NOTE: This appears to be the same clear writing as Gov. Isaac Shelby's.

Nathaniel Hart, his father-in-law to be, is still alive (he was killed by Indians in July of 1782). Isaac did not marry Nathaniel's daughter, Susannah, until 1783. They were married at Fort Boonesborough and traveled southeast by horseback to his land near Danville where a month before he had built his first cabin (later Traveller's Rest would stand here). A few months later his brother James Shelby would be killed while bringing him horses. In February of 1884 they would name their first born after James. Sarah Simpson Hart, Susannah's mother, would die less than 2 years after their marriage. Isaac Shelby would be of great assistance in settling the Hart estate and raising their young children.

Nathaniel Hart's parents were Susanna Rice and Thomas Hart II. Nathaniel Hart's wife was Sarah Simpson, daughter of Richard Simpson and Mary Kincheloe.

This first letter was written when George Washington was not yet President, Kentucky was not yet a state & bartering was used in the place of money. Isaac Shelby wrote on a scrap of paper to Col. Thomas Hart, Nathaniel Hart's brother and his future wife's uncle, encouraging income from land that Nathaniel owned. Two years prior to this he had won the Battle of King's Mountain in North Carolina. He was paid by being given portions of land.

Isaac Shelby would be about 32 and Col. Thomas Hart about 52 years of age. Bottom right-hand corner has been cut off, possibly by Mary Pindell Shelby Stallcup for Gov.'s signature which she glued into her copy of Cass Knight Shelby's "Shelby Pedigree". I Shelby – written at the bottom of address side, upside down. There is a George Bernard Lingenfelter that was married in Frederick, MD and died in Fayette County, KY – don't know if this is the same one. Information on Col. Thomas Hart (III), Kincheloe, Lingenfelter and Rice follows.

No date – early 1782 or before

Addressed to: Col. Thomas Hart (Nathaniel Hart's brother)
Lexington

From: Gov. Isaac Shelby

Dear Sir

As the season for renting lands will soon pass I must beg the favour of you, to see that all the cleared land on the tract I purchased of you is rented out for the present year. I think there is about 60 acres of land under fence fit for the plow. I would prefer taking 2 ½ barrels of corn pr acre or even two barrels put up into a safe dry crib than one third of all the crop that is raised on the land. If Lingenfelter has not been to see you since we bargained, be so good as send one of your young men out to him to fix on the mode of paying the rent and to contract with him to tend both fields – I expect Mr. N. Hart is about this time preparing to start to Baltimore or should have requested him to do this business – if Col. Todd is at our Court on Tuesday next you shall soon hear from me restricting the Draft on him.

Dear Sir

As the se[illegible] for renting lands will soon hap[illegible] I must beg the [illegible]our of you, to see that all the cleared land on the [illegible] I purchased of you is rented out for the present year. I think there is about 60 acres of land under fence fit for the plow I would prefer taking 2½ barrels of corn p[illegible] acre or even two barrels put up into a safe dry crib, than one third of all the crop that is raised on the land If Ling in Pelter has not been to see you since we bargained, be so good as send one of your young men out to him to fix on the more [illegible] paying the rent and to contract with him to ten[illegible] both fields – I expect Mr. N. Hart is about this time preparing to start to Baltimore or should have requested him to do this business – if Col. Todd is at our Court on Tuesday next you sha[illegible] [illegible] hom one [illegible] the Draft on him

Colo Thomas Hart

Lexington

J. Hart

NOTE: I Shelby – written on another edge of cover

Addressed to: Col. Thomas Hart
Hagars Town
Maryland

Honored by (carried by)
Col Rochester

From: Gov. Isaac Shelby

Dan Ville **Augst 14th 1785**

Dear Sir

I rote you so fully and deliberately
a short time ago by Mr. Byrne (who I expect
ee'r this has delivered you my letter) That
at Present I have nothing farther of
importance to say. I have but little
expectation of your taking on you the settlement
of your deceased brothers estate here. And
am therefore much concerned for the payment
of some Large debts that I am told he ow'd
in his Lifetime to some Gen'l at
Petersburgh as the money cannot be raised
here but by the sale of the Negroes. I
hope you will at least interest yourself so far
as to befriend the Children in the Settlement
of those debts, by disposing of some of the Lands
the Powels Valley or Green River land woud be
best to dispose of & the Latter is by no means so
valuable as the former, tho perhaps may sell
as well, yet I cannot see that you can do any
thing in it, unless you administer, then his will
must enable you, or that you are empowered
for

Page 2

for that purpose by those who do Administer
which for my part I shall be very loath to do
whilst such heavy demands are depending –
because I could not think of selling the Negroes
untill the Last extremity, and in the mean
time some adverse of fortune might happen
to them & thereby subject the Administrator to the
payment of there Valuations. Indeed nothing
could induce me but the consideration of the
Children's Interest to embark on a Matter of so

much concern, having for ease sake intirely divested myself of every kind of business.

I sincerely wish that one of the boys could be brot up to Business as he might hereafter be a kind of Guardian to the Others, should any unjust measures be taken during there minority by those who may happen to have the settlement of the Estate. John is a clever smart lad about 12 or 13 years of age and Appears to have the best Genious – Capt. Thompson & my self will pay a particular attention to there education, but at present nothing more than a common country one can be expected.

For news shall take the liberty to refer you to Col. Rochester. I have for a long time given out all thots of seeing you in this country. As not thinking it consistent with your interest or convenience to remove to country in the situation this one has been in hitherto, but for a few days past a report

Page 3

has prevailed with us that the navigation of the Mississippi is opened to all, if so this country will be an object to persons of the highest distinction – and I shall conceive my self as happy as if settled in any part of the interior country.

Please excuse a letter I rote in a very great hurry as I happen just now to be engaged on some business that prevents me from doing it deliberately.

I am my Dear Sir with sincere Regard and Esteem your Affectionate friend and most Ob't Humble Servant

Isaac Shelby

NOTE: at bottom in another's writing, possibly Col Thomas Hart:

write Col. Shelby that you intend making a Sitle of 1/3 of the lands located by Capt. John Martin to him.

NOTE: Some additions and subtractions around boarders and the following list (slave prices):

Cuft(?) Lucy & child	$200
Rachel & child	100
Mina	100
Aggey	50
Batt	50
Edu	50
Voilett & 2 children	125
	$675

Horse & Saddle	50
Bed &c	20
Furniture	25
	$870

Note: on corner: Cuft pound sign 100
Lussy &2

Other figures:

1755	60
87	30
1837	15
1050	105
787	18
50	87
837	

Note: Other columns of addition also appear

Dear Sir

Danville Augst. 14th 1805

I wrote you so fully and deliberately a short time ago by a Mr. Byrne (who I expect ere this has delivered you my letter) that at Present I have nothing farther of importance to say. I have but little expectation of your taking on you the settlement of your Deceased Brothers estate here. And am therefore much concerned for the payment of some large debts that I am told he owed in his lifetime to some Gent. at ~~Petersburgh~~ Petersburgh, as the money cannot be raised here but by the sale of the Negroes. I hope you will at least interest yourself so far as to befriend the Children in the settlement of those debts, by disposing of some of the lands. The Powels Valley & Green River lands would be best to dispose of. The latter is by no means so valuable as the former. tho perhaps may sell as well. yet I cannot see that you can do any thing in it, unless you administer, then his will must enable you, or that you are empowered

for

for that purpose by those who do Administer which for my part I shall be very loath to do whilst such heavy demands are depending — because I could not think of selling the Negroes untill the Last extremity, and in the mean time some advise of fortune might happen to them & thereby subject the Administrator to the payment of their Valuation. Indeed nothing could induce me but the consideration of the Childrens Interest to embark in a matter of so much concern, having for ease sake entirely divested myself of every kind of business —

I sincerely wish that One of the boys could be brot up to Business as he might hereafter be a kind of Guardian to the Others, shield any unjust Advantages be taken during their Minority by those who may happen to have the settlement of the estate. John is a clever smart lad about 12 or 13 years of age and appears to have the best Genious — Capt. Thompson & my self will pay a particular Attention to their education but at present nothing more than a common country one can be expected —

For news shall take the Liberty to refer you to Col Rochester. I have for a long time given out all thots of seeing you in this Country. as not thinking it consistent with your interest or convenience to remove to country in the situation this One has been in hitherto. but for a few days past a report

has prevailed with us that the Navigation of the Mississippi is opened to us, if so this country will be an object to persons of the highest distinction — and I shall conceive my self as happy as if settled in any part of the interior country

Please excuse a letter I note in a very great hurry as I happen just now to be engaged on some business that prevents me from doing it deliberately

I am my Dear Sir with Sincere Regard and esteem your Affectionate friend and most Obt. Humble Servt

Isaac Shelby

1750
87
1837
1050
787
50
837

60
30
45
105
18
87

22.10
5.12.6

62.10
5.12.6
.2.6

Cuff Lucy & child £200
Rachel & child - - 100
Mina - - - - - 100
Aggey - - - - - 50
Bett - - - - - 50
Edu - - - - - 50
Violett & 2 children 35
675

Horse & saddle 60
Bed &c - 20
Furniture 75
870

Cap Thomas Shelby

Borrowed by Col Lockhart

Maria Pond

J Shelby

NOTE: No address but I presume, because of the handwriting and content, that this is also written to Col. Thomas Hart. The Gov. mentions his two first borns. James, being named after his brother (who was killed just before this birth bringing horses to him) and Sarah (Sally) who would grow up to marry Dr. Ephraim McDowell. I have placed here some information on Fort Boonesborough. Isaac Shelby inhabited this place as did his future father-in-law, Nathaniel Hart and his family.

From: Gov. Isaac Shelby

Shelby April 10th 1786

Dear Sir

Shortly after the receipt of your favour by Majr Taylor, I went to Boonesbro. to see in what situation the Estate left by Mrs. Hart was in, and to endeavour to prevail on Capt. Thompson to take the Administration, which you requested me to do, but finding the estate exceedingly scattered, and by no means in the condition I expected, I determ'd to take the most spedy method to secure it & have since Administered & sold off all the movable estate that I could find, & have hired out chief of the slaves,. I have administered on the estate of Sarah Hart dec'd and don't think my self authorized to dispose of any of the Lands belonging to your dec'd Brother's estate I did not Administer on his will because

Page 2

I expected his creditors woud urge me for payment and I did not like to hazard my obligation for the Titles of any of his Lands which might be sold to raise money for that purpose. I fear most of his Lands are disputed. What I principally have in view, is to secure such part of the estate as woud otherwise go to ruin, until Nath'l the second son arrives at age, who then may take upon him the Administration of his fathers will as he is left one of the executors, but in the mean time shoud the Creditors be uneasy, and take any steps to compel me to account for the movable estate which I have disposed off, and the slaves, if I find that any of the Lands can be safely disposed of for payment I can then Administer on the will and settle those demands; which I am led to believe are considerable from a letter of yours which I find among the papers. The green River

Land is surely clear of dispute but as
I expect that land will be one day of great
value perhaps it may be best not to dispose of it

Page 3

while there appears a prospect of its raising in
in value.

I have not a doubt but that the
Nockbuckle lands were purchased for you, tho
I have generally understood from Mrs. Hart that
only 1600 acres were yours. The other 400 acres was in
two locations one on each side of Callaways
Settlement & preempts those entrys were assigned
by Majr Hoy to your Brother and Mrs. Hart in
her life had them surveyed, one of which was
returned in the name of the Heirs, the other
for wont of a proper Assignment was returned
in the name of the person that Hoy purchased
it from by which means I did not take
it out of the surveyors office after Mrs. Hart
death, not knowing that it was one of the
surveys she had sent there, until the time for
registering the plot had expired and that
survey of 200 acres is cavated by some persons
I am told and I fear is in danger of being
lost unless our late assembly has passed
some law to favour many others who were
in the same situation if so shall pay a
particular attention & have it registered if
a longer time is given as I have some
hopes it is – I am persuaded none of the
children have

Page 4

views toward the Nockbuckle lands, yet I don't
know how far I should be justifiable to send the
bond to you - some of the Children are very young
and this matter might be unfairly represented to
them – a decree in chancery woud sufficiently justify
me but I hope there need be no expense, about it.
Majr Taylor says he expects you may be in the Country
the coming season should that be the case I shall
not hesitate to deliver you the bond in the presence
of all the Heirs.

