became a candidate for holy orders in November of that year. I was teaching 9 hours a day during the whole period to make a sufficient preparation for my examinations in about 18 mos. and was ordained to the deaconate by Bishop Delancey on the 26 May 1847, and was by the same Bishop admitted to the Priesthood on the 14th Sep 1848. In November of last year I became the assistant minister of St. Clement's Church in this city, where I still continue to labor, in connection with teaching for the support of my family ~ the parish being unable to afford me any support as yet. As a layman long before I contemplated the possibility of making such arrangements as events enabled me to apply for Holy Orders I had taken a somewhat prominent part in the troubles which have so long affected our diocese. Deeming him not only an injured but an innocent man, I was on the unpopular side of the questions that touched my afflicted Father in God, Bp ___dork is and though I have reason to believe that my course in the matter has very seriously interfered with my temporal prosperity, I have continued as a clergyman to uphold the views which I expressed as a layman. I am unfortunate enough to be regarded by many, who do not know themselves very well what they mean, as a Purest. I have inherited from my father a disposition, to say whatever I have to say in a somewhat decided manner, and the tone of my preaching has I doubt not somehow offended or at least alarmed timid but well meaning people and tends to prevent my receiving such invitations to the charge of a parish, as without such drawbacks my practical friends would persuade, my ministrations in the pulpit might otherwise have procured me. Yet circumscribed as my sphere is and may continue to be

Page 4

on these accounts for sometime to come, I humbly trust that my ministry may not be all together pointless if God pleases to spare my life and health in the service of the church. I am almost ashamed and look back upon the last page of my letter, designed to tell the family story, to find it all taken up with the everlasting "I". But you must excuse it on the grounds that I have grown prematurely old and that the egotism of age is in me precocious. Besides, if I can judge of your heart by your letter, anything about any of us and especially anything about a matter involving such important considerations as the introduction of a relative, however distant into the Christian ministry, cannot fail to interest, one who like you, recognizes and advises the heart of God in all His Provinces. Nor I am persuaded, shall I ask in vain an interest in your prayers also(?) for me, that it may not have been in vain, or oh! worse than in vain, for me through great temporal affliction and distress to have been led to believe and to know, that this world is not all we have to live for or to live in and to have a sought a position in which I might have an opportunity to persuade others to look elsewhere for their happiness and true well being than in the best successes or most fortunate positions of the present life.

I trust my dear Madam, that this letter may not miscarry, but find you and yours in such comfort and health as God may see good for you, at least I hope it may prove so acceptable to you as may prevail on you to answer it and through your kind offices lead to a renewal of intercourse with other members of the family, as ought not to have been interrupted. All my father's family & my own desire to be affectionately remembered to you and all our friends, and for myself I beg you to believe me, truly and affectionately yours

Alex. S. Leonard
129 Amity St.
New York

New York 6th October 1848

My dear Madam, Some months ago I addressed a letter to you to be forwarded by Col. Woolley, in reply to one recd by my father from you, which his age and infirmities made it impossible for him to answer himself. The time that has elapsed without an response from you leads me to suppose that my letter has by some means miscarried. In that idea I write again, for I confess I greatly desire that the intercourse so long un happily broken off, between us and our connexions in your neighbourhood, should be resumed or at least that we should not live and die as if we were utter strangers to one another. Surely, surely, in a Christian land, we should show at least, that we have human feelings and sympathies, and above all, for them in whose veins flows the same blood as in our own. And yet long years have gone by since I who have now reached the middle age was quite a lad, and not one word of even recognition has passed between us. Death has entered into our circle as into yours, and neither knew what had been the trials and afflictions of the other. It seemed as if neither cared to know. My children have grown in years, and never knew by spoken word or written letter, that their grandmother's mother was in being, or that there lived beyond the mountains, a patriarchal woman who had claims upon their regard. It would be useless to enquire who has been to blame for such a state of things; for blame there must be on both sides, the greater in mine I confess, because I have so far practically neglected the 5th command in regard to one, who I doubt not once loved her eldest daughter's eldest son. I pray you, dear Madam, to be the means of offering to her my late repentance, and of making my present respects acceptable to her declining years. That we shall ever meet in this world is little probable. Our years of course make the journey

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on these accounts for some time to come, I humbly trust that my ministry may not be altogether fruitless, as if God please to spare my life, and health in the service of the Church. As I am almost ashamed as I look back upon the last page of my letter, designed to tell a family story, to find it all taken up with the everlasting "I". But you must excuse it on the ground that I have grown prematurely old and that my egotism of age is in me precocious. Besides, if I can judge of your heart by your letter, anything about any of us and especially anything about a matter involving such important considerations as the introduction of a relation however distant into the Christian ministry, cannot fail to interest, one who like you, recognizes and adores the hand of God, in all his Providences. nor, I am persuaded, shall I ask in vain an interest in your prayers to God, for me, that it may not have been in vain, or oh! worse than in vain, for me through great temporal affliction and distress to have been led to believe and to know, that this world is not all we have to live for or to live in, and to have a sought a position in which I have might have an opportunity to persuade others to look elsewhere, for their happiness and true well-being than in the best successes or most fortunate positions of the present life.

I trust my dear Madam, that this letter may not miscarry, but find you and yours in such comfort and health as God may see good for you. At least I hope it may prove so acceptable to you as may prevail on you to answer it, and through your kind offices lead to a renewal of intercourse with other members of the family, as ought not to have been interrupted. All my father's family & my own desire to be affectionately remembered to you and all our friends, and for myself I beg you to believe me, truly and affectionately Yours

Alas. S. Leonard



129 Amity St.

Nov 4 1844

NOTE: This is a message written on both sides of a little blank calling card to **Amanda Bruen Shelby** shows that Evan's brother, **Isaac (Ike, son of James) Shelby** is educated in grammar, penmanship & spelling and has a keen sense of humor. I would think this may be after the General's death, perhaps in **1849 ???**. This might be they only writing I have of Ike's. He called Amanda "Aunt Mandy" in loving reference to her position with her sister, Elizabeth Bruen Ingels children. He often went to church with her at Walnut Hill Presbyterian when she did not go into town to Christ Church.

Side 1

I would cheerfully go to oblige you
Aunt Mandy if I felt well in body
& mind. I am out of sorts in both
Either of the two pastors Shelby's or
Carr's would be too strong a dose
for me today, but mixed, ah! spirit
of Ipecac & Tarter hide your diminished
heads it would be insufferable -
Tell the baby to Rat trap the widow

*I would cheerfully go to oblige you
Aunt Mandy, if I felt well in body
& mind. I am out of sorts in both
Either of the two pastors Shelby's or
Carr's would be too strong a dose
for me today, but mixed, ah! spirit
of Ipecac & Tarter hide your diminished
heads it would be insufferable -
Tell the baby to Rat trap the widow*

Side 2

Dunlap for me & I will give her
two sticks of candy. If Bob Carr
has on his long fringed black
gloves please get the pattern
It would any man's fortune
If I don't get a letter from a certain
Person to-morrow I would not be
surprised if I ate my Sunday dinner
at Harrodsburg. I regret I cannot
go with you as you wish it Ike

*Dunlap for me & I will give her
two sticks of candy. If Bob Carr
has on his long fringed black
gloves please get the pattern
It would any man's fortune
If I don't get a letter from a certain
Person to-morrow, I would not be
surprised if I ate my Sunday dinner
at Harrodsburg. I regret I cannot
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NOTE: This shows the Maria is Eliza's daughter by a first marriage. Widow, Maria O'Bannon has remarried to Dr. H. L. Jones and given birth the a son, Lewis Jones (Jan. ?, 1849) who is on the 1850 census as being 1 year old. There is an Eliza Jones living with them on the census who by this letter obviously is not 2 ½, but rather 21 and a daughter from his previous marriage. Springs referred to would be Esculapia Springs in Lewis County, KY. Concerning Bruen estate settlement Amanda formed a strong opinion of Christopher C. Rogers in following letter **Dating 1849 2/10**

No Postmark or envelope **Feb. 10, 1849**

To: Cousin Eliza

From: Amanda Shelby

Green Fields Feb. 10 '49

Why my dear Cousin Eliza have you not answered my last letter? (It is nearly a year since I think it was written soon after you went home last Spring. Now this, I call shameful neglect, especially, as you have favoured Elizabeth with one of your entertaining epistles in the mean time. But this I forgive and write now to know how you are & when you will pay us another of of your flying visits. If you are as fidgety at home as when here I wonder Paducah can contain you from one years end to another. How is Aunt? As active & energetic as ever? We have not heard from you since Mr. Dow's visit to L. Kate's letter by him was very welcome. I wish she would write again. If it had been addressed to me it would have been answered immediately, but I believe none of the family are fond of writing but myself. I would love to hear something more of your grandson now that he is somewhat advanced in the ways of the world. Who is he like and does Maria love him as well as she does Fanny? Who was he called for? Don't think I ask all these questions as one grand compliment to Mrs. Maurous on the birth of a grandson. I really want to know whether your branch of the family is improving the race. As for me, I think my exquisite young daughter seems destined to stand sole representation for Evan & A. Shelby. I suppose Elizabeth has written of the birth of Florence. She is the prettiest child they have & has a sweet disposition. Maria, with her nice winter riggings on, looks almost as handsome as her mother, but not quite. Your little namesake will never make you blush for

Page 2

the name she bears. Captain is quite a farmer – he knows what his Pa will put in the different fields, how many calves there are and every thing that is going on. E. is as much discorded as ever with her small house, & Boon crazy to make a fortune for his rapidly increasing family. He rents the gate house for sixty dollars pr. annum to a decent old lady & gives Ma four hundred a year for the Factory. I fear he will not succeed, as Lankhart (the man whom Ma employed

before he opened it. He will put his prices down lower than theirs, but I am afraid he will lose by it as he has been at considerable expense in getting the necessary supplies. With such energy and perseverance as such a laudable motive in view, I hope his expectations may be realized. Ma feels ten years younger since she gave up the care of it. The goods in the Iron Store were sold out in Dec. at a great sacrifice. B.(Boon) had not rented it then & Evan bought in for me a large lot of ovens, skillets etc. as old iron at ½ ct pr. pound. The pocket chronometer that cost three hundred went for 10%. The advertisement was put in the paper such a short time before that the country people had not heard of it. Kit the slink & his thin wife have made a perceptible difference in their mode of living within the last year It does not take much discernment to judge whence it is they clothe their carcasses so expensively, or furnish their table with such lavish profusion. If his close brother-in-law F. Hunt (Mrs. Julia Warfield Hunt) had not gone his security it is likely he never would have given up the money. I rarely make such serious charges against the character of any one; but C. C. R. (Rodgers/Mrs Laura Warfield Rodgers) has acted so unlike a gentleman that I have no charity for him. Ma & Busy have been spending a month with me. We read aloud,

Page 3

rode, walked and enjoyed ourselves extremely. The elegant 700 dollar maid came with them – she was bought for a seamstress, cook, dining room servant etc. but as usual with such accomplished servants, is good for nothing. The beautiful mulatto has so many admirers white and coloured that her head is turned & Ma will sell her the first opportunity. Your little cousin Sal is much admired; has had some half dozen eligible offers but declined matrimony for an indefinite number of years. This determination will be put to flight as soon as the right one makes his appearance. I wish he would come along, for I don't know how she will manage her affairs after her guardian resigns his office, which will be this month. Boon's time is fully occupied & Evan is not often in town. Ma's health is better this winter than usual – her trip to the Lewis Co. Springs renovated her completely. Evan, Busy & myself went with her – she was then so delicate that she had to go in her carriage & travel so leisurely that it took three days to make the trip although but 75 miles and only 20 of that over a dirt road. Evan had fever and ague then & was soon relieved after drinking the white sulphur water. Ma drank chalybeate water & it invigorated her and gave her a keen appetite. For my part I wanted reducing and did not drink either. Found but little company there as it was only the middle of June – in two weeks we returned & left Sal there under the protection of a married lady. Ma had business that required her attention but went back as soon as she could and will you believe me, there they stayed away from the two japonicas until Sep. I am glad of it now, though I missed them sadly. You have heard I suppose of the death of the General. He died in August, after an illness of ten days. He had just returned from Arkansas where he had stayed longer than he intended & nursed

Page 4

his overseer through an attack of congestive fever and took it himself after he returned home. Ten physicians in the neighborhood attended him for several days & told him he had no fever. This allayed his apprehensions & three days before his death he shaved and dressed himself & spent the morning in the porch reading his papers. The exertion caused a relapse & from that time he was perfectly unconscious. The will was a singular one – he did not divide the estate but left Isaac to do it & act as if he were now the father of the family. Susan & the Col. are settled in Arkansas. Evan has this new house worth \$10,000 and three hundred acres of land around it, with stock, negroes, etc. We will add as much to the farm as 10,000 dollars of my portion will by – with the share that will come to me out of the tavern we make no disposition of, as there is no telling when it will be forth coming & the remainder that falls to me he will invest in bank stock as soon as collected. I told you in my last letter that Boon bought my half of the farm to be paid for with E's(Elizabeth's) share of personal estate. The Gen's property is worth 150,000 & there are two debts of 10,000 each, which Erwin who owes more than that, has promised to pay. I tell you this because enemies of the family have reported the debts to be twice that amount. I should like to hear the Grime's version of it. Are the awful creatures still in your burg? When you write tell me what reputation they have by this time, particularly my intimate friend Mary. Have you been alarmed about the cholera – the panic has subsided here. Aunt will think my letter was unfinished if I do not say something about the Huggins. Mrs. H. is so taken up with Sam's wife & children that I really don't believe she misses Mary J. who is in Ireland & settled for life. She is tolerably pleased. Mr. C can not preach there I forget what regulation of the church prevents him. They have been blessed with a daughter, but she only lived a few days. M.J.& Mrs. H's oldest sister will visit Lex. next Spring. Tell me a great deal of your pet Fanny. Have you got in your big house yet & how do you like it? Best love to all – Ask Maria if she has really forgotten me. Please answer immediately. Yr loving cousin A.S.

From Guilds. Feb. 10 '49

Why my dear Cousin Eliza have you not answered my last letter? ~~It is nearly a year since~~ I think it was written soon after you went home last Spring. Now this, I call shameful neglect, especially, as you have favoured Elizabeth with one of your entertaining epistles in the mean time. But this I forgive and write now to know how you are & when you will pay us another of your flying visits. If you are as fidgety at home as when here I wonder Paducah can contain you from one year end to an another. How is Aunt? As active & energetic as ever? We have not heard from you since Mr. How's visit to L. State's letter by him was my welcome - I wish she would write again. If it had been addressed to me it would have been answered immediately, but I believe none of the family are fond of writing but myself. I would love to hear something more of your grand-son now that he is somewhat advanced in the ways of the world. Who is he like, and does Maria love him as well as she does Fanny? Who was he called for? Don't think I ask all these questions as one grand compliment to Mrs. Maurice on the birth of a grand-son. I really want to know whether your branch of the family is improving the race. As for me, I think my exquisite young daughter seems destined to stand sole representative for Evan & A. Shelby. I suppose Elizabeth has written you of the birth of Florence. She is the prettiest child they have & has a sweet disposition. Maria, with her nice winter rigging on, looks almost as handsome as her mother, but not quite. Your little mamma-ake will never make you blush for

The name she bears. Captain is quite a farmer - he knows what soil
 will put in the different fields, how many calves there are, and
 every thing that is going on. C. is as much discontented as ever with
 her. Small, honest, & poor, trying to make a fortune for his rapidly
 increasing family. He rents the gate house for sixty dollars per annum
 to a decent old lady & gives her four hundred a year for the factory.
 I fear he will not succeed, as Lankhart (the man whom Ma employed
 last year) & M. Mentelle have opened a foundry & sell the castings
 at a very low price, and injured the reputation of Bond's establishment
 before he opened it. He will put his prices down lower than theirs,
 but I am afraid he will lose by it as he has been at considerable
 expense in getting the necessary supplies. With such energy and
 perseverance at such a laudable motive in view, I hope his expec-
 tations may be realized. Ma feels ten years younger since she
 gave up the care of it. The goods in the Iron Store were sold out
 in Dec. at a great sacrifice. B. had not rented it then & Bond
 bought in for me a large lot of wares, shillots &c. as old iron
 at $\frac{1}{2}$ ct. per pound. The pocket chronometer that ^{cost} three hundred went
 for 107. The advertisement was put in the paper such a short time be-
 fore that the country people had not heard of it. But the
 drink & his thin wife have made a perceptible difference in their
 mode of living within the last year. It does not take much
 discernment to judge whence it is they clothe their carcasses so
 expensively, or furnish their table with such lavish profusions.
 If his close brother-in-law G. Hunt had not gone his security it is
 likely he never would have given up the money. I rarely make such
 serious charges against the character of any one, but B. & P.
 has acted so unlike a gentleman that I have no charity for him.
 Ma & Bury have been spending a month with me. We read about

side, walked and enjoyed ourselves extremely. The elegant 700 dollar
maid came with them. She was bought for a seamstress, cook,
dining room servant &c but as usual with such accomplished
servants, ~~she~~ is good for nothing. The beautiful maid has so many
admirers white and coloured. That her head is turned & Ma will
sell her the first opportunity. Your little Cousin Sal is much
admired; has had some half dozen eligible offers but declined
matrimony for an indefinite number of years. This determination
will be put to flight as soon as the right one makes her appear-
ance. I wish he would come along, for I don't know how she will
manage her affairs after her guardian resigns his office, which
will be this month. Boris' time is fully occupied & Evan is not
often in town. Ma's health is better this winter than usual - her trip
to the Lewis Co. Springs renovated her completely. Evan, Buz & myself
went with her - she was then so delicate that she had to go in her
carriage & travel so leisurely that it took three days to make the trip
although but 45 miles and only 20 of that over a dirt road.
Evan had fever and ague then & was soon relieved after drinking
the white Sulphur water. Ma drank chalybeate water & it invigorated
her and gave her a keen appetite. For my part I wanted reducing
and did not drink either. Found ^{but} little company there as it was
only the middle of June - in two weeks we returned & left Sal
there under the protection of a married lady. Ma had business
that required her attention but went back as soon as she could and
will you believe me, there they stayed away from the two jaegers
until Sep. I am glad of it now, though I missed them sadly.
You have heard I suppose of the death of the General. He died
in August, after an illness of ten days. He had just returned from
Arkansas where he had stayed longer than he intended & missed

his overuse through an attack of congestive fever and took it himself
 to be returned home. His physicians in the neighborhood attend-
 ed him for several days & told him he had no fever. This allayed
 his apprehensions & three ^{days} before his death he shaved and dressed him-
 self & spent the morning in the porch reading his papers. The exertions
 caused a relapse & from that time he was perfectly unconscious.
 The will was a singular one - he did not divide the estate but
 left Isaac to do it & act as if he were now the father of the
 family Susan & the lot. are settled in Arkansas. Isaac has
 this new house worth \$10,000 and three hundred acres of land
 around it, with stock, negroes, &c. - The will adds as much to
 the farm as 10,000 dollars of my portion will buy - with the
 share that will come to me out of the taxes we make no dis-
 position of, as there is no telling when it will be forthcoming
 the remainder that falls to me he will invest in bank
 stock as soon as collected. I told you in my last that Cora
 brought my half of the farm to be paid for with C's share of person-
 al estate. The land property is worth 150,000 & there are two debts
 of 10,000 each, which Cora who owes more than that, has prom-
 ised to pay. I tell you this because members of the family have re-
 ported the debts to be twice that amount. I should like to hear the
 opinion of several of it. Are the awful creatures still in your burg?
 When you write tell me what reputation they have by this time, particu-
 larly my intimate friend Mary. Have you been alarmed about the
 cholera - the panic has subsided here. Aunt will think my letter un-
 finished if I do not say something about the Huggins. Mrs. H. is
 so taken up with Sam's wife & children that it is all she can do to visit
 Mary G. who is in Ireland & settled for life. She is tolerably pleased. Mr. C. can
 be pleased with a daughter but she only lived a few days. M. G. & Mrs. H.'s oldest sister
 will visit her next Spring. Tell me a great deal of your part Harry. Have you got
 in your big hands yet & how do you like it? Best love to all - Ask Maria if she
 has really forgotten me. Please answer immediately for loving cousin. Ash

This letter had a cross written note from Lizzie Smith on the back page and appears as though a page is missing since there is no signature by Lizzie..