I have sent little John to you who
goes with a great deal of cheerfulness, the
horse he rides, the only one I could collect belonging
to the estate, was appraised to L11. our curr'y. Seeing

you will dispose of him to the best advantage and
remit the money at some convenient opp'y perhaps
for a little credit he may bring near the sum he
was appraised to. I will not trouble you with news
as Majr Taylor can inform you more fully. My family is in
good health & we have two fine thriving little children.

Please present our comp'ts to your good Lady and family.

I am Dear Sir very Sincerely your affectionate
friend and Most Ob't Humble Servant

Isaac Shelby

Dear Sir

Shelby April 10th 1786

Shortly after the receipt of your favour by Majr Taylor, I went to Boonsbro. to see in what situation the Estate left by Mrs Hart was in, and to endeavour to prevail on Capt Thompson to take the administration, which you requested me to do. but finding the estate exceedingly scattered, and by no means in the condition I expected, I determd to take the most speedy method to secure it I have since administred I sold off all the moveable estate that I could find, I have hired out chiefly the slaves. I have administered on the estate of Sarah Hart decd and dont think myself authorized to dispose of any of the lands belonging to your dec. Brothers estate I did not administer on his will because

I expected his creditors would urge me for payment and I did not like to hazard my obligation for the Titles of any of his Lands which might be sold to raise money for that purpose. I fear most of his Lands are disputed what I principally have in view, is to secure such part of the estate as would otherwise go to ruin, until Nathl the second son arrives at age who then may take upon him the Administration of his fathers will; as he is left one of the Executors. but in the mean time should the Creditors be uneasy, and take any steps to compel me to account for the Movable estate which I have disposed off, and the Slaves, if I find that any of the Lands can be safely disposed of for payment I can then Administer on the will and settle those Demands; which I am led to believe are considerable from a letter of yours which I find among the papers. The Green River Lands is purely clear of disputes but as I expect that Land will be one day of great Value perhaps it may be best not to dispose of it

while there appears a prospect of its raising in in value —

I have not a doubt but that the North Bubble Lands were purchased for you, tho I have generally understood from Mrs Hart that only 1400 Acs was yours. the other 400 Acs was in two locations one on each side of Calloways settlemt & preempts those entrys were assigned by Maj. Hoy to your Brother and Mrs Hart in her life had them surveyd, one of which was returned in the name of the Heirs, the other for want of a proper assignment was returned in the name of the person that Hoy purchased it from, by which means I did not take it out of the surveyors office after Mrs Harts death, not knowing that it was one of the surveys she had sent there, until the time for registering the plat had expired, and that survey of 200 Acs is cavated by some person I am told and I fear is in danger of being lost unless our late Assembly has passed some law to favour many others who were in the same situation if so I shall pay a particular attention & have it registered if a longer time is given. as I have some hopes it is — I am perswaded none of the children have

De

iews toward the Rockbridge Lands, yet I dont
how far I should be justifiable to send the
d to you some of the Children are very young
d this matter might be unfairly represented to
em — a decree in chancery would sufficiently justify
e but I hope there need be no expence, about the
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g ensuing season should that be the case I shall
hesitate to deliver you the bond in the presence
all the Heirs —

I have sent little John to you who
goes with a great deal of chearfulness, the
horse he rides, the only one I could collect belonging
to the Estate, was appraised to £11. our Curry Slee
will dispose of him to the best advantage, and
remit the money at some convenient opp.y perhaps
for a little credit he may bring near the sum he
was appraised to — I will not trouble you with news
as Mag.r Taylor can inform you more fully. my family is
in good health, I've have two fine thriving little children
please present our compts to your good Lady and family

I am Dear Sir very sincerely your affectionate
friend and Most Obt Humble Servant

Isaac Shelby

NOTE: No address but I presume that this is also written to Col. Thomas Hart. Daniel Boone would about 54 years of age, Susanna Hart Shelby 25 and Dr. Pindell about 39 & Eliza Hart Pindell 20.

From: Gov. Isaac Shelby

May 18th 1789

Dear Sir

I shoud have rote you long e'er nor but the situation of my health has been such, that I coud not make the proper enquiries, into Business you left with me, until latterly, nor am I yet perfectly recovered the rest of my family are very well thank God, as I trust and hope this will reach you and yours. I went up to Silver Creek in April to survey Col. Benton's Settlement and preempt. and found the claims there so interlock'd and fowl of each other, that I was really at aloss how to proceed.

I concluded it would be best for me to make a connection of the surveys that lay in the way, and shew it with there locations to Mr. Sebastian, and take his opinion how to run Bentons out, for it appears to me that every inch of it will be disputed, and I thot it best to have a better opinion than my own, how to proceed in the business. Mr. Sebastian will be at Dan Ville in June, what he Advises I can have done shortly afterwards – I have for your satisfaction enclosed you a connected plot of the Lands that interfeers with Col. Bentons together with his entry and your brother David, it appears to me that there Claims must cover the same spot in a great measure, this coud not have been an error at first because they were I believe both located by your deceased Brother at the same time, but must be owing to the Claims, which they are bounded by, being differently run out from what he intended, for I find the Preemption granted to Jos. Hughes & sold to Dan'l Boone, was located with the commissioners on the North side of Nath. Hart's land and it appears to be surveyed on the East of his Land. Bentons claim was granted by the commissioners before Estels, if neither of them has improvements there, it will stand on the best footting, and if they both had it will have

Page 2

have an equal chance, Craigs Claim was located with the Comissioners, on the East side of Silver Creek Beginning half a mile above the Lands said to be claimed by Harts. I cannot learn that the person he bot from had any improvements there, if not Bentons will stand on equal chance with his, and if they both had they will stand

equally good – the right is granted to Lewis Craig.
Assignee of Jonathan Jenings, on Acct of the L. Jenings
Raising corn at Boonesbr in the year 1775. no mention of an
improvement which was not omitted when the person had
any – I have heard that they woud not dispute on Estels
Claim if only a reasonable quantity is taken out of thos.

It appears to me that if Bentons surveys are extended
North thro Estels and on his west end, that some land may
be got there which has been taken up by Treasury Warraants.
tho some of them are in obstinate hands.

I went to Col. Lewis to enquire into the survey on Hoys
400 Acre entry, he had not finished the survey. he found the
Nockbuckle tract and Phelps, preemption bound on Each other
than no Land was to be had on the North of Phelps' tract &
saw he did not like to survey the whole on the East of Phelps
as that was not agreeable to location, And I discovered in
making out a Deed there for the 200 Acres of Land that
Stephen Hancock, has made over to you, that it did
precisely take the ballance of Hoy's entry, this Maj'r
Hoy did know when he sold these entrys to your Brother
for he purchased of Hancock because his was the eldest
entry. Lewis thinks these may be yet some some small
Vacancy on the East of Phelps, & South of Hancocks 200
Acres, if there is, that no one else has taken, he has pro-
mised to make enquiry & survey it under Hoys –
entry which may be done with propriety.

I called on Mr. Coburn at Lexenton to know
what he had determined on, he at first said he had
no thots of giving any of the Land up as he believed
it to be his own, but upon my intimating to

Page 3

him that a decision had been given in your favour
by good Judges in a Similar case – he requested that
nothing might be done until he could consult Mr.
Innis, I have not heard from him since, if nothing is
offered by him shall advise Mr. Sebastian to bring
suit Against him when he comes up – Hancocks
Deed to you is recorded and I had Flemings proved by
two of the witnesses in March last, but for want of
the third witness who was absent it could not be admitted
to Record, he is now here & the deed shall be fully prov'd
next Court and will send them both to you by the
first very good Opp'y that open after Flemings is recorded.

I did not get an Acknowledgem't of his wifes dowor. was
doubtful least the time for recording the deed might Elapse
and did not think it material as she is old, and he has

plenty of Land – Caleb Callaway has not been
here since you left this Country, his friend says he
is to move out next fall – I have not heard
from McMullin since although I had reasons to expect
him at my house with plots of the surveys, on those
entrys made by Capt. Thompson, upon the warrants
belonging to your Brothers Estate.

Major Hoy begs hard not to be sued before August next,
he had sent his son to Orleans with a boat Load of Tobacco
and says he will certainly pay then – John
Holly is also down with a considerable quantity
of Tob'a if he is lucky I suppose he will be
able to pay you on his return. –

Thus Sir, have I literally stated the situation your
business is in at this time, any thing farther that I can do in
it you may be sure I shall. – If Mr. Kyser does not
pay the Money to you for the books I beg of you not to
advance your own as you intimated in your last letter, as
I am not Anxious about them, but if he shoud I shall
be satisfied to get some well rote books on Divinity amongst
them, but don't wish you to give yourself any trouble if
books are not to be readily got. As to Kentucky news
tis hardly worth mentioning, the old story about a
Separation seems to revive again, and we shall

Page 4

have Elections this month for Convention men to meet
in June at DanVille. I expect that meeting will
be decisive on the business as people seem to be tired
out – a great stir amongst us about setling the
Spanish shore on the Missipi: great many are already
gone and numbers preparing to go, it appears as if our
Land holders will get rid of Tenants, as tis mostly such
of thos that have no lands here that are going –
great preparations generally thro the District for
making Tobacco, some expect 16/ others as high as
26/ p.t. lot. I wish we maynt be disappointed.

I hope you will rite to us when 'tis convenient –
Shall always be glad to hear from you and of
your Familys Welfare. Suckey joins me in her
best love to yourself and family and will you please
to present our best comp'ts to Doct Pendle and Lady –

And believe me to be with sincere regard your
Affectionate friend and

Most Ob't Humble Servant
Isaac Shelby

Dear Sir May 18th 1789

I should have wrote to you long ere now but the situation of my health has been such, that I could not make the proper enquiries into the Business you left with me, until latterly, now am I yet perfectly recovered the rest of my family are very well thank God, I trust and hope this will reach you and yours — I went up to Silver Creek in April to survey Col Bentons fifteen and Preemption and found the Claims there so interlocked, and coinciding with each other, that I was really at a loss how to proceed, I conceived it would be best for me to make a connection of the surveys that lay in the way, and then it was the place locations to Mr Sebastian, and take his Opinion how how to run Benton out, for it appeared to me that every Inch of it will be disputed, and I thought it best to have a better Opinion than my own, how to proceed in the business Mr Sebastian will be at Danville in June, what I do Doubt I can have done shortly afterwards — I have for your Satisfaction inclosed you a connected plat of the Lands that interfere with Col Benton together with his entry, and your Brother David, it appears to me that these Claims must cover the same spot in a great measure, he could not have been so exact as first, because they were both located by your deceased Brother at the same time, but must be owing to the Claims which they are bounded by being differently run out from what he intended, for I find that the Preemption granted to Mr Hughes sold to Dan Boone, was located with the Commissioners on the North side of Nath Hart's land and it appears to be surveyed on the East of his land — Bentons claim was granted by the Commissioners before Estes, if neither of them had improvement there it will stand on the best footing, and if they both had, it will

have an equal chance, Craigs Claim was located with the Comissioners, on the East side of Salt Creek Beginning half a Mile above the Lands said to be claimed [redacted] by Starts. I cannot learn that the person he got from had any improvement there, if not Benton will stand an equal chance with him, and if they both had they will stand equaly good — the right is granted to Lewis Craig Assignee of Jonathan Jennings, on Acct. of the Sd. Jennings Raising corn at Bombo in the year 1775. no mention of an improvement which was not omitted when the person had any — I have heard that they would not dispute on Estels Claim if only a reasonable quantity is taken out of that.

It appears to me that if Bentons surveys are extended North thro Estels and on his West side, that some land may be got there which has been taken up by Treasury warrants. tho some of them are in other vacant lands —

I went to Col Lewis to enquire into the Survey on Hoys 400 Acre entry, he had not finished the Survey. he found the Rockbuckle tract and Phelps's preemption bound on each other that no Land was to be had on the North of Phelps's tract & said he did not like to survey the whole to the East of Phelps as that was not agreeable to location, and I discovered in making out a Deed there for the 200 Acres of Land that Stephen Hancock, has made over to you, that if Did precisely take the better of Hoys entry, tho May Hoy did know when he sold there entry to your Brother for he purchased of Hancock because he was the eldest entry. Lewis thinks there may be yet some small Vacancy on the East of Phelps, & South of Hancocks 200 Acres, if there is, that no one else has taken, he has promised to make enquiry & survey it under Hoys entry which may be done with propriety —

I called on Mr. Cobern at Scanton to know what he had determined on, he at first said he had no thots of giving away of the land up as he believed it to be his own.