No envelope or address

To: Amanda Bruen Shelby

From: Virginia (Ginnie) Smith

Kalorama, Feb 20th 1849

The first impulse of my heart dear Amanda, was to sit right down after reading your interesting and affectionate letter, and answer it but my numerous duties, and a short visit to town have prevented me, until to night, and now I feel so stupid and half sick from a cold, that I fear I shall inflict upon you a very dull epistle – but you must take the will for the deed, and believe that I would be very interesting if I could –

To say that I was disappointed in not making you a visit last summer, would but poorly express my regrets! I had looked forward with so much pleasure in renewing our long broken intercourse in talking over happy days of childhood, and in seeing you in your new relations of wife and mother, and I still

Page 2

hope this pleasure may one day be mine, perhaps next summer when we have our long vacation Lizzie and myself may make you a visit, together, and enjoy all that we used to enjoy as friends, when we were so much with each other, but ah what changes time has wrought with us all, how much of suffering has been mingled with the cup that has been given us to drink. We have known what it is to lose beloved ones – so near and dear, that the parting from them has agony unutterable. We have wept over

broken ties, and disappointed hopes –
and cherished plans of happiness –
but thank God dear Amanda we
have also learned where to look for
comfort in the midst of our trials.
We have not been left entirely
without consolations – in the hope
of meeting loved ones again in a
heavenly home – in a meek submission

Page 3

to the will of our God – in the inward
consciousness that we deserved and
needed chastisement – in all the prom-
ises of God to his suffering children.
We have found that peace which the
world can neither give nor take away.
I would not if I could or dared to
wish it, have one of the Providences
of God reversed. He doeth all things well.
What a comfort your dear little girl must
be to you. Do you not feel that she
is a blessing sent from the hand of
your heavenly Father? Our little Bozzy
is the light of the household – the
brightest and sweetest boy that ever
gladdened a parent's heart. He is just
learning to talk and it is so interesting
to watch the unfolding of his mind /
Hatty and Fanny you would find
quite grown out of your remembrance.
They are both bright children, improving
very much in their studies, but Fanny
is by no means a strong, healthy child.
Our school, is as usual full. Twenty
is our limited number – and small though

Page 4

it is, our time is fully employed in
instructing them. I am engaged this
winter in teaching the English branches
which I much prefer to music –
but in the Spring we expect to make
another change, and I shall go back
to my old duties. Lizzie will then
take my place – at present she is
not engaged in the school room
at all – she employs her time in
gracious ways, always continuing to
make herself useful. Mother and Father

are both very well this winter.

I don't know as you know that Sam was with us at present, and indeed he will be I presume, for the next two years – He is studying law, reading in fact now, without recitations, next winter I presume he will attend the law lectures in Louisville. We find it very pleasant to have him form once more a part of the home circle, a grown up brother is at once useful and agreeable. You would hardly know him, he is so very fleshy, weighing 160 lbs.

Page 5

Louisa's health this winter is much better than usual, though far from strong. She is still able to be about her house, and to walk even as far as our house. The boy – is a darling child with his parents – and sweet indeed to his aunty, he is remarkably pretty and very amiable. The Dr. thinks there never lived one so altogether perfect., but all fathers think the same do they not? Though Louisa is so near us our visits are not so frequent as we could wish – not more than once a week can I get over to take tea with her – but even this is a great comfort to us all.

Had you heard the sad news of the death of our beloved pastor Mr. Gallagher? You who have seen and heard him preach, can imagine what a great loss his parish has sustained. His health has been gradually declining since his visit to Lexington last summer, so much so, that he had to give up preaching altogether and ask leave of his ministry to move to a warmer climate

Page 6

in hopes that the change would benefit him, but his health was too far gone for he was only able to reach Tuscumbia in such a feeble state as to be confined to his bed. Still no immediate danger

was anticipated, and it was not thought necessary until a few days before his death to send for his Mother – she arrived just 4 hours before his death. His departure was most calm and peaceful – is exactly in accordance with the gentleness and loveliness of his character. He fell into a calm and peaceful sleep, after a violent attack of expectoration, and awoke in Heaven – not a sigh nor a groan to announce that the spirit had left the body. His remains were brought to Louisville as soon as possible and buried beside his wife. He has left two little orphan boys – who however will be well taken care of and provided for by their relatives. It is rarely the case that a parish suffers from two such great bereavements as dear

Page 7

St. Paul's – two such revered and well beloved pastors taken away in the very prime of their usefulness. And where are we to look for another like minded with them – our trust is in God that He will provide us with a man after his own heart. As yet no steps have been taken towards calling any one – but I presume there soon will be - - - You ask after your old schoolmates – I have lost sight of them almost as much as you have. Ellen Gwathmey, the only one unmarried and still living in Louisville, I seldom see scarcely once a year. She is a gay, fashionable girl and of course I rarely meet her in the circle I visit in. She has within a few weeks lost her mother – you would find her very little changed. The same mild, laughing, talking girl – not greatly admired, yet popular with a few. I think it doubtful if she ever marries – though she does not waste opportunities

Page 8

Eliza Hart / alias Shallcross / lives in Missouri; her husband is engaged in the iron business in the very wilds of

the country – with no society, yet when I see her, which is every Summer she looks very happy and bright. She has two children, neither of them as pretty as she is. She is just as beautiful as ever, does not look one day older than she use to as a gay, laughing school girl. Mary Ellen's child is living with its grandparents – a healthy good looking child but no beauty. The father has married again.

I should still write a longer letter, not withstanding your look of weariness if Liz had not promised to add something to the budget – so in mercy to you I will say good bye – Do not let a year, nor a month pass by without writing to us again – Your letters are so welcome - read with so much interest by us all. Love to your mother and sisters – from your truly affectionate friend
Ginnie

Across page 8 (from Lizzie - probably a page missing)

Who could have said so unkind a thing of me, as you seem to imply in your letter. I am going to be disagreeable enough to say that it sounds just like Lexington gossip. It never entered into my head to feel the least hurt, when I found your Mother absent. I know just how it had happened – that I was not expected &c - my only feeling was disappointment in not seeing her and Sarah – by the by. I heard Sarah had a clerical beau, in Mr. Norton – and I had hoped to hear he had not sued in vain. I admired him so much – I should think he might woo out and win even the most fastidious.

it is, our time is fully employed in
 instructing them. I am very aged this
 winter in teaching the English branches
 which is much labor to me -
 but in the Spring we expect to make
 another change, and I shall go back
 to my old duties. My wife, who then
 took my place - it seems she is
 not only at the school room
 at all - she says, her time is
 various ways - always entering to
 make myself useful. My wife & I
 are both very well this winter -
 I don't know as you know that I am
 was with as at present, and indeed
 he will be ^{very} welcome for the next
 two years - He is studying law, reading
 it fast now, without celebration, but
 winter's passage he will attend the
 law lectures in Louisville. We find
 it very pleasant to have him from
 once more a part of the home circle -
 a young wife's wish is at once fulfilled
 and as well - You would hardly know
 him, he is very fleshy, weighing 160 lbs.

Palmyra, Feb 20, 49.

The first impetus of my heart was
 Amanda, was to sit right down after
 reading your interesting and affec-
 tionate letter, and answer it, but my
 numerous duties, and a short visit
 to town have prevented me, up to
 to night. And now I feel so chilled
 and half sick from a cold, that
 I fear I shall inflict upon you
 a very dull epistle - but you must
 take the will for the deed, and believe
 that I would be very interesting if
 I could -

So say that I was disappointed
 in not making you a better letter
 however, would not you be only expect
 my regrets? I had looked forward
 with so much pleasure in receiving
 my long broken intercourse, in taking
 our happy days of childhood, and
 in seeing you in your new relations
 of wife and mother & grandchild.

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hope this pleasure may one day be to the wife of our God - in the inner
 mine, perhaps next summer when circumstances that we deemed and
 we have our long vacations enjoy needed acquaintance in all the prom-
 and myself may make you a few of God to his suffering children,
 visit, together, and enjoy all that we have found that each which the
 we seek to enjoy and friends, when would come neither you nor take away.
 we were so much with each other. I would not if should a hand of
 but ah what changes time has with it, how one of the Providence
 wrought with us all, how much of God covered - He with all things well.
 of happiness has been mingled with that a comfort were with little comfort
 the cup that has been given as to drink to you, As you not feel that she
 We have known what it is to love is a blessing sent from the hand of
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 the parting from them was agony is the light of the candle - the
 unutterable. We hope next year brightest and sweetest boy that ever
 broken ties, and disappointed hopes - Shaddanda bairto kanta - He is just
 and cherished plans of happiness - learning to talk - and it is so interesting
 but thanks God dear Amanda we to watch the unfolding of his mind - I
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 we have not been left entirely they are both bright children, imboring
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 of meeting you again in a city so means a strong, healthy child -
 than any time - in a noble submission Our school, is as usual full - twenty
 is our limited number - and small things

in his that the change would benefit
 him, but his health was too poor
 for he was only able to teach Yucumbha
 in such a feeble state as to be confined
 to his bed; still no immediate danger
 was anticipated, and it was although
 necessary until a few days before
 his death to send for his mother - she
 arrived just 40 hours before his death.
 His departure was most calm and
 peaceful - so exactly in accordance
 with the gentleness and loveliness of
 his character. He fell into a calm
 and peaceful sleep, after a violent
 attack of expectoration, and awoke
 in Yolan - not a sigh, nor a groan
 to announce that the spirit had left
 the body. His remains were brought to
 Louisville as soon as possible and buried
 beside his wife. He has left two little
 orphan boys - the younger will be well
 taken of and provided for by their relatives.
 It is early the case that a parish suffers
 from two such good benefactors as die

7
 St Pauls - two such would and will
 be missed. I have taken away in the my
 friend of their usefulness - and when
 we will to look for another like minds
 with them - I am sure it is in God that
 the will provide us with a man after
 his own heart. Do get out steps
 have been taken towards calling any
 one - but I presume I will slow him
 be - you ask after you
 old schoolmate - I have not slighted
 them almost as much as you know.
 Ellen Guethony, the only one woman
 died and still living in Louisville.
 I seldom see - scarcely once a year.
 She is a good, fashionable girl, and
 of course I rarely meet her in the
 circle I visit in - she has within
 a few weeks lost her mother - you
 would find her very little changed.
 The same mild, easy going, talking
 girl - not greatly admired, yet so good
 with a few. I think it would feel if she
 were married - though she does not want to

8

I had a letter from you last week
 and was glad to hear from you
 and to hear that you were
 well. I am well at present
 and hope these few lines
 will find you the same.
 I have not much news to
 write at present. I am
 still in the same place
 and doing the same work.
 I have not much news to
 write at present. I am
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 same work.

NOTE: This is an original funeral notice found in Amanda's papers and documented in 1849 daily journal on March 4th. This Gen James Shelby's first born, Richard Pindell Shelby's second wife – Mrs. Rebecca L. Williams Shelby in June of 1841. They had one child that lived, Mary Pindell (Pinnie) Shelby born April 16, 1844 about 19 months before his youngest brother Evan and Amanda had their Mary Pindell Shelby November 2, 1845 – Both named for the brother's mother, Mary (Polly) Pindell Shelby. **Dating 1849 3/7**



Mrs. R. L. Shelby Funeral Notice:

 Yourself and family are respectively requested to attend the
Funeral of **Mrs. R. L. Shelby**, from Richland, the resi-
dence of Mr. Isaac Shelby, on the Richmond and Lexington
Turnpike, this afternoon at 3:00 o'clock.

 Wednesday Morning, March 7, 1849

NOTE: Susan is the daughter of Gen. James Shelby and the niece of Mrs. Fishback. Her husband, Col. William Grayson Carter, died of cholera later this year in the July 1849 epidemic. She was staying in Lexington but they had property near Helena, Arkansas where cotton was raised. She returned there after his death and had a very successful crop and might have sold that land for she remained in Lexington until 1857 when she became the second wife of Samuel Magoffin and moved to his home outside of St. Louis. Her niece, Mary Pindell Shelby (my great-grandmother) reported that she was known at one time "as the smartest woman in Kentucky". Like her aunt, she too had no children. Mary Cosby, a spinster devoted to the well being of her father, Maj. Thomas Hart Shelby – was another niece. No Postmark however, Amanda eludes to this trip on August 24th, in her 1849 daily journal. There is a packing list on back with date of Sep. 25, 1849. **Dating 1849 8/24**

To: **Susan Hart Shelby Carter**

From: **S. H. S. Fishback (Susan Hart Shelby)**

My dear Susan,

I did hope to have gone to you before this but have been prevented by indecision and other things, and when I did go to I wished to spend a week with you. I understand by Mary C. that you are not well and think of going to the springs. I have been talking of a trip myself and since Mary came in have concluded to go with her to Crab Orchard, preferring that on account of its being more quiet, and more acceptable than any other watering place, and the superior quality of the water.

I would not consent to go into a crowd, and I think we may have a delightful quiet time. We will be all invalids together and try to comfort each other. I hope my dear Susan you will go, I have no doubt the trip will be greatly beneficial to you. The chalybeate, and white sulfur waters I am told are very fine and we will not be subject to the auspicious forms of etiquette or fashionable hours, or visiting or any of the things that make a fashionable watering place so medicinal to persons in ill health or affliction. Do come in on

Page 3

tomorrow evening, as we
propose starting on Friday
morning if the day is fit.

Mary joins me in the wish that
(probably Mary Cosby Shelby)
you would come and go with
us. She would have written to
you but had to write to her
father while I am writing
with hope that you will
not disappoint us. I remain
your affectionate Aunt

S.H.S. Fishback

Inventory written on the back:

7 shirts
5 chemise
3 n. gowns
8 pr. drawers
2 big "
3 little chemise
7 pr stocks
13 towels
3 sheets & 1 t clothe
4 b. cases
8 aprons

Sept. 25 1849

My dear Susan,

Mrs. Susan Carter

I did hope to have
come to see you before this but
have been prevented by sickness, fever
and other things, and when I did
go to Louisville to spend a week with
you, I understand by Mary C.

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of going to the springs. I have
been talking of a trip myself
and since Mary came in here
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Crab Orchard, preferring that
on account of its being more
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any other watering place, and
the superior quality of the water.

W. H. Carter
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I would not consent to go into "town" on evening, as we
 a crowd, and I think we may propose starting on Friday
 have a slight but quiet time. Monday if the day is fit.
 we will be all in vehicles together ^{Monday} we in the wish that
 and try to comfort each other. you would come and go with

I hope my dear Susan you Mr. she would have written to
 will so. I have no doubt the trip you but had to write to her
 will be pretty beneficial to you. father while I am writing.

The carburet, and white sulphur with a hope that you will
 waters I am told are very fine. not disappointed as I remain

and we will not be subject

to the offensive fumes of Etiquet
 or gashe on a ble hours; or writing;

or any of the things that wish
 a fashionable watering place so
 known to persons in ill health

in addition. Do come in or

Your affectionate Aunt

J. H. S. Frankbach

NOTE: Lizzie and Ginnie's older sister is Louisa Smith Green wife of Willis Fry Green. Their infant son dies. His name might be Arthur (see letter dated 2/10/1852. **Dating 1849 9/11**

To: Amanda Bruen Shelby

From: Lizzie Smith

Kalorama near Louisville
Sept. 11th 1849

Many things my dear Amanda have prevented my writing you when I wanted, but as I felt that my last letter to you & from you had put at rest the question of my visiting you this season I have allowed time to slip away without making the vigorous effort which is necessary to enable me to accomplish anything in the epistolary line.

I hope these many weeks of anxiety have left you at least well, & that your family has not suffered more severely than it had when you wrote. My heart & thought were much with you while the pestilence was raging at its height, for the past & present both combined to render my anxiety very great for all who were dear to me – and when from time to time the name of some familiar one reached us as among the number of those who had been smitten, how fervently have I prayed that it might be long before I was called to weep over beloved ones of my own, as those have wept who have been so bitterly bereaved. Mr. Iucho's account of Judge (Aaron K.) Woolley's death so sudden & so awful – seemed to bring a fuller sense than when we had thought you entirely free from its ravages. We have heard, with pain, of the death of Mrs. George Brand (Nancy Abercrombie Brand). Did she leave any family, & who will take

Page 2

charge of it? We are ourselves almost free from all anxiety indeed we have great cause for gratitude, not one of our immediate family having been even indisposed – and this without any special care on our side as we have indulged in all the vegetables and fruits of the season. Poor Louisa is indeed alone in her sorrow, for to her and to all, her affliction seems a most peculiar one, her baby being her only one and there being no prospect that she will ever have it replaced. He was too, so peculiarly lovely, not in one partial yes alone, but in those of all who

had ever seen him. Or that the remark of one of her friends seemed to find an echo in all hearts "Oh! it took very little to make him an angel!" My heart bleeds for her in her quiet – tearful resignation, even more than when I saw her in the first breaths of her anguish & the lonely darkened dwelling seems to my eyes to lie ever in the "shadow of death". Time must & will bring relief to this excessive sorrow and I trust, that even now, she leans on the arm 'mighty to save' & to console. Oh, if her affliction be so grievous with all the consolations of religion, what would it be if she "sorrowed as those without hope"?

Page 3

You cannot know how disappointed I was that I was obliged to give up my anticipated visit to you. I had pleased myself with the idea of finding you so little altered, & yet of making acquaintance with you in a new sphere of being. I wanted to know your husband & to teach your baby to love me, and to recall amidst the happy present the as happy hours of the past. I felt so confident that we should meet that when I was at last reluctantly obliged to give up all idea of it I felt that I must cry like a child at my disappointment. We will trust, however, that time & opportunity may still bring us together. I hope before I am a toothless old woman, without hope for the future or memory for the past.

Have your Mother & Sarah returned from Estill? I hope your Mother is benefited by the water & the trip, it is so sad to be a confirmed invalid. Which I cannot hear to think Mary Crosby is. She is so young, it appears to me, to have lost her constitution entirely. Would not a trip to Louisville be of service to her. She has friends here who would delight to see her, among whom I hope she will class us, and if she comes be happy in our quiet country home. I am sure the change of scene & air would benefit her & would make us

Page 4

very happy to have her with us again. Lizzy (Elizabeth Fontaine Shelby Kinhead)

has returned also I suppose with her little flock. I wish I could manage it so that I could visit you when all my friends would be at home, for a summer visit wants to find them generally scattered. Oh – This engrossing school! I must cease to build such enchanting air-castles while it is in being and occupying as much of the year.

I enjoyed a few weeks in town very much, where I went after I found I could not venture to Lexington – Ellen Gwathmey and I had many a talk of auld lang syne, and you & yours were not forgotten. She is in bad health – and is now in deep mourning for her Mother, but her spirits do not flag and I certainly never heard such a tongue! She is reported to be engaged but denies it - & I do not think she is. She told me of Mary Robertson, who has married a physician and has a beautiful boy – but is in wretched health and has rather a stick of a husband. Sarah Ormsby has done better and is living in great elegance in Pittsburg being considered one of the most elegant women there. She has two children. Eliza Jane has also two – and is herself the same pretty artless creature that she always was. I don't know when I have been more amused and pleased than in two or three interviews with her, when she eulogized her husband & children just as she used to her beaux & friends. She calls one of her children Mary the other Ellen.

But I have run on until my paper is exhausted & yet feel that I have said but little. Do write to me very soon. Your letters are one of my few pleasures & always bring a glow to the heart of your own.

Ginnie sends love- Lizzie

Across front page

Remember me to all your family – to Lizzy & Crosby when you see them & kiss your Susan (means Mary Pindell) for me – How is Mrs. (Susan) Carter? I saw Mrs.