Sen that a decision had been given in your favour
by good Judges in a similar case — he requested that
nothing might be done until he could consult Mr.
Innis, I have not heard from him since, if nothing is
offered by him I shall advise Mr. Lebastian to bring
Suit against him when he comes up — Hancocks
Deed to you is recorded, and I had Flemings proved by
two of the witnesses in March last but for want of
the third witness who was absent it could not be Admitted
to Record, he is now here & the deed shall be fully proved at
next Court and will send them both to you by the
first very good Opp.y that offers after Flemings is recorded
I did not get on Robinns Judgmt. of his wife's dower, as I
doubted least the time for recording the deed might Elapse
and did not think it material as she is old, and he has
plenty of Land — Caleb Calloway has not been
here since you left this Country, his friends says he
is to move East next fall — I have not heard
from Mr. Mullen since altho I had reasons to expect
a letter made by Capt. Thompson, upon the warrants
belonging to your Brothers Estate —
Major Hoy has had not to be sued before August ses.
he has sent his son to Orleans with a boat load of Tobacco
and says he will certainly pay them — John
Holly is also down with a considerable quantity
of Tobo. if he is likely I suppose he will be
able to pay you on his return —
Thus Sir, have I literally stated the situation your
business is in at this time, any thing farther that I can do in
it you may be shure I shall —
pay the Money to you for the books. If Mr. Ryser does not
advance your wax as you intimated in your last letter, as
I am not Anxious about them, but if he should I shall
be satisfied to get some well rote books on Divinity among
them. but dont wish you to give yourself any trouble if
books are not to be readily got — As to Kentucky news
tis hardly worth Mentioning, the old story about a
Seperation seems to revive again, and we shall

have Elections this Month for Convention men to meet
in June at Danville. I expect that meeting will
be decisive on the business as people seem to be tired
out. a great Stir amongst us about settling the
Spanish shore on the Mississipi. great many are already
gone and Numbers preparing to go, it appears as if our
Land holders will get red of Tenants, as to most such
those that have no Lands here that are going —
great preparations generally thro the District for
making Tobacco, some expect 16/ others as high as
24/ p C. wt. South we may be disappointed —
Hope you will write me when it convenient
shall always be glad to hear from you and of
your Family's Welfare. Lucey joins me in her
best love to yourself and family and will you please
to present our best Compts to Doctr. Pindle and Lady —
And believe me to be with sincere regard yours
affectionate friend and

Most Obt Humble Servant
Isaac Shelby

Isaac Shelby

NOTE: Mary Ann (Polly) Hart would be about 14 years old and Chinoe would be about 10. Elements of Criticism (2 Vol.) Lord Aims [Henry Homes] (1762). I read in researching this title that it was highly recommended by Thomas Jefferson see note that follows.

Addressed to: Col. Thomas Hart

Hagers Town

Hand of MR.
Byrnie (carried by)

From: Gov. Isaac Shelby

September 12th 1789

My Esteemed Friend

with pleasure I embrace the opp'y by Mr. Birney to acquaint you that I am yes in the land of the living & recovered to my usual, health and strength again, tho the Simptoms of my last winters Illness troubled me for several months after I was able to go about my business – Your favour of May last by Mr. Vanlear came to hand only a week or two ago. we are sincerely Sorry to hear of your indisposition, and pray God you may eer now be restored to your health and that he will long preserve you in the enjoyment of your good family – nothing gives me more pleasure than a line from you and be assured I shall allways be happy and rejoice to hear of your health happiness and prosperity and consider it as one of the greatest pleasures of this life to keep up a correspondence with you so long as we may both live – shoud fate so decree that any of your offspring may come to this part of the world in my day it will give me pleasure to render them every friendship & service in my power. –

I rote you a long letter in may last and left it with Mr. Gillispie to forward with one he had prepared for you which I expect has reached you long ago, that will in some measure Account for my long silence after your departure from this country, and also inform you, how your land matters stood at that time, I enclosed you then a Correction of the Surveys on Silver Creek where Col. Bentons Claim shoud lay in order that you might see what probability there was of coming in at this day for any Land there – In June last I laid before Mr. Sebastian for his Opinion, a Corrected plot of the Claims & there Locations that appeared to interfere with

of the Claims & there Locations that appeared to interfere with
Bentons. he thot I had best make the survey, principally
on the East side of Nath'l Harts Settlement & preemption
for

Page 2

for it would then interfere mostly with a preemption of 1000 Acres
granted to Dan'l Boone also of Joseph Hughes, & now belonging I
understand to Capt. Dan'l Broadhead. that claims when first –
granted by the Commissioners was located on the North side of
Nath'l Harts land to include his improvement, and altho now
Surveyed on the East I cannot suppose that will alter the
equity of the title provided the improvement on which
the Claim was granted is with in the Survey. I cannot learn
that Benton had any improvement there. I am at a
loss what to do and shoud be glad of your Advise the –
Papers I enclosed you will enable you to Judge as well as
I can & shoud be glad to hear from you before I do any
thing farther – I intend however when the leaves falls
to go to the Land, and if I find that I can make the Survey
any way consistent with your interest I shall do it.

I spoke to Mr. Coburn last Spring about your
business – he requested that no steps might be taken until
he coud consult Mr. Innis, in August last I see him
Again when he told me he had not spoke to Mr. Innis, but
chose to risque a suit in Law for the Land, I shall therefore
advise Mr. Sebastian to institute One Against him
immediately – Caleb Callaway is not yet come
to this Country but his relations say they expect him
this fall. if he comes I shall pay a particular
Attention to your Memorandum respect'g him

I see Mr. McMillion last month he informed me
he had Surveyed all your Lands, that he woud make
out the plots and bring them with him to our
Nov'r Court at DanVille. If he does I will take
care to have them registered in due time.

I am much Obliged to you for the Trouble you
have taken in sending the Museums, Mr. Birney will
give you 18/9 to pay you the last years Subscription for them
and 25/. our Currency for the two Volumes of Lord Kaims
Sketches, if 'tis enough tho you did not inform me there prices –

Page 3

Suckey begs you to accept her kind love and
thanks for the set of Chinai which we think are
very elegant – as to family concerns

Jefferson suggest Law add Lord Kaims (Kames) to his work as a supporter of the moral sense. "wrote Elements of Criticism" + Essays of Moral Kaims"

To these might be added Lord Kaims, one of the ablest of our advocates, who goes so far as to say, in his Pinciples of Natural Religion that a man owes no duty to which he is not urged by some impulsive feeling. This is correct if referred to the standard of general feeling in the given case, and not to the feeling of a single individual. Perhaps I may misquote him, it being fifty years since I read his book.

we are in a fair way to have a numerous one.
We have had a fine son born since I rote you
last and have taken the liberty to name him
Thomas Hart, he bids fair for a lusty fellow.

we have had little Polly & China Hart at
the Dancing school all Summer, Polly had
improv'd a little, and China dances to an admi
ration. The rest of my family are very
well thank God as I trust and hope this
will reach you and yours – Please present
our best respects to your good family and to
Doctor Pendal and his – and believe me take
with great regard your Affectionate friend

And Most Obedient Servant
Isaac Shelby

September 12th 1789

My Esteem'd Friend

with pleasure I embrace the opty by Mr Binney to acquaint you that I am yet in the land of the living & recovered to my usual, health and strength again, tho the Simptoms of my last winters Illness troubled me for several months after I was able to go about my business ——— Your favour of May last by Mr Vanleer, came to hand only a week or two ago. we are sincerely sorry to hear of your indisposition, and pray God you may ere now be restored to your health and that he will long preserve you in the enjoyment of your good family —— nothing gives me more pleasure than a line from you, and be assured I shall allways be happy and rejoice to hear of your health happiness and prosperity and consider it as one of the greatest pleasures of this life to keep up a correspondence with you so long as we may both live —

Should fate so decree that any of your offspring may come to this part of the world in my day, it will give me pleasure to render them every friendship & service in my power ———

I wrote you a long letter in may last and left it with Mr Gillespie to forward with me he had prepared for you which I expect has reached you long ago, that will in some measure account for my long silence after your departure from this Country, and also inform you, how your land matters stood at that time, I inclosed you then a connection of the Surveys on Silver Creek where Coll Bentons Claim stood lay in order that you might see what probability there was of coming in at this day for any land there — In June last I laid before Mr Sebastian for his opinion, a connected plat of the claims & their location that appeared to interfere with Bentons. he thot I had best make the Survey principally on the East side of Nathl Hart's settlement & pre-emption

for

for it would then interfere mostly with a preemption of 1000 acres granted to Dan.l Boone Assee of Joseph Hughes, now belonging I understand to Capt. Dan.l Broadhead. That claim when first granted by the Commissioners was to be located on the North side of Nath.l Hart's land to include his improvement, and altho now surveyed on the East I cannot suppose that will alter the equity of the title provided the improvement on which the claim was granted is within the Survey. I cannot learn that Benton had any improvement there. I am at a loss what to do and should be glad of your advice the papers I inclose you will enable you to judge as well as I can I should be glad to hear from you before I do any thing farther — I intend however when the leaves fall to go on the land, and if I find that I can make the survey any way consistant with your interest I shall do it.

I spoke to Mr. Coburn last Spring about your business he requested that no steps might be taken until he could consult Mr. Innis, in August last I saw him again when he told me he had not spoke to Mr. Innis, but chose to require advice in Law for the land, I shall therefore advise Mr. Sebastian to institute one against him immediately — Caleb Callaway is not yet come to this Country but his relations say they expect him this fall if he comes I shall pay a particular attention to your memorandum respecting him —

I see Mr. McMillion last month he informed me he had surveyed all your lands, that he would make out the plats and bring them with him to our Nov.r Court at Danville. If he does I will take care to have them registered in due time —

I am much obliged to you for the trouble you have taken in sending the museums, Mr. Birney will give you 18/9 to pay the last year subscription for them and 25/ our currency for the two volumes of Lord Kaims's Sketches, if its enough the you should not inform me, these prices —

Sukey begs you to accept her kind love and thanks for the set of China, which we think are very elegant —— as to family concerns we are in a fair way to have as numerous one we have had a fine son born since I wrote you last and have taken the liberty to name him Thomas Hart, he bids fair for a lusty fellow

We have had little Polly & Elena Barbed the Dancing school all Summer, Polly has improved a little, and Elena dances to an admiration. The rest of my family are very well thank God as I trust and hope this will reach you and yours. Please present our best respects to your good family and to Doctor Pendal and his — and believe me to be with great regard your affectionate friend

And Most Obedient Servant

Isaac Shelby

To

Colo. Thomas Hart

Hagars Town

Mrs. Hart

Dau. of Mrs. Byrnes

Letters – Pindell, Brown & Hart

Dr. Richard Pindell was a Physician during the Revolutionary War, including attending Lafayette. He married Eliza Hart, daughter of Col. Thomas Hart. Her sister Lucretia Hart married Henry Clay. Col. Thomas Hart's brother, Nathaniel married Sarah Simpson. His daughter Susanna married Isaac Shelby, war hero and later 1st and 5th Gov. of Kentucky. These first cousins and their families would be at the forefront of the development of Kentucky and raising educated families.

James Brown spent some years as the Governor's Secretary (later becoming a Louisiana Senator and U.S. Minister to France). His wife Nancy was also a daughter of Col. Thomas Hart – sister of Eliza and Lucretia.

Later, in 1808, Dr. Richard Pindell's daughter, Mary (Polly), married Gov. Isaac Shelby's oldest son James. They were second cousins.

NOTE: TIERNAN, Luke, merchant, born in County Neath, Ireland, in 1757; died in Baltimore, Maryland, 10 November, 1839. He came in 1787 to the United States, and settled first at Hagers Town, Maryland, but soon removed to Baltimore, where he engaged in the shipping business, being the first in that city to engage in the direct trade between Baltimore and Liverpool. He took a deep interest in the prosperity of his adopted city and in politics. He was a Whig, and a warm personal friend of Henry Clay, who frequently visited his house, and spoke of him as the patriarch of the Whig party in Maryland. He was a presidential elector, voting for John Quincy Adams in 1824, and one of the founders of the Hibernian society of Maryland, and for many years its president. In 1826-'7 he was one of a committee to urge upon the legislature of Maryland the incorporation of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad company, the first railroad company incorporated in this country, and he was also a member of the committee of the Washington monument of Baltimore. A copy of a photo of Col. Thomas Hart's Lexington home is included here. This letter was a copy made for Thomas Hart.