Judge Bullock,
little Edmond
as he lay in
his coffin –
and as I
kissed his
pale cheek
I thought
of the girls.
How unfor-

unate she
has been!
Six of her
children
taken from
her.

Remember me to all your family - I am ever your affectionate friend & hope you will be the same to me.

Judge Bullards
Mrs. I should
as he lay in
his coffin
as I should
know how
to take care
of the girls.
I am ever
your affectionate
friend
Mrs. Bruen
Miss John
Charlotte
John from
her.

Halorama near Louisville
Sept. 11th 1849.

Halorama, have pro-
America, but as I felt
that my last letter to you & from you had put
at rest the question of my visiting you this season,
I have allowed time to slip away without making
the vigorous effort which is necessary to enable me
to accomplish anything in the epistolary line.
I hope these many weeks of anxiety have left
you at least well & that your family has not
suffered more severely than it had when you
wrote. My heart & thoughts were much with you
while the pestilence was raging at its height, for
the fast & Prescool both combined to render my
anxiety very great for all who were dear to me.
And when from time to time the name of some
familiar one reached us as among the number
of those who had been smitten, how fervently
have I prayed that it might be long before
I was called to weep over beloved ones of my own,
as those have wept who have been so bitterly
bereaved. Mr. Jack's account of Judge Worley's
death - so sudden & so awful - seemed to bring
a fuller sense of the violence of the plague, and
since then when we had thought you entirely
free from its ravages, we have heard, with
pain, of the death of Mrs. George Grand.
Alas she leaves any family, & who will take

Halorama

charge of it? - Many ourselves almost free
 from all anxiety, indeed we have great cause
 for gratitude, not one of our immediate family
 having been even indisposed. and this with-
 out any special care on our side as we have
 indulged in all the vegetables and fruits
 of the season. Tom Comins, is indeed alone in
 her sorrow, for to her and to all, her afflic-
 tion seems a most peculiar one, her help
 being her only one and there being no
 prospect that she will ever have it replaced.
 He was, too, so peculiarly lonely. not in our
 partial eyes alone, but in those of all who
 had ever seen him. so that the remark of one
 of her friends seemed to find an echo in all
 hearts, "Oh! it took very little to make him
 an angel." My heart bleeds for her in her
 quiet tearful resignation, even more than
 when I saw her in the first bursts of
 her anguish, & the lonely darkness dwelling
 seems to my eyes to lie even in the "shadow
 of death". Time must & will bring relief to
 this excessive sorrow, and I trust that
 even now, she leans on an arm 'mighty
 to save' & to console. Oh, if her affliction
 be so grievous with all the consolations of
 religion, what would it be if she sorrowed
 as those without hope!

You cannot know how disappointed I was that I was obliged to give up my anticipated visit to you - I had pleased myself with the idea of finding you so little altered, & yet of making acquaintance with you in a new sphere of being. I wanted to know you husband & to teach your baby to love me, and to recall amidst the happy present, the as happy hours of the Past. I felt so confident that we should meet that when I was at last reluctantly obliged to give up all idea of it, I felt that I must cry like a child at my disappointment. We will trust however, that time & opportunity may yet bring us together. I hope - before I am a toothless old woman, without hope for the future or memory for the Past.

I saw your Mother & Sarah returned from Estelle. I hope your Mother is benefited by the water & the trip, it is so sad to be a confirmed invalid. Which I cannot bear to think many say is. She is so young, it appears to me, to have lost her constitution entirely. Would not a trip to Louisville be of service to her. She has friends here who would delight to see her, among whom I hope she will clap us, and if she could be happy in our quiet country home, I am sure the change of scene & air would benefit ^{her} & it would make us

very happy to have her with us again. Lizzie
has returned also I suppose with her little
flock. I wish I could manage it so that
I could visit you when all my friends would
be at home, for a summer visit would find
them generally scattered. Oh - this engrossing
school - I must cease to build such enchan-
ting air-castles while it is in being and
occupying so much of the year.

I enjoyed a few weeks in town very
much, when I went after I found I could
not venture to Lexington. Ellen Matthews
and I had many a talk of Aunt Lucy
Paine, and yet yours were not forgotten.
She is in bad health and is now in deep mourn-
ing for her mother, but her spirits do not flag
and I certainly never heard such a tongue!
She is reported to be engaged but denies it - & I don't
think she is. He told me of Mary Robinson, who has
married a physician and has a beautiful boy - but is in
wretched health and has rather a stick of a husband.
Sarah Crosby has done better and is living in
great elegance in Pittsburg being considered one
of the most elegant women there she has two children
Elizabeth Jane has also two - and is herself the same
pretty cottage creature that she always was - I don't
know when I have been more amused and pleased
than in two or three interviews with her, when she
eulogized her husband & children just as she
used to her friends & friends - She calls one of her
children Mary the other Ellen -

But I have run on until my paper is exhausted, &
yet feel that I have said but little. Do write to me very soon.
Your letters are one of my few pleasures & always
bring a glow to the heart of your own Lizzie -
Ginnie sends love.

NOTE: There are four letters are from Jane Mitchell – she announces self as childhood friend. Jane knew Amanda's middle name was Abigail and addresses her as Amanda A. Shelby. There is a cut out hole on the back page of this first letter. I believe her father taught at Transylvania and then took a job in Philadelphia. Jane is now teaching there. She also appears in Amanda's 1849 Journal. **Dating 1949 11/10**

Postmark Philadelphia Nov 10 (1849)

Addressed to: Mrs. Amanda A Shelby
Care of Evan Shelby Esq.
Lexington
Ky.

From: Jane Mitchell

Philadelphia November 10th 1849

I have been intending to write to you my dear Amanda for some time, but postponed it so long, that I am afraid you will think I have quite forgotten you. I can assure you however that such is not case, but rather that I am given to procrastination as regards letter writing, which to me has always provided a task; and if my good friends would only be so extremely kind as to write several times to my once, I would be exceedingly gratified. As you are a "lady of leisure", I wish you would be one of the kind ones, and keep me supplied with the news of your city, for I rarely hear from L.(Lexington), excepting through Susan, and she is such a home body, my information for that source is limited. I hope, however you will have compassion for me, and inform me concerning all events of importance transpiring in your midst. I should like eventually to have a long chat with you, but as that is impossible, I hope you will write very soon, for I am anxious to (hear)

Page 2

from you. I regretted not seeing you before I left, but I could not ascertain whether you were at the Springs or not, and there being so much sickness in the city during the summer I visited by letter not being sick most of the time. I heard that you were ill at one time, but did not know whether it was really so, but thought it probable as there was so much sickness in your family and neighborhood. I think we ought to feel very grateful in view of our preservation, when so many were cut down on the right and left, when prospects of a long life was as fair as ours.

Our church has been in the removal of some of its members, I hope the loss will be made up

by the addition of many more.

I do not feel at home at all here, and do not think I shall very soon; the manners of the people seem so different, most of them seem cold as icicles, so unlike the warm sweet hospitable people of the land I know. I never can feel that attachment which waits for my true and kind friends in Kentucky. I have not yet decided where to attend church; we have two cathe. near us; St. Andrews, I prefer as the rector's style or rather sermons is more like Mr. Berkley's than any I have heard preached since I have been here, in points of matter they are superior. As Dr. Stevens is a fine scholar and writes most excellent sermons. I have attended St. Lukes

Page 3

frequently, of which Mr. Harvey is sexton, a nephew of the Bishops(B. B. Smith), and who is married to Miss Lizzie Marshall who taught in the school for a while. I expect you remember her, she was very pretty and is still so though much paler than when I knew her; she has three children, they live quite elegantly and the church is a new one and one of the finest in the city. He is an agreeable man and a good sermonizer but has too little animation for me A (iron) bench has been furnished lately which is considered the handsomest of its kind in the city; it is built in the form of a cross of granite, the roof ornaments with crosses, superfluous ornaments on a Protestant church in my estimation.

The ceiling is formed of the rafters made of ash and is supported with beautiful rows of columns and arches of stone which present an imposing appearance. The font which (cut out) placed near one of the doors, the organ (cut out) of the alter on a level with the (cut out) ___ors consist of men and boy trained (cut out) The church window contains the Sorrow (cut out) painted on the glass and the wool (cut out) others; the windows are almost (cut out) ___ing desires of various lives, bust of St. (cut out) in the glass and wholly unintelligent (cut out) . The communion table is behind the alter, its decorations in keeping with the rest of the building. It looks more like a Catholic than an Episcopal church, and no doubt – will one day become one. It is called St. Mark's and probably you have seen a description of it.

Page 4

Top

How is your Mother's health this fall? Remember me kindly to her and to Busy also, who I suppose is still Miss Bruen as I have heard nothing to the contrary. Do write me soon for I will be so pleased to hear from you and will try to reply promptly. Have you seen Mary Craig since L's (Laura – her sister) death and how is her health? Is Mary baby's health any better? I was so sorry to hear that she was so delicate. And how is little Miss Shelby's health? I suppose she is a grand prodigy, kiss her for me and tell her not to forget Jane Mitchell. My regards to Mr. Shelby and believe me your affectionately Jane

Bottom

I have seen but few of the sights of the great city as yet, but hope to see many more in the course of time. I went a few weeks since to see the Panorama of Italy which was one of the most beautiful I ever saw, well worth seeing again; the Coliseum by moonlight was (cut out) lovely and other scenes equally beautiful. (cut out) this kind exceedingly and I have a better (cut out) of that "scenery Per(?)" then I ever have before (cut out) there is nothing like going there. I feel a (cut out) Italy is.

Side

Do you know how the J school courses are? I suppose Busy still has a class. I should like to know whether my scholars attend and who has charge of them. I talk sometimes of returning in the spring but it is doubtless. Give my love to all my friends and believe me your attached friend Jane
Direct you letter 297 Pine St.

from you. I regretted not seeing you before I left,
 but I could not ascertain whether you were at the
 Springs or not, and there being so much sick-
 -ness in the city during the summer I visited
 my letter not being well snoot of the time.
 I knew that you were ill at our time, but did
 not know whether it was well so, but thought
 it probable as there was so much sickness in your
 family and neighborhood. I think we ought to feel
 very grateful in view of our preservation, when so
 many were cut down on the right and left, whose
 prospects of a long life was as far as ours.
 Our church has been sorely affected and we have
 sustained serious loss in the removal of some of
 its members, I hope the loss will be made up
 by the addition of many more.
 I do not feel at home at all here, and do
 not think I shall stay long, the manners
 of the people are so different, and of them
 seem to be as much as in the States, the
 Quaker hospital people of the town, I know I
 can never feel that attachment which exists
 for any town and home friends in Kentucky.
 I have not yet decided where to attend church;
 we have two rather near us; St. Andrew's, I prefer
 as the better style or rather manner, is more like
 our people than any I have been for some time I
 have been here, in point of an altar they are superior
 as Dr. Stearns is a fine scholar and writes several
 excellent sermons. I have attended St. Luke's

frequently, of which Mrs. Brown is sister, a nephew
of the Bishop, and who is married to Mrs. Lygges
Mansfield who taught in the school for a while. I
expect you remember her she was very pretty, and
is still so though much paler than when I knew
her. She has three children, they has quite elegantly
since the church is a new one of a fine
front in the city. It is an equally new, and
a good service, but has too little ornamentation for
me. A new church has been furnished lately which
is considered the handsomest of its kind in the
city, it is built in the form of a cross of granite
the roof ornamented with spires, superfluous even
on a Protestant church in my estimation.
The ceiling is formed of the upper mass of oak
and is supported with beautiful rows of columns
and arches of stone which presents an imposing
appearance the floor which
one of the doors, the organ
altar on a level with the
of an arch way between
window contains the door
in the glass since the west
the windows, are almost
of various kinds, but of the
glass are wholly unutilized
table is behind the altar, its elevations in keeping with the
rest of the building. It looks more like a Catholic
than an Episcopal church, and no doubt will one day become
one. It is called St. Mark's, and probably you have seen a description of it.

There was
of the
is considered
The channel
painted
with
being done
in the

The communion

NOTE: Susan has gone to Arkansas with the where with all to manage and maintain the Carter cotton plantation and oversee the final sale of their cotton crop before returning to Lexington. Amanda has sketched a picture, possibly of Walnut Hill church next to the address. Dating 1849 11/25



Gossip reference to - **Sally Ward Lawrence Hunt Armstrong Downs** (1827-1896), The daughter of the exceedingly wealthy Robert J. Ward, was a celebrated belle, traveler, and patron, whose brother, Matthew Flournoy Ward, killed schoolmaster William Butler for reprimanding their younger brother William Ward. The trial in 1854 brought together the best legal minds and character witnesses ever assembled and produced an unpopular, not guilty verdict. **Sallie** married T. Bigelow Lawrence of Boston, but "never learned the secret of obedience" and freely used "paints and other cosmetics." She subsequently married Dr. Robert Hunt of Lexington, Venerando Politza Armstrong, a port packer, and Major George F. Downs.

Addressed to: Mrs. Amanda Shelby
(Greenfields)
Lexington
Kentucky

From: Susan Hart Shelby Carter

Jenifer Place Nov. 25, 1849

Dear Amanda

Having a neat little slip of gossip from a Boston paper, which was enclosed in a letter from Ellen and Mr. Reily while at Orleans, I concluded to write for the purpose of forwarding it to you. Do you not think that the vitreous in Louisville ought to write & present every one who affords their as rich a feast as this, with a prize, worthy of the boon they bestow, when they leave a wife or husband or cut any other fantastic trick which gives a theme for conversation that is almost inexhaustible? Poor Sallie ! her day was very brilliant but she flashed only a little while. She is indeed young to have seen all earthly hopes at an end, which I suppose must be the lot of every woman situated as she is.

Not to change the subject abruptly there has been enacted within ten miles of this place a tragedy the details of which would sicken your very soul, & I

forbear to give them to you as I have repeatedly heard them & will only tell you that a man by the name of Yerby was murdered by his negroes & that four of them were roasted alive, two until they died, the other two to such an extent as to admit of the recovery. This was done by the planters in the neighborhood who call themselves Christians !!!!! The negroes were driven to the murder of their master by one act of cruelty after another which I suppose had made them reckless. They were adjoining R.(Richard) Higgins & his father (Joel Higgins), who narrowly escaped being butchered not long ago by their slaves. I assure you that I feel very much like shaking the dust off my feet & leaving this land of blood & crime. My own servants seem to be or rather have been most happy & contented & I should calculate

Page 2

very certainly upon being protected by them in the court of danger. They had heard before I came down that they were to be sold and seem very much distressed at the idea.

Tell the babe (Mary Pindell) that Aunt Susan has a beautiful little coral necklace exactly like the one she lost (from her Uncle Jim) and she shall have it before a great while if she will not make any noise when Aunt Susan goes down to stay all night. I guess she will think it a dearly bought necklace.

I have heard from home but twice since I left, once through you & once from Isaac, & it was five weeks last Friday since I arrived. I fear you are all tired with my prosy letters & do not write in the hope of provoking me to silence, but unless my head becomes altogether out of sorts you need not hope for that. There was a time when Evan used to write me but I suppose he has too many affairs of his own to admit of his thinking of me. It is sad indeed to be alone & forgotten but I console myself with the reflection that if I were worthy of more affection I should have it, & as I am not, should be content to receive that which is my due. May God in his mercy never cause you or him to feel as I do, is the prayer of Yr. aff. sister

S. S. Carter

Amiga Place Nov. 25. 1849

Dear Amanda

Having a neat little slip of gossip from a Boston paper, which was enclosed in a letter from Ellen + Mrs. Paily while at Orleans, I concluded to write for the fun pose of forwarding it to you. Do you not think that the veterans in Louisiana ought to make & present every one who affords them as rich a feast as this, with a prize, worthy of the boon they bestow, when they leave a wife or husband or cut any other fantastic tricks which gives a theme for conversation that is almost inexhaustible. Poor Lallie! her day was very brilliant but she flashed only a little while. She is indeed young to have seen all earthly hopes at an end, which I suppose must be the lot of every woman situated as she is.

Not to change the subject abruptly there has been enacted within ten miles of this place a tragedy the details of which would sicken your very soul, & I forbear to give them to you as I have repeatedly heard them & will only tell you that a man by the name of Yunby was murdered by his negroes & that four of them were roasted alive, two untill they died, the other two to such an extent as to admit of their recovery. This was done by the planters in the neighborhood who call them selves Christians!!!! The negroes were driven to the murder of their master by our act of cruelty after another which I suppose had made them rebels. They were adjoining P. Higgins & his father, who narrowly escaped being butchered not long ago by their slaves. I assure you that I feel very much like shaking the dust off my feet & leaving this land of blood & crime. My new servants seem to be or rather have been most happy & contented & I should calculate

Very certainly upon being protected by them in the event of danger. They had heard before I came down that they were to be sold and saw many more who disapproved at the idea.

Tell the babe that Aunt Susan has a beautiful little coral necklace exactly like the one she lost and she shall have it before a great while if she will not make any noise when Aunt Susan goes down to stay all night. I guess she will think it a dearly bought necklace.

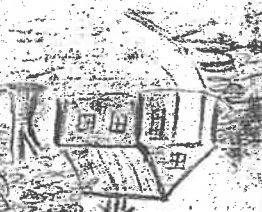
I have heard from home but twice since I left, once through you & once from Isaac, & it was five weeks last Friday since I arrived. I fear you are all tired with my prosy letters & do not write in the hope of provoking me to silence, but unless my head becomes altogether out of sorts you need not hope for that. There was a time when Evan used to write me but I suppose he has too many affairs of his own to admit of his thinking of me. It is sad indeed to be alone & forgotten but I console myself with the reflection that if I were worthy of more affection I should have it, & as I am not, I should be content to receive that which is my due. May God in his mercy never cause you or him to feel as I do, is the prayer of
 yr. aff. Sister

E. J. Carter

My dear Mr. [unclear]
I am so glad to hear from you
and hope you are well.
I am
Yours truly
Shelby B.



Mrs. Ann Maria Shelby



(Bremen, Ky.)

Shelby B.

Shelby B.

NOTE: Susan is in Arkansas settling the harvesting of the crops. I do not know if those lands were sold. She is thinking through returning and renting in Lexington, not returning to Richland. **Dating 1849 12/8**

Postmarked Helena, Arkansas
Dec 11 (1849)

Addressed to: Mrs. Evan Shelby
(Green Fields)
Lexington Ky.

From: Susan Hart Shelby Carter

Jenifer Place **Dec 8, 1849**

Dear Amanda

I have succeeded in finding paper enough to answer your last letter for which I am obliged to you indeed, for I had heard but twice since I left home. I suppose Isaac has taken offense at some of my many letters and will not incur the risk of getting any more of them than can be avoided.

Truly I have as slight materials for agreeable correspondence as can well be imagined and am therefore doubly indebted to you that you take interest enough to keep up one with me.

This is as stormy a day as ever dawned upon the swamps of Arkansas. The rain has not ceased since last night and no living thing but mules dare venture out, yet Rice my neighbor has just sent three of his half famished, half clad negroes to the gin where his cotton is to be put up for market. These same poor Ethiopians give me no little disquiet when I see them passing in the performance of their tasks which with shivering frames and hungry stomachs must be weary tasks indeed. His lovely young wife has just buried her second child and I have been trying to get down to see her but dread the under taking more than I would the journey to Ky. although they live hardly three miles off.