To: Luke Tiernan

From: Thomas Hart

Lexington **18 Dec 1799**

Mr. Luke Tiernan

D'r Sir

The disappointments which we have hereto experienced in the sale of the Cordage, the small quantity which arrived in Philadelphia, and the injury which that has been said to have sustained in the transportation, together with the high charges with which it has been attended, render reliance upon that source not so safe, for paying our debt to you, as I could wish. Money it is almost impossible to procure in this Country. I have been unable to procure it either by executions, or by offering for sale the most valuable property. I wish therefore to prepare for the worst, that is to make a provision is case we shall be finally and entirely disappointed in the sale of our Cordage. Considerable Crops of Tobacco are made in the Country, and if you would take it from me, deliverable at Orleans, could purchase from fifty to one hundred hogshead. The market price here is not fixed yet, but I have been informed that fifteen shillings (two dollars and a half) are offered for it per hundred upon a short credit. Should this become the current price, and I fear it will not be less, it cannot be delivered at Orleans for less than 4 1/2 dollars. I propose therefore to deliver to your order at New Orleans, by the 15 day of June next any quantity from fifty to a hundred hogshead, at that price, four & a half dollars. If you aceede to this proposal I will thank you to notify me accordingly immediately that I may prepare to comply with it.

Should you not accept of it, and yet be disposed to receive Tobacco at that place, I will

will thank you to inform me at what price you would be willing to receive it at. And as it will be too late in the Season for me to write you again and receive a second answer in time to purchase the Tobacco, you will be good enough to make such offers as that if I aceede to them and proceed to purchase the Tobacco, they shall be obligatory on you.

I trust Sir that you will regard these proposals in their true light, to wit, a desire which I most ardently feel to pay you; and that I would not trespass upon that indulgence, for which I am already too much in your debt, by offering you produce, if I could possibly procure money. But such are the circumstances into which unforeseen accidents have thrown us, and so destitute is our Country of money, owing to the balance of Trade having been so much against us, in consequence of the low price of produce last year, that it is as I before observed, almost impossible to raise money.

I am D'ssi
yr. ms. ob. serv.

Thomas Hart

P.S. I ought to have informed you that I shall expect to deliver the Tobacco if you agree to receive it, agreeably to our Inspectors notes, without the trouble and expense of a new inspection at Orleans. Should any other of our creditors think proper to take Tobacco I should like to purchase as much more as possible

.

Note on Back:

Copy for Thomas Hart
Letter Dec 18 1799
to Luke Tiernan

Lexington Ky. Dec. 1799.

Mr. Luke Tiernan

Dear Sir

The disappointments which we have ~~[illegible]~~ hitherto experienced in the sale of the cordage, the small quantity which has arrived in Philadelphia, and the injury which that has been said to have sustained in the transportation, together with the high charges with which it has been attended, render reliance upon that source not so safe, for paying our debt to you, as I could wish. Money it is almost impossible to procure in this Country. I have been unable to procure it either by executions, or by offering for sale the most valuable property. I wish therefore to prepare for the worst, that is to make a provision in case we shall be finally and entirely disappointed in the sale of our Cordage. Considerable Crops of Tobacco are made in this Country, and if you would take it from me, deliverable at Orleans, I could purchase from fifty to one hundred hogsheads. The market price here is not fixed yet, but I have been informed that fifteen shillings (two dollars and a half) are offered for it per hundred upon a short credit. Should this become the current price, and I fear it will not be less, it cannot be delivered at Orleans for less than 4½ dollars. I propose therefore to deliver to your order at New Orleans, by the 15 day of June next any quantity from fifty to a hundred hogsheads, at that price, four da half dollars. If you accede to this proposal I will thank you to notify me accordingly immediately that I may prepare to comply with it. Should you not accept of it, and yet be disposed to receive Tobacco at that place, I will

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I am Dear Sir
Yr. mo. ob. serv.

Thomas Hart

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Copy
of
Thomas Hart
to } Letter Dec 18
Luke Tiernan } 1799

NOTE: R. Pindell on outside boarder of cover. Also, corner cut off – I believe by Mary Pindell Shelby Stallcup to use R. Pindell's signature on the reverse side in her copy of Cass Kinght Shelby's "Shelby Pedigree". Thomas Jefferson would soon become President of the United States.

Addressed to: Col. Thomas Hart
Lexington
Kentucky

Hon. by (carried by)
Mr. N. Hart (Nathaniel Gray Hart)

From: R. Pindell (in same writing as next letter and has references his daughters)

Hager's Town May 7th 1800

My Dearest Sir

I wrote you a few days past
by Col. Rochester, since which nothing
very material has occurred in Our Vici
nity, except a Duel yesterday betwixt
two Officers of the 10th W _ Regiment in which
a Capt. Gibbs was wounded & left under
my care – Mr. Hart can give you the
particular detail of the fashionable
rencounter. Since Wednesday last we
have had a Rapid succession of Surgi-
cal Cases, which has so occupied my time
that I have not had it in my power
to enjoy much of Mr. Harts Company
altho he has been with us two or three
days. My Mother and Tommy are on
the Recovery & will soon make their
intended excursion down the Country.

Mr. Hart saw my Dear little Eliza
in Baltimore – she is well and in fine
spirits - Poor Polly will regret much
her not being with her sister, or that her
Cousin could not find leisure to Visit
(cut off) afforded her such ex
(cut off) have been parti
(cut off) situation of your

Page 2

your Dear Family & her all her Old Playmates
in Lexington.

I rejoice to learn by Mr. Hart
that you have disposed of your bondage
in such a manner as to remove your
embarrassments. I hope you will never
hereafter engage in any speculation
that can cause the slightest Anxiety – I
think you are too far advanced in life
to encounter new difficulties & I believe all
must agree that your whole life has been
so active & meritorious as to justify your
declining all business hereafter.

We Democrats are becoming very
Sanguine about the next Presidential Election.
The Papers declare that Mr. Jefferson will
have 12 votes in the State of New York, where
he had none before. The Secretaries are
beginning to Resign from an Apprehension
that they may be McKean's. I hope to
live to see a total change in all
the Officers, even down to the Marshalls
& Dy Marshalls.

I am growing sleepy so
must conclude by wishing you & your
Dear family (cut off)

Note: This is backside of cut off corner

Hager's Town May 17th 1800

My Dearest Jo

I wrote you a few days past by Col. Rochester, since which nothing very material has occurred in our Vicinity, except a Duell yesterday between two Officers of the 10th Mt. Regt. in which a Capt. Gibbs was wounded & left under my care — Mr. Hart can give you the particular detail of this fashionable rencounter. Since Wednesday last we have had a Rapid succession of surgical cases, which has occupied my time that I have not had it in my power to enjoy much of Mr. Harts company altho he has been with us two or three days. My Mother & Tommy are on the Recovery & will soon make their intended excursion down the country.

Mr. Hart saw my Dear little Eliza in Baltimore — she is well and in fine spirits — Poor Polly will regret much her not being with her Sister, or that her Cousin could not find leisure to visit [illegible] Hooded her such ex-

have been part
of Situation for

your health family & Old Playmates in Lexington.

I regret to learn by Mr. Hall that you have disposed of your bondage in such a manner as to remove your embarrassments. I hope you will never hereafter engage in any Speculation that can cause the slightest Anxiety - I think you are too far advanced in life to encounter new difficulties & I believe all must agree that your whole life has been so Active & Meritorious as to justify your declining all business hereafter.

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I am growing Sleepy so must conclude by wishing you & your Dear family

Colo. Thomas Hart

Lexington

Kentucky

Favd by
Mr. N. Hart

B. Morse

NOTE: First four pages missing. Col Rochester in 1803 with two partners, purchased about 100 acres of land in New York that later became Rochester, New York. Later he would name a son for Thomas Hart. **Dating 1801 ?/?**

To: Col. Thomas Hart
Lexington, Kentucky

hon. by (carried by)
Col. Walling

From: R. Pindell

Page 5

that overwhelmed us, together with the shipment
for some years past
of money ^ have made money extremely scarce
and filled all our Docketts with Suits.
I believe the People were never so em-
barrassed, generally, as at present. I can

scarcely collect as much as will leave to market
with let alone paying Debts.

Mr. Sam'l. Hughes just set out time past
to Kentucky & his Father the day before Polly
arrived – I should have written by him had
I not heard George was coming in with Polly
& supposed he would return shortly. I am
very sorry he has misbehaved. Lucy
has also turned out worthless. & Old
Nettle lives on me almost constantly
and drinks and grows lazy.

I have not said any thing to
George respecting his being Sold yet, but
shall in a few days do as Tommy has re-
quested.

I had forgot to inform you that
we are likely to lose Col. Rochester – he
has contracted with M. B. Galloway for Mount
Hart – if he can make the first payment
of about $1000 – by fall – We shall
experience a great loss if he goes – I suppose
his Business here does not more than support
his

his family. He has become so extremely popular & so remarkable for his correctness of Judgment and impartial decisions that he is almost constantly employed in arbitrating differences & both amongst the English & Germans.

Your old friends here are all well and I assure you that you are still held in grateful remembrance. – Several of the Respectable old Germans, and all your English acquaintances, enquire frequently about you and your family with the greatest good will. Several have been to see Polly on purpose to make the friendly enquiries respecting you. I am much flattered by the favorable reception of my Dear little Daughter – Our Priest yesterday evening told me he was highly pleased with her Answers to his enquiries about Kentucky & her acquaintances all speak favorably of her accomplishments. (Saturday Evening)

Old Col. Walling has just called for my letter so that I must conclude by fervent Ejaculation to Heaven

for your preservation & for the Health and Happiness of My Dear Mr. Hart and all your sweet family

I am yr Ever Aff
son in law

R Pindell

that overwhelmed us, together with the Shipping for some years past of money & Tobacco. Money extremely Scarce and filled all our Dockets with Suits. I believe the People were never so embarrassed, generally, as at present. Scarcely collect as much as will serve to Market with let alone paying Debts.

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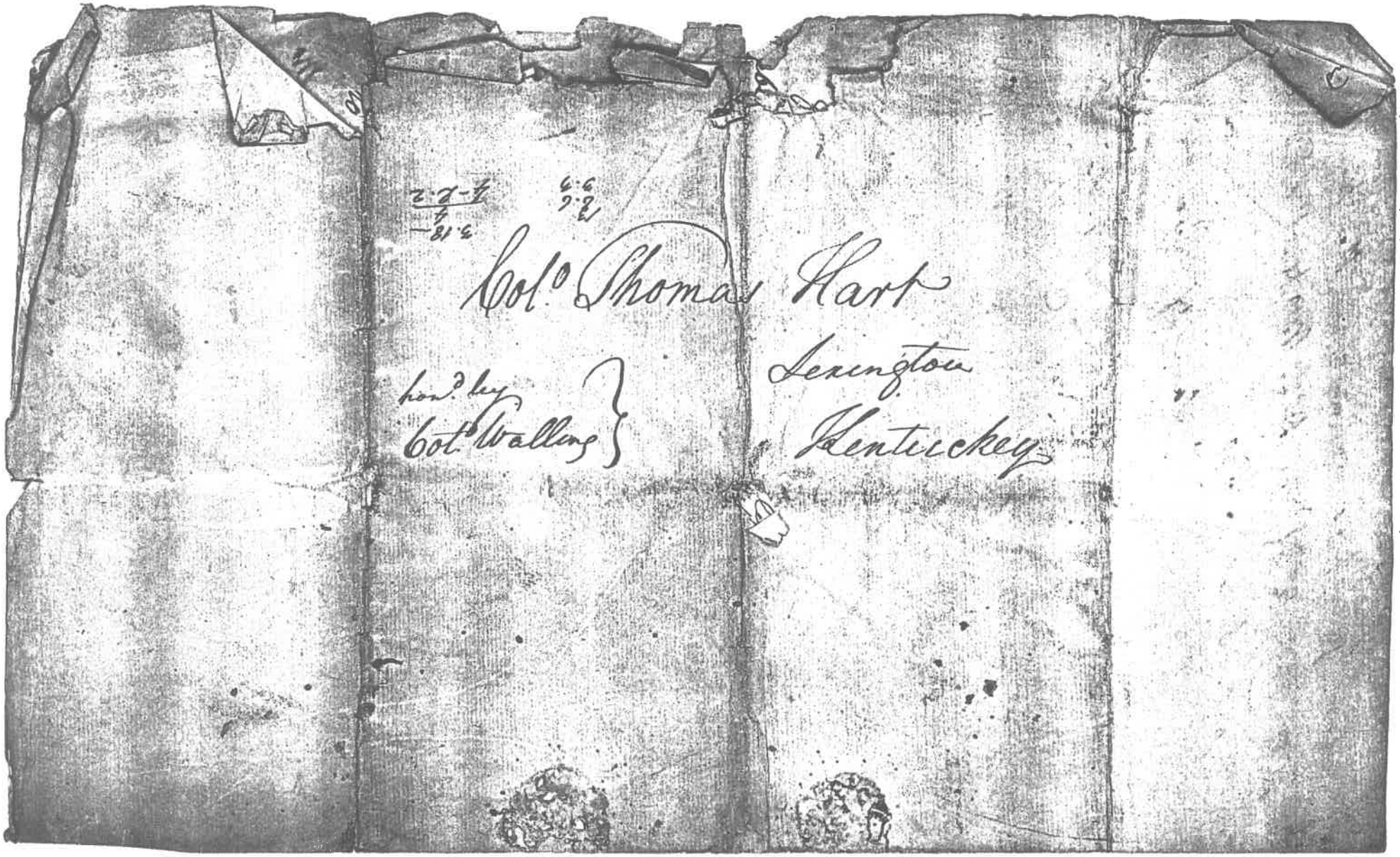
Colo. Walling has just called for my letter so that I must conclude by a fervent Ejaculation to Heaven

for your preservation & for the Health and
Happiness of My Dear Mrs Hart and all
your Sweet family I am ever Aff.t