When I think of all the disadvantages under which the inhabitants of this country labor I am truly thankful that there is a prospect of my spending the remnant of my days where there are civilized people. The wealthiest and most polished portion (corner cut off) of the citizens of this country are such as I (corner cut off) can take no pleasure in and the manner (corner cut off) in which they deal with their slaves is such (corner cut off)

Page 2

that my very soul sickens to think of. I heard a lady who considers herself as an accomplished heiress, say the other day that the tragedy of which I wrote you as having occurred in Joel Higgins neighborhood, did credit to the community where it happened, at least she did not express it in that way although such was her warning. I said that simple hanging in the presence of the hundreds assembled to witness the scene would have been sufficient to inspire terror into the negroes, but she insisted that the slow torture of fire was the only mode of suppressing these things. But enough -

Tell Mary Pindell that Aunt Susan was taking a walk the other day & a huge wild hog with long tusks came running after her and that Aunt Susan took a stick and chased him away. An old acquaintance of Liz (Kinhead) and Mary (Cosby) was with me, a little Mrs. Cooper, and she ran as fast as the weight she carried (in the shape of seven underskirts, two of them quilted) would permit. This was the second time the animal had attacked me & I am considered quite as brave as a heroine because I did not run.

You may be interested in hearing what I sometimes have for dinner. I expected visitors a few days ago and we had pumpkin pudding blanc-mange & a very nice pound cake, after a delightful old ham & hashay (I can't spell it) of beef, flanked on either side with the finest yams & turnips.

What will Isaac think if I rent a house in town & go to live there? It is very certain that the life of utter loneliness and solitude (corner cut off) which I have lived in Richland & will (corner cut off) soon end my days and I cannot think (corner cut off) being as wholly unprotected as I am (corner cut off) during his frequent absences from home.

Page 3

If I were in town I would be in hearing of neighbors but there I might be butchered and no one to tell the tale. Should he succeed in selling my property there will be a competence for me and I think I shall make the attempt, should I be spared to return. As to living in anybody's house but his that would be unsuited to my taste for employment is indispensable to my existence. There are too many children at Mr. Harrison's and Aunt Susan's mode of life would freeze as chilly a person as I am.

Tell Isaac that it will probably be the last or middle of Jany. before the crop is ready for market as only two thirds are gathered, & the remainder which will be fifty or sixty bales still in the fields. When today's processing is done there will be more than 100 bales with what has been shipped to Payne & Harrison & from which I have heard no accounts of sales. They wrote me that the quality was inferior which I was aware of. The overseer says & I concur with him, that it is better to pick the whole crop than loose a portion of it by picking it free of trush.

At the lowest price which is 8 ½ cts. it will net about \$4,000. The expenses of the plantation during the year will be one fourth of that amount, leaving the balance to pay for the property. The best crop for miles around is on this place & there seems to be the greatest jealousy on the part of those who failed in making one, towards me. They ask me how much I shall have & I tell then what the overseer says, they do not laugh in my presence but say afterwards that I know nothing of planting & of course am not to blame for believing it but say how ridiculous it is to think of 150 bales, with such a season. These matters cannot interest you and you shall not be troubled with them again.

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Top

I shall soon be through my work and should nothing occur to prevent I think I shall visit some old friends living 150 miles below before Isaac comes down. The family of the overseer are here and the shanty tolerably full and but little to drive away that enemy to health – low spirits. If Anna Smedes (Mrs. William) had any body else for a husband I would go & see her & visit a celebrated watering place called Cooper's Well, near there but he is the sort of person I prefer to avoid.

Remember me aff. to the boys (Ike and Evan) and Mary Pindell and believe me

Yrs Sincerely Susan S. Carter

Lumpkin Place Dec. 8. 1849

Dear Amanda

I have succeeded in finding paper enough to reimburse your last letter for which I am obliged to you indeed, for I had heard but twice since I left home. I suppose Isaac has taken offence at some of my many letters and will not incur the risk of getting any more of them than can be avoided.

Truly I have as slight materials for an agreeable correspondence as can well be imagined and am therefore doubly indebted to you that you take interest enough to keep ~~me~~ up on with me.

This is as glorious a day as has dawned upon the Slaves of Arkansas. The rain has not ceased since last night and no living thing but Mules dare venture out, yet Price my neighbor has just sent three of his half furnished, half clad negroes to the gin where his cotton is to be put up for market. These same poor Ethiopians give me no little disgust when I see them daily passing in the performance of their tasks, which with shivering frames and hungry stomachs must be weary tasks indeed. His lovely young wife has just buried her second child and I have been trying to get down to see her but dread the undertaking more than I would the journey to Ky. although they live hardly three miles off.

When I think of all the disadvantages under which the inhabitants of this country labor I am truly thankful that there is a prospect of my spending the remainder of my days where there are civilized people. The wealthiest and most polished fashion of the citizens of this country are such as I can take no pleasure in and the manner in which they deal with their Slaves is such

that my very souls sickens to think of. I heard a lady who considers herself as an accomplished kindness, say the other day that the tragedy of which I wrote you as having occurred in Lord Hoggins' neighborhood, did credit to the community where it happened, at least she did not express it in that way although such was her meaning. I said that simple hanging in the presence of the hundreds assembled to witness the scene would have been sufficient to inspire terror into the negroes, but she insisted that the slow torture of fire was the only mode of suppressing these things. But enough —

Tell Mary Pindell that Aunt Susan was taking a walk the other day & a huge wild boy with long tusks came running after her and that aunt Susan took a stick and chased him away. An old acquaintance of Liz & Mary was with me, a little Mrs. Cooper, and she ran as fast as the wind. She carried (in the shape of seven under skirts two of them quilted) woad & pernit. This was the second time the animal had attacked me & I am convinced quite as brave as a hero because I did not run.

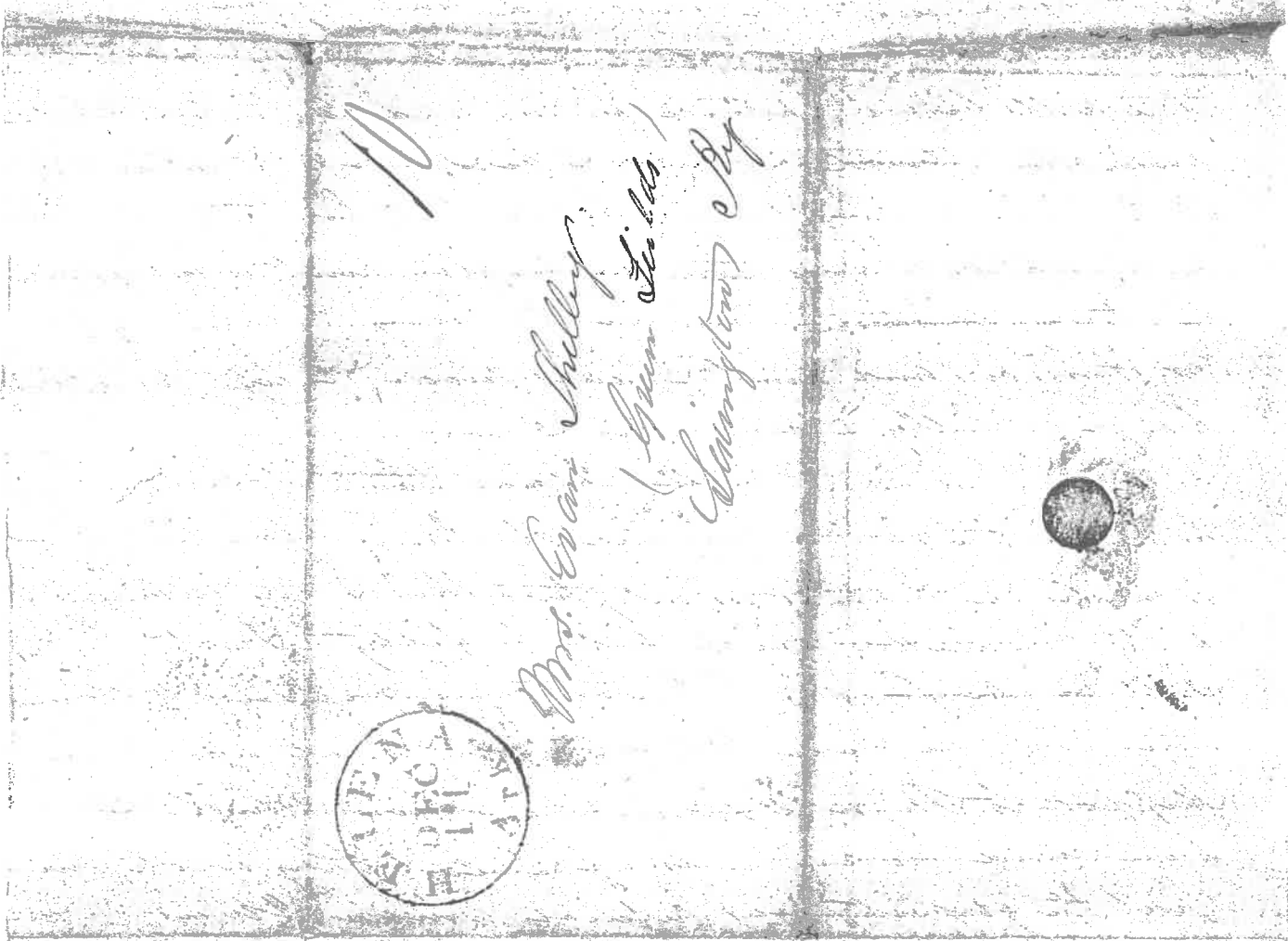
You may be interested in hearing what I sometimes have for dinner. I expected Mrs. Clark a few days ago and we had pumpkin pudding, blanc-mange & a very nice pound cake, after a delightful old ham & turkey (I can't spell it) of beef, flanked on either side with the finest yams & turnips.

What will Isaac think if I rent a house in town & go to live there? It is very certain that the life of utter loneliness and solitude which I have lived at Richland will soon end my days and I cannot think of being as wholly unprotected as I am during his frequent absences from home.

If I were in town I would be in hearing of neighbors but then I might be suspected and no one to tell the tale. Should he succeed in selling my property there will be a competence for me and I think I shall make the attempt, should I be spared to return. As to living in any body's house but his that would be inconsistent to my tastes for employ ment is indispensable to my existence. There are too many children at Mr. Harris's and Aunt Susans mode of life would freeze us chilly a person as I am.

Tell Isaac that it will probably be the last or middle of Jan. before the crop is ready for market as only two thirds are gathered, & the remainder which will be fifty or sixty bales still in the fields. When to-days pruning is done there will be near 100 bales with what has been shipped to Payne & Harris on, & from which I have heard no accounts of sales. They wrote me that the quality was inferior which I was aware of. The overseer says & I concur with him, that it is better to pick the whole crop than loose a portion of it by picking it free of trash.