Son in Law

R Mdell



NOTE: Mary Pindell, daughter of Dr. Richard Pindell, in her seventeenth year is writing to her grandfather. Dr. Samuel Brown is brother to James Brown.

To: Colonel Thomas Hart
Olympian Springs
Kentucky

From: Mary Pindell

Lexington May 8 1804

My dear Grandpapa,

Doctor (Samuel) Brown arrived here this evening from Louisville; where he left Uncle Brown and Aunt Nancy on Sunday. They were very well & preparing to descend the river in a flat bottom'd boat; owing to the water's being so extremely low that it is impossible for the Ships to pass the falls. John came home on Saturday he is very much pleased with the Vineyard & has improved more in his french than you could have imagined it possible for him to have done in so

(Dr. Samuel Brown, James' brother)

(James and Nancy Hart Brown)

(John Hart, son of Col. Thomas Hart)

Page 2

short a time. Aunt Suky & myself accompanied Aunt Nancy to Frankfort; we remained nearly a week at Mr. N. Hart's & Mr. Smith's. I was very much pleased indeed with that part of the world & was quite astonished to find that the situations around the seat of Government were tolerably handsome, having heard the place so much ridiculed before I saw it. I must confess (although I admire the variety of prospects there) that I should make Lexington a place of residence in preference to it. You saw before you left home, I believe a letter which Nat. had written to John

(Susannah Hart Shelby – Mrs. Isaac)
(Nancy Hart Brown, Mrs. James)
(Nathaniel Hart, Jr.)
(Chinoe's Hart Smith's husband)

Page 3

and in which he advises him to go to Princeton in the fall; the latter is extremely anxious to go, he wishes very much to know if it is your intention to permit him to go. If you will consent to his going it will be

necessary for him to pursue some studies
before he goes, which he would not do
were he to remain here. I have
heard of no news worth communicating.
The families in the row are all well & join
in my love to you. Give my compliments
to Mrs. Boyd, Mrs. Von Phul and Mrs.
Finley's family. I am your affection-
ate Granddaughter

(families at Olympia Springs)

Mary Pindell

Lexington May 8th 1804

My dear Grandpapa

Doctor Brown arrived here this evening from Louisville; where he left Uncle Brown and Aunt Nancy on sunday They were very well & preparing to descend the river in a flat bottom'd boat; owing to the water's being so extremely low that it is impossible for the Ships to pass the falls. John came home on saturday he is very much pleased with the Vineyard; & has improved more in his french than you could have imagined it possible for him to have done in so

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before he goes, which he would not do
were he to remain here. I have
heard of no news worth communicating.
The families in the row are well & join
me in love to you. Give my compliments
to Mrs Boyd Mrs Von Phul & Mrs
Pinleys family. I am your affection-
ate grand daughter

Mary Pindell

Colonel Thomas Hart
Olympian Springs
Kentucky

NOTE: Many record James Brown's wife as Ann Hart. This appears to correct that Nancy Hart's possible birth name Ann and she was called Nancy by her father and Ann by her husband??? See previous letter from Mary Pindell. Information on Nancy and her husband, James Brown follows.

To: Col Thomas Hart
Lexington
by
mail

From: Nancy Brown

Louisville May 15th 1804

My Dear Papa

We have been two weeks in this place waiting anxiously for the use of the river, that we might proceed on one of the ships that are lying here. The owners of the vessels begin to despair of a fresh sufficient to carry them over the falls, And talk much of unloading and sending off their cargos in Kentucky boats – I feel myself much disappointment in not being able to go down in one of them - The day after our arrival we went on board Mr. Berthoud's large ship the Louiseanna. I felt myself so secure and found so many conveniences that I never had an Idea of finding on board a ship, that I was delighted at the prospect of descending the river in one of them. We have lost all hopes now, and Mr. Brown has purchased a large Kentucky boat; we have got some carpenters at work on her, and are very busily engaged ourselves preparing for our decent - We have found Louisville a very agreeable Hospitable place – The inhabitants both in town and Country have been particularly attentive to us – I think if ever we return to Kentucky to reside I should give Louisville the

Page 2

preference to any other part of Kentucky I have seen – The situation is so beautiful and so convenient for trade that I think it must become a place of more importance than any other in the state.

You were a little indisposed the day or two before you left home for the Mudlick – I hope you experienced no ill effects from your ride – I have felt so much confidence in the efficacy of the salt water that it has relieved me from the apprehension of your indisposition continuing for any length of time, But I much fear that you have so much business on your hands that you will undergo too much fatigue – Would it not be better for you to

get William Hart to stay with you and attend, by your directions, to a great deal of your business – He is young and hardy, I think much more able to overlook your workmen – You might occasionally walk out in good weather and see that all was going well, Do my Dear Papa take care of your health. I anticipate much pleasure on my return in spending a summer with you at the Mudlick and that time for our return shall be fixed on as early as possible – I do not expect we shall be absent more than eighteen months or two years a farthest – Until that time believe me to be your sincerely affectionate Daughter

Nancy Brown

—*Painted by Matthew H. Jones*

HON. JAMES BROWN (1766–1835)

Younger brother of Hon. John Brown, born near Staunton, Va.; came to Kentucky, 1789.

First Secretary of State of Kentucky appointed by Isaac Shelby, the first governor.

He lived at Liberty Hall with his brother John. After the United States acquired Louisiana Territory, he removed to New Orleans.

He was United States Senator from Louisiana, 1812 - 1823, when President Monroe appointed him Minister to France, where he remained six years. The Monroe Doctrine was delivered to the French Government while he was minister. Many objects belonging to him are shown at Liberty Hall.

gle

Louisville May the 15th 1804

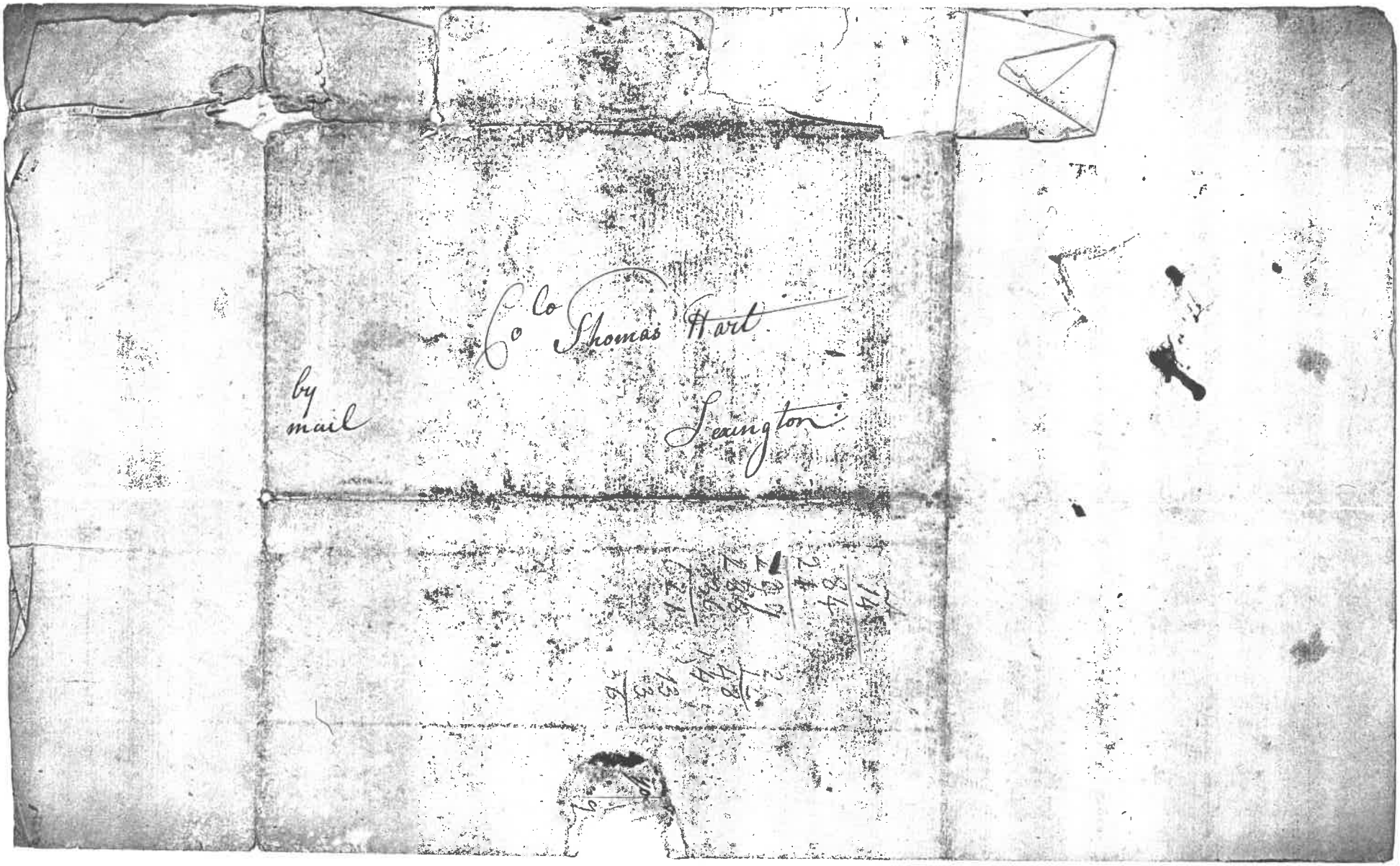
My Dear Papa

We have been two weeks in this place waiting anxiously for the rise of the river, that we might proceed on one of the ships that are lying here The owners of the vessels begin to despair of a fresh sufficient to carry them over the falls, And talk much of unloading and sending off their cargos in Kentucky boats - I feel myself much disappointed in not being able to go down in one of them, - The day after our arrival we went on board Mr Berthouds large ship the Louisiana, I felt myself so secure and found so many conveniences that I never had an Idea of finding on board a ship, that I was delighted at the prospect of descending the river in one of them, We have lost all hopes now, and Mr Brown has purchased a large Kentucky boat; we have got some carpenters at work on her, and are very busily engaged ourselves preparing for our descent, - We have found Louisville a very agreeable Hospitable place - the inhabitants both in town and Country have been particularly attentive to us, - I think if ever we return to Kentucky to reside I should give Louisville the

preference to any other part of Kentucky I have seen — the situation is so beautiful and so convenient for trade that I think it must become a place of more importance than any other in the state

You were a little indisposed the day or two before you left home for the Mud lick — I hope you experienced no ill effects from your ride, I have felt so much confidence in the efficacy of the salt water that it has relieved me from the apprehension of your indisposition continuing for any length of time, But I much fear that you have so much business on your hands that you will undergo too much fatigue, would it not be better for you to get William Hart to stay with you and attend, by your directions, to a great deal of your business — He is young and hardy, I think much more able to overlook your workmen, You might occasionally walk out in good weather and see that all was going on well, Do my Dear Papa take care of your health I anticipate much pleasure on my return in spending a summer with you at the Mudlick and the time for our return shall be fixed on as early as possible I do not expect we shall be absent more than eighteen months or two years a farthest — Until that time believe me to be your sincerely affectionate Daughter

Nancy Brown



NOTE: Information on Lucretia Hart Clay follows

Postmarked: Hagar's Town 25 (cents?)