At the lowest price which is $8\frac{1}{2}$ cts. it will net about \$400. The expenses of the plantation during the year will be one fourth of that amt. leaving the balance to pay for the property. The best crop for miles around is on this place & there seems to be the greatest jealousy on the part of those who failed in making one, towards me. They ask me how much I shall have & I tell them what the overseer says, they do not laugh in my presence but say afterwards that I know nothing of planting & of course am not to blame for believing it but say how ridiculous it is to think of 150 bales, with such a season. These do not matters concern interest you and you shall not be troubled with them again.



H. PHOENIX
ALBANY

10
Mrs. Evan Shelby
(from F. S. S.)
Washington D.C.

I shall soon be through my work and should nothing
seem to prevent I think I shall visit - Com. Sta. ground
every 137 miles before I leave (some down. the
garnity of the river you see here and the chimney, probably
quite and but better to drive away that chimney to
health the ~~area~~ low spirits. If I am a doctor had any
body else for a husband I would go to see her & wait
a suitable waiting place called Cooper well, near there
but he is the best of men I prefer to avoid.
Remember me aff. to the boys and every one else
and believe me Aff. sincerely Evan S. Shelby

NOTE: Second letter from Jane Mitchell and she tells of the 1849 dread of Cholera. **Dating 1849 12/31**

No Postmark or envelope

To: Amanda Bruen Shelby

From Jane Mitchell

Philadelphia **December 31st 1849**

I was exceedingly gratified with your prompt reply to my rather tardy epistle my dear Amanda and have come to the determination of replying as speedily as possible least I should get out of the notion (as you say). You must have passed a melancholy summer indeed in the midst of so much sickness and death and yet you have cause for much thankfulness that you and yours escaped the dreadful scourge.

You want to know how I passed the time and whether I was sick. I can answer I never felt so miserable both in body in service during my whole life, for although not really sick – I could not say that I was well and lived on such low diet for fear of being sick, I think most probably I should have become a mere skeleton had I not have left when I did. I am naturally very serious and being so far from home and having a dread of sudden death at all times you can imagine in what an excited state of mind I am in. I think I should have left as soon as the disease made its appearance had it not been for Susan's (sister?) situation. I had not been here a week before I decided to return, and although I have become quite reconciled to the change shall always prefer my western home and friends above all others.

Page 2

I feel more the loss of my church and pastor and his sweet wife than any thing else. I'm afraid I shall never feel that attachment for any one here at least for a long time to come, for in a large congregation it is impossible for a minister to be well acquainted with but few of his members. I attend St. Andrews most of the time, but we have not been able to attain seats as there is not a vacant one downstairs, but we are in hopes there will be before long as I greatly prefer Dr. Stevens to any one I have yet heard. He is about as high church as Mr. B. Smith, which I think quite high enough for me, and is highly talented and quite as animated preacher though not noisy by any means, pious, such a manner as I like an a basic sweet legend confession.

I am completely in love with his preaching which is solemn and searching and have a great desire to become acquainted with him, which I intend to do shortly. He is handsome, about Mr. B's (Berkley) age I should suppose and a little better; a fine specimen of which a clergyman of our church ought to be

in every respect. I wish you could have heard his Christmas sermon from the text, "watchman what of the night! and the watchmen surround the morning cometh." I expect you will begin to suffer that my former pastor of whose preaching you have heard me speak in such reputation has lost all place in my recollection and dwindles into insignificance before this almighty man; but indeed you are very much revelation in your supposition, for I always give him this preference, and were he rector of one of the churches here

Page 3

(Top three lines continued from side writing)

I know one who could form a part of his congregation. Received a letter of five pages from him a few weeks since brimful of news and interesting descriptions of things in general and the church in particular and I can assure you it was equivalent to none. I should like to hear some of the good sermons with which he has been favoring you if you could remember the text of some of them. I will write him to send them to me to peruse.

I am glad Mr. Iucho has concluded to remain in L.(Lexington) for our church has lost so many numbers of late; and Mr. Macalister intends removing to this city you say, I do not know what will become of the church at this rate. Those that remain will have to be more active and zealous than they have ever been and take a deeper interest in the churches welfare. As the church and her manifold interest occupies my thoughts both night and day, more than any thing else, you will readily excuse this long discourse about her ministers for when I once begin the theme I know not when to stop; but I know you feel as deep an interest as any one in these matters and will not be slow in excusing me. I am glad to know that your Ma's health is so good and hope it will long continue to be so. Mother is still delicate and takes cold very easily and therefore has to be extremely careful.

You want to know something about Mary Boswell's wedding but I am informed of no particulars, all I know is that she was married in St. Stephen's church to Mr. (Elisha)Riggs of Alexandria

Page 4

(Top three lines continued from side writing)

I hear that Dr. (R. W.) Bush and Lucy Webb are to be married soon but I will not believe it until I see an announcement of the event in the newspapers. She has beauty if nothing else to _____ (can't read).

You do not mention your little prodigy – M. Pindell, I suppose she is still improving in every sense and as good as pretty. Do you ever see or hear anything of Fanny (Frances P. Curd) Bodley and her little family? I partly promised to write to her but have not done so yet, but I should like to hear something concerning my God-daughter. I suppose you know that I occupy the responsible function of Godmother to her youngest prodigy.

Have you heard from Lizzie Smith lately on anything from the family? Do you hear anything of Mary Craig (Mrs. J. S. Brannin)? I intended writing to her as soon as I heard of Laura's (Craig) death but have deferred doing so until I doubt whether a letter now would prove acceptable, you know how easily she is offended and feels that she regards as a slight; and so I promised to correspond – I think. I have not acted exactly right, I think however it is too late to remedy my neglect.

I suppose you will be in town but little during the winter, but as you see Busy so often you can inform me of all important events transpiring, and you need not fear that you may weary me with the length of your epistles. I should like to hear whether Priss(Prisilla) Waters is a belle this winter, but how could she be otherwise this being her first season of course she ought to sway all before her, with

Across side of page 4

such charms. She is a cleaver girl in some respects but does some strange things, and will soon be a favorite I am inclined to think. I am glad hear M.(Mary) Cosby's health has improved

Across very Top of page 4

give my love to her. I suppose Lizzie is at her fathers this winter. Has her brother Isaac(Prather Shelby) yet found a helpmate of the requisite weight and qualifications? I feel as if I should so much like to have

Across side of page 3

a long chat with you as in days gone by, but I am certain my wish will not be very soon gratified, although I hope we may meet again, and at no distant day. I always recall with the greatest pleasure the time when our acquaintance first commenced and though years

Across very Top of page 3

have flown and many changes have taken place in which we too have shared yet our friendship has remained the same and I hope will continue the same for many years to come.

Across the first page:

Remember me affectionately – to your Ma and Busy and to all my dear friends who who may inquire for me, and write me soon since I will try and be functional in replying;

though if I am not you must not attribute to anything else than my want of partiality
for letter writing. My regards
to your husband and a
kiss for Mary P, I remain
as ever your sincere and
faithful friend
Jane

I shall write you in an hour or two, but I am afraid my ink will not be very
descriptive, although I hope at day's end to give you an account of always
with the greatest pleasure. I have been very much interested in the
last few days of the year, and I have been very much interested in the
last few days of the year, and I have been very much interested in the

have flowered in the garden which has been
been shown in the garden which has been
I hope will continue the same for many years to come
I know one who would form a part of his congregation
I received a letter of five pages from him a few weeks since
beneficial of news and interesting information of things
in general and ^{the} church in particular, and I am sure
you will be glad to see I should like to have some
of the good persons with which he has been joining you
if you could send him the lists of some of them I will
write him to send them to me to peruse
I am glad Mr. Smith has succeeded in convincing I for
my church has lost so many members of late and that
Mr. Pro. White intends removing to the city you say, I
do not know what will become of the church at that
date; those that remain will have to be more active and
zealous than they have ever been, since they are a deeper interest
in the church welfare. As the church has been successful
in its efforts my thoughts both ought and may, among
them, any thing else, you will probably then say, do not doubt
but ministers for whom I once began the church I have not
when to hope, but I know you feel as deep an interest
in any one in these matters, and will not be slow
in answering me. I am glad to hear that your Mrs.
health is so good and hope it will long continue
to be so. Another is still delicate and takes cold very
easily and therefore to be extremely careful
You want to know something about Mary Brown's recovery, but
I am ignorant of her particulars, etc. I know is that she
was removed to St. Stephen's church to the Reg. of Absolution.

I have been thinking of you very much lately. I am glad to hear from you and hope you are well. I am sure you are. I am sure you are. I am sure you are.

give my love to her. I suppose I have as at her father this winter.
 How are brother Good? get from a helpmate of the requisite weight
 and qualifications? (I feel as if I should so much like to have
 I have that Dr. Buck and his wife are to be married
 soon but I will not believe it until I see an
 announcement of their union in the newspapers.
 The new beauty of nothing else to recommend. I am
 you are making a very little progress. Mr. Pindell, I suppose
 she is still improving in every respect and as good as pretty.
 Do you ever see or hear anything of Harry Bradley since his little
 family? I partly promised to write to him but have not
 done so yet. I should like to hear something concerning
 my goddaughter. I suppose you know that I received the proposed
 position of godmother to her grandchild.
 Have you heard from Lizzie Smith lately, or anything from
 the family? Do you hear anything of Mary Gray? I intended
 writing to her as soon as I heard of James's death, but have
 deferred doing so until I doubt whether a letter now would
 prove acceptable, you know how easily she is offended and
 feels what she regards as a slight, and so I promised to
 correspond I think. I have not acted exactly right, I
 think, because it is too late to remedy my neglect.
 I suppose you will be in town but little during the winter,
 but as you see Busy so often you can inform me of all
 important events transpiring, and give them to me in
 detail for every thing interests me, and you need not fear
 that you may weary me with the length of your epistles.
 It should like to hear whether Press letters is a letter this
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