To: Col Thomas Hart
Olympian Springs

From: Mary Pindell

Lexington June 17th 1804

My anxiety my dear Grandpapa to see you
and remain with yourself & Grandmama during
my stay in Kentucky induces me to request you to
send Moses down with my horse immediately on the
receipt of my letter. Mr. Clay informed me today that
he meant to exert himself in working at the biliard table sufficiently to be able to
leave this on Wednesday for the Springs. I shall request
Mr. Tilghford to deliver you this letter immediately
on his arrival at the Springs if he should get there
tomorrow night I am in hopes Moses will be here
on Tuesday evening. We shall go up in a day I believe.
Yesterday received an invitation to go to Mr. Clifford's
wedding at the cottage where I intend going this evening to spend
the day with them tomorrow. I do not expect we should
have a very gay wedding, but as I am thought to
be a particular favorite of Lord & Lady Morton's I
could not avoid accepting their invitation. I shall
bid adieu to Kentucky with very great unwillingness
but as I know my presence is very requisite

Page 2

at home I must do violence to my inclination and leave
you. I am also extremely anxious to see my father
& feel very much for him in his present situation.
Living in such a place as Hager's Town is at present;
he cannot avoid feeling very sensibly the necessity
of having one of his children at least with him.

Should a good opportunity ever offer again I will
embrace it with the utmost pleasure imaginable
and visit my friend once more. My father I know
is too fond of gratifying the desires of his children
to prevent me from paying you another visit.
Of length & fatigue of such a journey I have
not the smallest dread. Aunt Lucretia & her children
are well, she is determined not to go to the Springs
until the first of July. Three weeks I believe is the
greatest length of time I shall have to remain in

(Lucretia Hart Clay, Mrs. Henry)

this country. Present my love to Grandmama, aunt Suky & compliments to Mr. Hart. Believe me, dear Grandpapa I am your affectionate Grand daughter.

Mary Pindell

Lexington June 17th 1804

My anxiety my dear Grandpapa to see you and remain with yourself & Grandmama during my stay in Kentucky induces me to request you to send Moses down with my horse immediately on the receipt of my letter. Mr Clay informed me to day that he meant to exert himself sufficiently to be able to leave this on wednesday for the springs. I shall request Mr Pilgrford to deliver you this letter immediately on his arrival at the Springs: if he should get there tomorrow night I am in hopes Moses will be here on tuesday evening. We shall go up in a day I believe.

Yesterday received an invitation to go to Mr Clifford's wedding at the cottage where I intend going this evening to spend the day with them tomorrow. I do not expect we shall have a very gay wedding, but as I am thought to be a particular favorite of Lord & Lady Morton's I could not avoid accepting their invitation. I shall bid adieu to Kentucky with very great unwillingness but as I know my presence is very requisite

at home I must do violence to my inclination and leave you. I am also ~~very~~ extremely anxious to see my father & feel very much for him in his present situation. Living in such a place as Hagerstown is at present, he cannot avoid feeling very sensibly the necessity of having one of his children at least, with him. Should a good opportunity ever offer again I will embrace it with the utmost pleasure imaginable and visit my friends once more. My father I know is too fond of gratifying ~~the~~ desires of his children to prevent me from payeng you another vis it. Of the length & fatigue of such a journey I have not the smallest dread. Aunt Lucretia & her children are well, she is determined not to go to the springs untill the first of July. Three weeks I believe is the greatest length of time I shall have to remain in this country. Present my love to Grandmama aunt Lucy & ~~all~~ compliments to Mr. Hart. Believe me, dear Grandpapa I am your affectionate Grand daughter

Mary Lindell.

Colonel Thomas Hart

Olympian Springs

This letter has no address cover.

To: Col. Thomas Hart

From: R. Pindell

Hager's Town, March 9th 1805

My Dear Sir

We have enjoyed the plea-
sure of y'r Dear Son's Company for
several weeks – The Weather has been
so intensely Cold - all the Winter & the
rise in the Waters has been so rapid
since the thaw, that it was not pos-
sible he could have set out earlier
in safety. I intended writing you a
very long letter by him, but he this
evening met with two Members of Con-
gress on their return home & has sud-
denly made up his mind to set out
in the morning with them, so that
I shall be under the necessity of
cutting my letter very short & refer you
to

Page 2

to him for the History of your Old Friends
Here in the Vicinity.

I am plodding on in the old way
endeavoring to render myself useful to
society & am Booking more money every
Year & not receiving as much as will
meet our Family expenses & pay our Apo-
thecary. We have now threatened hard
in the Public Prints & shall employ a
Collector for the express purpose of
taking specialties, where the money can
not be obtained. There has been a late
accession in our Court which has alarmed
us exceedingly – The Court determines
a case of Doctor ag'st citizen, that
he could not recover without being able
to prove the Delivery of every Article
which would be impossible for us to do
in any case – I am now certain

Page 3

that if I am snatched off from my poor orphans that they will be little benefited by my life of slavery.

I have the Pleasure to assure you that My Dear Polly has had no alarming cough since I wrote Dr. Brown. I believe there will be a Company of Invalids to the Sweet Springs in the Summer. I contemplated sending Polly with them, but she would prefer a trip to the Olympian Springs.

(Dr. Samuel Brown, James' brother)

Eliza is in very good Health & as entertaining as ever – I have employed a Master to Instruct them in Book Keeping & Arithmetic & we expect another soon to Instruct them in Music & Drawing.

Your Namesake Thomas H. Pindell is now reading Horace & Terence, is lately admitted into the Philo Musician Society & I flatter myself will make a shining fellow. He writes Us by every Mail – is not fully weaned from Home, but I hope will

Page 4

will not be indulged in coming Home too often. I shall send him to Princeton or some College as soon as he is sufficiently advanced to enter the Junior Class & If his Health permits I intend to give him a finished Education. I received a letter from him lately. he is in very good Health – Your Son N G H. will show you a specimen of his letter writing. He has not seen his Uncle since his return & I am sure his Heart will be almost broken when he hears of his departure, as he has been pleading to come home at Easter to see him.

The Girls talk of writing – they Join me in Love to Mrs. Hart – Mrs. Price – Mrs. Clay & all this Dear Family's not forgetting your fine Son John, with whose letters to Polly I am very much pleased.

(Susan Hart Price)
(Lucretia Hart Clay)

I am in Haste Y'r Sincere Friend
& Son in Law
R. Pindell

Hager's Town. March 9th 1805.

My dear Son

We have enjoyed the plea-
sure of your dear Sons company for
several weeks - The Weather has been
so intensely cold all the Winter & the
Rise in the Waters has been so rapid
since the thaw, that it was not poss-
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gress on their return home & has sud-
denly made up his mind to set out
in the morning with them, so that
I shall be under the necessity of
cutting my letter very short & refer you
to

to him for the History of your Old Friends here in this Vicinity.

I am pladding on in the Old way endeavouring to render myself useful to Society & am Booking more money every Year & not receiving as much as will meet our Family expences & pay our Apothecary. We have now come to a resolution to collect our Debts — have threatened hard in the Public Prints & shall employ a Collector for the express purpose of taking Specialties, where the money cannot be obtained. There has been a late decision in our Court which has alarmed us exceedingly — The Court determined in a case of Doctor agst a citezen, that he could not recover without being able to prove the Delivery of every Article which would be impossible for us to do in any case — I am now certain

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I am in Haste Y. Sincere Friend
& Son in Law R. P. Riddle

Postmarked: Hagar's Town 25 (cents?)

To: Col Thomas Hart

Lexington
Kentucky

From: Mary Pindell

Hager's Town May 1805

My dear Grandfather,

Your letter which I received on wednesday last pleased me more than any occurrence which has taken place for a long time. I did not flatter myself with the most distant of hope of receiving an answer to my letter as I well know that writing is a disagreeable task to you. I therefore feel doubly gratified by the pleasing testimony of your continued affection.

My father called me a few minutes ago & desired me to read part of a letter which he was writing to you. He tells you that I speak less of Kentucky than I did formerly. Do not conclude from his letter that I think less of your charming country. My desire for his removal there increases daily, although I do not so frequently express my anxiety since I find that all the eloquence I am mistress of will be used in vain. The flattering prospects which you represented to me were not requisite

(Dr. Richard Pindell)

Page 2

to render me anxious to visit you. At some future period I shall I trust have the happiness of spending some months with you. You have frequently expressed your disapprobation of my marrying a Marylander. I suppose you will not object to it if I can meet with a good protector to accompany me to be where we may be able to prevail on him to reside. Do not imagine that I have at present a particular person in view from what I have written.

I am happy to hear of Doct. W's prosperity indeed in so plentiful a country, Industry & merit never fail to meet with a reward. My health is so perfectly established that I cannot possibly be indulged with a trip to the Olympian Springs. I must therefore endeavor to content myself at home for one year I suppose at all events.

Uncle and Aunt Brown have not yet spent a summer at New Orleans, perhaps next year they will leave the place with much less reluctance than they would at present. (James and Nancy Hart Brown)

Uncle Tom has I hope given up every idea of leaving Kentucky since he has entered so largely into the mercantile business. (Thomas Hart, Jr.)

Page 3

My brother is at Charlotte Hall, he is well. We received a letter from him today. He is determined to visit you at the age of 21 if he should live as long. My Sister is well she is in the country at present. We are both anxious to spend a summer at the Olympian Springs. Indeed I frequently resent my not having spent the last summer at that beautiful place. Uncle Nat will I hope write to me soon. I am afraid Uncle John has forgotten me. My Grand mother desires to be remembered too in a friendly manner, she says if she was a little younger she would endeavor to pay a visit to your Springs shortly. Remember me, if you please in the most affectionate manner to Grandma all my Aunts, Uncles & their children.

(Thomas Hart Pindell)

(Nathaniel Gray Smith Hart)

(John Hart, son of Col. Thomas Hart)

(Mary Belt Hall Sprigg Pindell)

(Susanna Gray Hart)

I am with the most sincere affection your Grand Child

Mary Pindell

Hagers Town May . 1805

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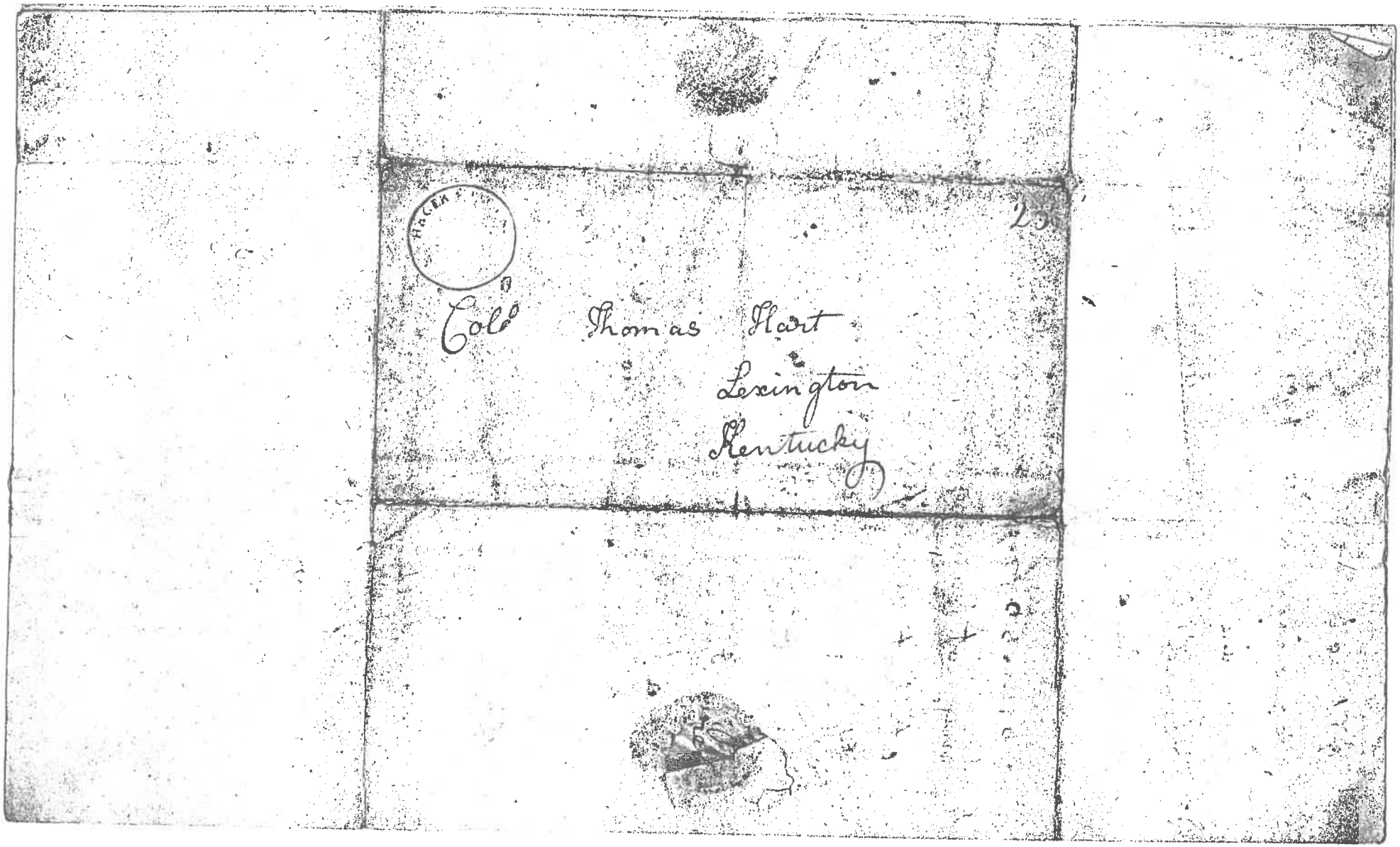
I am with the most sincere affection your Grand Child

Mary Bundell



Postmark: F-Adams, Aug't 23 (German Coast was a town in Louisiana.)

To: Col Thomas Hart
Lexington
Kentucky
By Mail

From: James Brown

German Coast Aug't 19th 1805

My dear Sir,

Surrounded by your agreeable family, your neighbours, the sick, the convalescent and the healthy; and dividing your time between the sick beds, the social circle, and the Ballroom, I can hardly flatter myself that a letter from me will compensate, by the pleasure it will afford, for the time spent in perusing it; and did I not study my own gratification more than yours, I should confine myself to the task of merely informing you that we continue, on the banks of the Mississippi, to enjoy as perfect health as we ever enjoyed at the Olympian Springs. How long this enviable situation may continue would be difficult to calculate in any Country, and I believe not more difficult here than in the County of Fayette – It is true that you hear the state of health here differently represented by travellers; but you are not to be told that whilst the license of a Poet is confined to exaggeration, the Traveller is by immemorial custom indulged in lying and from the travelers of no Country extend this privilege further that those from Kentucky – Pursuing their license on this lead they have desolated New Orleans with the yellow fever, where I pledge my honor no cases have yet been discovered, and have given to Mrs. Brown & myself the pallid cheek and emaciated look of sickness when in fact we have for more than Twelve months enjoyed confirmed good health and wear the customary tokens of it on our persons. It was a subject of surprise that Mr. Samuel should have given currency to these doleful mistakes; and his comments on Mrs. Brown's thin appearance, do not appear the less extraordinary

Page 2

to her who recollected his expressing his surprise at her increased corpulency and his fear that she would like most of the Creole woman be disfigured by a redundancy of flesh – The truth is that if the Steel yards deserve credit neither Nancy nor myself have gained or lost five pounds in the last two to three years – and I believe that this text will be credited in preference to the opinion of any Traveller –

We are continually talking of you and laying our plans to visit you - The time is absolutely fixed for next May twelve months but whether we shall proceed by land or by water is not settled; indeed we differ on that head Nancy preferring a journey by land, and myself a sea voyage. Mrs. Wilkins opinion will go far in deciding us on that subject -

Nancy complains most heavily of her family, and indeed she has reason for it – She has not received a line from any of you for some months although she has frequently written. Now this is really rather scandalous in you all, but especially so on the part of a certain Mrs. Susan Price who has a great deal of time and who (without flattering) holds a good quill – Present our neglect to her and aspire(?) her that no apology except that of being under the control of a husband will be received for such extraordinary conduct –

From the exertion made by Tom Hart and Doctor Brown they are certainly growing rich more rapidly than any two men in America – God has made nothing out of which they do not scem resolved to make money – Roots, Ashes, dirt, caves, salt petre, –

Page 3

They dig, they root, they filtre, they burn, they roast, they boil. They make Gun powder too! Oh! let them beware that they do not blow up! Advise them to take a little of their own salt petre. It will cool down the money making fever and teach them that that they have too many irons in the fire.

Little did I think when I have heard you so often speak of Mrs. Luther Martin and her daughters that I should ever become acquainted with either them or that one of them should reside in my home in the Territory of Orleans. Yet the fact is literally true – Eleanor the youngest married a Mr. Keene, (Col. Richard Keene) a lawyer brother of the young, and nephew of the old Parson Keene who were some time ago in Kentucky contrary to the wishes of her father and has removed to this fortress(?)(covered by seal) She appears to be well educated and amiable and _____ (covered by seal) stay some weeks with us – she understands Music and the French language and will make our retreat more agreeable. If the town continues healthy we shall return in six weeks and resume our occupation. Indeed I believe our flight was unnecessary – the fever even when it prevails rarely attacks those who have spent a summer in the Country. Next year we have nothing to fear.

In the midst of your mirth think of us and above all give our sincere expression of unabated affection to Mrs. Hart and to every other member of the family and believe me

With real esteem and regard DLy
yours
James Brown

Col. Tho's Hart

My dear Sir,

German Coast Aug.t 19th 1805.

Surrounded by your agreeable family, your neighbours, the sick, the convalescent and the healthy; and dividing your time between the sick beds the social circle and the Ball room, I can hardly flatter myself that a letter from me will compensate, by the pleasure it will afford, for the time spent in perusing it; and did I not study my own gratification more than yours, I should confine myself to the task of merely informing you that we continue, on the banks of the Mississippi, to enjoy as perfect health as we ever enjoyed at the Olympian Springs. How long this enviable situation may continue would be difficult to calculate in any Country, but I believe not more difficult here than in the County of Fayette — It is true that you hear the state of health here differently represented by travellers; but you are not to be told that whilst the licence of a Poet is confined to exaggeration, the Traveller is by immemorial custom indulged in lying and ~~from~~ the travellers of no Country extend this privilege farther than those from Kentucky — Pursuing this licence on this head they have desolated New orleans with the yellow fever, where I pledge my honor no cases have yet been discovered, and have given to Mrs. Brown myself the pallid cheek and emaciated look of sickness, when in fact we have for more than twelve months enjoyed confirmed good health, and wear the customary tokens of it on our persons. It was ~~an~~ subject of surprize that Mr Samuel should have given currency to these doleful mistakes; and his comments on Mrs. Brown's thin appearance, do not appear the less extraordinary

to her who recollects his expressing his surprise at her increased corpulency, and his fear that she would like most of the Creole women be disfigured by a redundancy of flesh — The truth is that if the Steel yards deserve credit neither Nancy nor myself have gained or lost five pounds in the last two or three years — and I believe that this testo will be credited in preference to the opinion of any Frenchman —

We are continually talking of you and laying our plans to visit you — The time is absolutely fixed for next May twelve Months but whether we shall proceed by land or by water is not settled; indeed we differ on that head Nancy preferring a journey by Land, and myself a sea voyage. Mrs Wilkins opinion will go far in deciding us on that subject —

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From the exertions made by Tom Hart and Doctor Brown they are certainly growing rich ~~faster~~ more rapidly than any two men in America — God has made nothing out of which they do not seem resolved to make money — Roots, Ashes, dirt, caves, Salt petre, —

They dig, they root, they pitch, they burn, they roast, they boil. They make Gun powder too. Ah! let them beware that they do not blow up! Advise them to take a little of their own salt petre. It will cool down the money making fever, and teach them that that they have too many irons in the fire —

Little did I think when I have heard you so often speak of Mrs Luther Martin and her daughters that I should ever become acquainted with either them or that one of them should reside in my house in the Territory of Orleans. Yet the fact is literally true — Eleonora the youngest married a Mr Keene, a lawyer brother of the young, and nephew of the old Parson Keene who were some time ago in Kentucky contrary to the wishes of her father and has removed to this place. She appears to be well educated and amiable and will stay some weeks with us — She understands Music and the French language and will make our retreat more agreeable. If the Town continues healthy we shall return in six weeks and resume our occupations. Indeed I believe our flight was unnecessary — The fever even when it prevails rarely attacks those who have spent a summer in the Country. Next year we have nothing to fear.

In the midst of your mirth think of us and above all give our sincere expression of unabated affection to Mrs Hart and to every other member of the family and believe me

With real esteem and regard Dear Sir
Yours

James Brown

Colo Thos Hart

F-Adams, Aug't-23

Colo. Thomas Hart

Lexington

By mail

Kentucky

NOTE: Thomas Hart was a merchant/manufacturer in Lexington by this time & goods often came from New Orleans. Among the wealthiest in Lexington he is quoted as saying, "What a pleasure we have in raking it in and spending it with our friends." And indeed they did.

To: Col. Thomas Hart
Lexington
Kentucky

By Mail – 25 (cents)

Postmarked: New Orleans, Jun 5

From: James Brown

My dear Sir,

New Orleans June 4, 1807

I received at once the pleasure of taking my little friend John by the hand and reading your very agreeable letter of which he was the bearer. Your reproaches at my not writing to you more frequently touched me sensibly; but the pain occasioned by reflecting on the motive to which you impute my silence, was yet more poignant. And can you my best friend believe that any offense could have been given me by the amazing, the charming pleasantry with which your letters were so agreeably seasoned. If you seriously indulge an idea so august to us both I pray you dismiss it. My conduct has been, if you please negligent, but never has flowed from pique or an intention to neglect one to whom I feel so many attachments, & such weighty obligations. Apologies are awkward things and no one has a worse knack at making them than myself. My situation under the mild government of Wilkerson will in part furnish my excuse. Had I written I should probably have expressed my sentiments and my letter directed to Thomas Hart would have been delivered over by some of our patriotic postmasters to J. Wilkerson and perhaps after being opened by this "last upon his own responsibility" sent or mutilated

Page 2

to the President of the United States. I was too unaspiring to feel anxious to be known in this way at the seat of Government, and too honest to praise the hand that profanely crushed the Constitution and laws of my country. I was silent for months from necessity. My business in Govn't was again permitted to go on and since the Judges have been allowed to rename their functions I have been overwhelmed with business and goaded by the heavy expenses consequent upon establishing a sugar plantation so as to have hardly a moment to write to my friends.

It gave us real pleasure to learn that Mr. Clay distinguished himself on the floor of Congress. For the public interest I regret, for his own I rejoice that he no longer fills a place in the Senate. If he abandons his practice which is perhaps more lucrative than that of any other lawyer in America, he may never again find the road to wealth; and public favor is the worst State of Independence. I could have wished him to have been at Congress the next session in order that he might have sided in finishing the folly and tyranny by which

Page 3

our feeble country has been scourged during the last winter. My greatest fear is that Mr. Jefferson will be so far impressed on as to support those characters at the risqué of his own popularity.

My plantation moves on well, nearly 100,000 bricks moulded, thirty acres of cane and thirty five of corn in a very flourishing estate. All the timber for making my works on the ground and a force consisting of thirty very likely slaves. For moulding and burning my bricks I gave one dollar and twenty five cents per thousand. One of my neighbours for whom I gained a suit promises me ten bricklayers to aid one of my own in finishing the work. Thus my brickwork will cost me but little. My wooden work complete costs 3600 Dollars – and my boilers will be about 1200 Dollars. The whole establishment will cost about 45,000 Dollars. If from this I can clear ten thousand dollars a year (and every body says I shall make twenty) I shall never aspire to adding to my fortune and shall immediately bid adieu to my profession.

Two or three weeks hence we retire into the Country. I shall then fatigue you with the numbers and

Page 4

lengths of my letters.

Present us affectionately to Mrs. Hart and all our much loved relatives and believe me unchangeably

Your friend
James Brown

Col Thomas Hart

NOTE: three columns of addition on the back

My dear Sir,

New Orleans June 4. 1807.

I received at once the pleasure of taking my little friend John by the hand and of reading your very agreeable letter of which he was the bearer. Your reproaches at my not writing to you more frequently touched me sensibly; but the pain occasioned by reflecting on the motives to which you impute my silence was yet more poignant. And can you my best friend believe that any offence could have been given me by the amusing, the charming pleasantry with which your letters were so agreeably seasoned? If you seriously indulge an idea so unjust to us both I pray you dismiss it. My conduct has been, if you please negligent, but never has flowed from pique or an intention to neglect one to whom I feel so many attachments, such weighty obligations. Apologies are awkward things and no one has a worse knack at making them than myself. My situation under the mild government of Wilkinson will in part furnish my excuse. Had I written I should probably have expressed my sentiments, and my letter directed to Thomas Hart would have been delivered over by some of our patriotic post masters to Genl Wilkinson and perhaps after being opened by this last upon his own responsibility sent on, mutilated

to the President of the United States. I was too unaspiring to feel anxious to be known in this way at the seat of Government, and too honest to praise the hand that profanely crushed the Constitution and laws of my country. I was silent for months from necessity. My business in Court was again permitted to go on and since the Judges have been allowed to resume their functions I have been overwhelmed with business and goaded by the heavy expences consequent upon establishing a Sugar plantation so as to have hardly a moment to devote to my friends.

It gave us real pleasure to learn that Mr Clay distinguished himself on the floor of Congress. For the public interests I regret, for his own I rejoice that he no longer fills a place in the Senate. If he abandons his practice which is perhaps more lucrative than that of any other lawyer in America, he may never again find the road to wealth; and public favor is the worst state of dependence. I could have wished him to have been at Congress the next session in order that he might have aided in "punishing the folly and tyranny by which

our feeble country has been scourged during the last winter. My greatest fear is that Mr Jefferson will be so far infatuated as to support these characters at the risque of his own popularity.

My plantation moves on well. Nearly 100000 bricks moulded thirty acres of cane and thirty five of corn in a very flourishing state. All the timber for erecting my works on the ground and a force consisting of twenty very likely slaves. For moulding and burning my bricks I give one dollar and twenty five cents per thousand. One of my neighbours for whom I gained a suit promises me ten bricklayers to aid one of my own in finishing the work. This my brick work will cost me but little. My wooden work complete costs 3600 Dollars and my boilers Mill &c about 1200 Dollars. The whole establishment will cost about 45000 Dollars. If from this I can clear ten thousand Dollars a year (and every body says I shall make twenty) I shall never aspire to adding to my fortune and shall immediately bid adieu to my profession.

Two or three weeks hence we return into the Country. I shall then fatigue you with the number and

length of my letter.

Present us affectionately to Mr. Hart and all our much loved relatives and believe me unchangeably

your friend

James Brown

Col. Thomas Hart.

Col. Thomas Hart

Lexington

By mail

Kentucky

NEW ORLEANS
LA.
MAR 5

1456
3211
9148
3211
1621
3211
004
0001
4427
0041
004
004
5699
3211
004
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0008

NOTE: Col. Thomas Hart died in June of 1808 and Mary (Polly) Pindell married Isaac Shelby's first born, James July 28, 1808. Across the left margin of the first page is written " From my dearest Father". Around the outside of the envelope Mary Pindell Shelby, wife of James has practiced writing her name and his and their towns, also: Isaac Shelby, Eliza Pindell and Geo. Madison, Lexington & Danville. I found on Ancestry.com, that Mrs. Samuel (Marie Antoinette Hay) Ringgold gave birth to Chester Ringgold on Jan. 17, 1809 in Hagerstown, MD!

Postmarked: Hagers Town, MD
Jany 12,
25 (cents)

To: Mrs. Mary (Pindell) Shelby

Richland
near
Lexington Kentucky
Mail

From: R. Pindell

Hagerstown. Jany 12th 1809

My Dear Daughter

I rec'd your much esteemed letter of the 9th Ultimo only a few nights past and am much pleased to hear that your Negroes & other things have arrived safe, and also that you are pleased with the Articles sent you – They were much longer on the passage than I contemplated - I however never took high waters into the acct – at least in Kentucky, tho I now well remember the deep ugly creek at Millersburgh - where there were neither Boat or Bridge when I crossed it.

Eliza & her cousins have not yet returned, although she declared she would not stay more than two Weeks - I however told her not to return until it was perfectly agreeable to herself - Judge Buchannan arrived at Baltimore about the last of the week on his way home from the Court of Appeals & was polite enough to tell me that Miss Pattinger informed him, that Eliza had returned to the Country that day. I have been a great deal from home & expect to be absent yet for many nights as Mrs. Ringgold has not yet brought forth.

I am very sorry for the accident which happened to you, and am astonished that you did not mention it in your letter

to me – as your letter is dated 3 days later than
Dr. Ridgleys. I flatter myself you are not ill.
Should

Page 2

Should you continue indisposed I hope you will (not) – torn off
endeavour to conquer all aversion to Medicine and
take freely whatever my Dear Old friend may prescribe
for you – I am persuaded that your misfortune
happened for want of Blood letting earlier – you
know it has always proved a sovereign remedy
in the most distressing cough you ever had – I hope
if heaven should permit you to be in the like
Situation again that you will bleed at least
once every month.

Poor THP – God only knows what (Thomas Pindell Hart – his son)
will become of him – I am however decidedly of
opinion that he ought to quit reading of nights &
if there is any danger of his becoming Blind, to cease
his Studies & Return to me early in Spring – I am
sorry to think that his mind must continue a Barron
waste, for want of proper cultivation, yet I shall prefer
his remaining in Ignorance rather than he should
lose his Sight, or have his Health impaired by ex-
cessive Study. I have written to him to Consult the
Doctors my Friends, and to abide by their deter-
mination – Arnold says he was obliged all last
winter to wear Green Glasses, or he thinks he would
not have been able to have finished his Medical
Education – I shall not limit him to any expense
if his Sight can be preserved by it. I am extremely
sorry that he has left his Uncle, they have always
been

Page 3

been so kind to him & friendly to him – I told T – when in
Kentucky and have written to him several times not to
take such liberties and make such a noise in his
Uncles Houses & to treat them with the same re-
spect & Attention as if they were his Parents – I think
it has been owing to his own imprudence if any
misunderstanding has taken place. I have the most
exalted opinion of your Aunts goodness – I am
glad he conditions to pay Board, it was always what
I wished & expected & my positive instructions to him
when he first went to Kentucky. I enclosed him
a draft which I obtained of Doctor Williams, and
which I hope he will find suff't to pay all his
expenses except the Board at his Uncles, for which

I have requested him to give a Dft on me in
the Spring before he leaves Kentucky.

Present me most affectionately to your Dear
Good Husband & to all my Dear Relations & friends
& believe me as ever yours truly

Aff'l Father

R. Pindell

Han (?) is quite Hearty
and grows fast – George Creek has also become attached(?)

Hagers Town Jany 12th 1809

My Dear Daughter

Since your much esteemed letter of the 1st Ultimo only a few nights past and am much pleased to hear that your Negroes & other things have arrived safe, and also that you are pleased with the Articles sent you — They were much longer on the passage than I contemplated — I however never took high waters into the act — at least in Kentucky, tho I now well remember the deep ugly creek at Mellersburgh — where there were neither Boat or Bridge when I crossed it.

Eliza & her Cousins have not yet returned, altho she declared she would not stay more than two weeks — I however told her not to return until it was perfectly agreable to herself — Judge Channan arrived at Baltimore about the last of the week on his way home from the Court of Appeals & was polite enough to tell me that Mrs Pattinger informed him, that Eliza had returned to the country that day. I have been a great deal from home & expect to be absent yet for many nights as Mrs Ringgold has not yet brought forth. I am very sorry for the accident which has happened to you, and am astonished that you did not mention it in your letter to me — as your letter is dated 3 days later than Doctor Ridgely's I flatter myself you are not ill

Sh

From your affectionate Father

Should you continue indisposed I hope you will endeavour to conquer all aversion to Medicine and take freely whatever my dear Old friend may prescribe for you - I am persuaded that your misfortune happened for want of Blood letting earlier - you know it has always proved a sovereign remedy in the most distressing Cough you ever had - I hope if Heaven should permit you to be in the like situation again that you will bleed at least once every Month.

Poor T.H.P. God only knows what will become of him - I am however decidedly of opinion that he ought to quit reading of Nights & if there is any danger of his becoming Blind, to cease his studies & return to me early in Spring - I am sorry to think that his Mind must continue a Barren waste, for want of proper cultivation, yet I shall prefer his remaining in Ignorance rather than he should lose his sight, or have his Health impaired by excessive study. I have written to him to consult the Doctors my Friends, and to abide by their determination - Arnold says he was obliged all last Winter to wear Green Glasses, or he thinks he would not have been able to have finished his Medical Education - I shall not limit him to any expence if his sight can be preserved by it. I am extremely sorry that he has left his Uncles, they have always been

been so kind & friendly to him - I told T. when in Kentucky and have written to him several times not to take such liberties and make such a noise in his Uncles House & to treat them with the same respect & attention as if they were his Parents - Still it has been owing to his own imprudence & any misunderstanding has taken place - I have the exalted opinion of your Aunt & good Nephew I am glad he conducted to pay Board, it was always what I wished & expected & my positive instructions to him when he first went to Kentucky. I enclosed him a Bill which I obtained of Doctor Williams, and which I hope he will find suffic to pay all his expences except the Board at his Uncles, for which I have requested him to give a Bill on me in the Spring before he leaves Kentucky.

Present me most affully to your dear Good Husband & to all my Dr Relations & friends & believe me as ever Yours truly

Aff. Father

P. Pindell

Fan is quite Hearty and grows fast - George Creek has also become at home

GES-TOWN
Jan 12
M.D.

Mrs Mary Shelby
Richland
near
Lexington
Kentucky

Mail

Isaac Shelby

Mary Shelby Shelby
Mary Shelby
Mary Shelby E
Eliza Pindell E
Eliza Pindell
E E

Jno Madison
Eliza Pindell
Eliza Pin
E E

Mary Shelby
Mary Shelby
Mary Shelby Danville
Mary Shelby Kentucky
Mary Shelby Lexington
Mary Shelby
James Shelby
James Shelby
Mary Shelby Kentucky
Mary Shelby

NOTE: The back page and probably the address has been torn off.

This letter appears to be from **R. Pindell** by the handwriting and is in the form he used writing to Col. Thomas Hart, where he wrote first word of next page at the bottom of the preceding page.

Also, this appears to be **to Gen. James Shelby**, Polly's husband

Hager's Town Apr 26th 1810

My Dear Sir

I have not rec'd a letter from
either Polly or yourself since I last wrote
yet I cannot suffer so good an opportunity
to pass without writing. Thomas writes of-
ten but he is so much the man of Bu-
siness, that he talks of nothing Else I sup-
pose – I am sure he writes of nothing else.
He does not mention his Sister or yourself
in one letter in Ten & scarcely even menti-
ons the name of a Friend – Eliza is quite
provoked that he cannot ever send his
love, to shew that he thinks of her.

I mentioned to him in my last that
your Dear Old Grandmother had fallen down
stairs and injured herself very much –
The symptoms were extremely alarming
at first, but we now have the most
flattering hopes of her speedy recovery.

I think there are now very few Hu –
man Beings who have have so much phi
losophy

Page 2

losophy as she possesses. – When pale and al-
most lifeless, wreathing under the excruciating
arising from a fractured arm and violent contusions
torture ^ every account(?) breathed comfort to her
afflicted Son but her more distressed Granddaughter
saying oh my Dear Children - don't be distressed
I am not much Hurt, I shall soon be better
and I can say with truth that she has not
complained as much since it happened, which
was on Saturday night last as I should have
done in a few hours. We were so certain of
the injury proving fatal that we sent express
for my Sisters, Mrs. Sprigg arrived this evening
& I am sure if Mrs. Hammond is able to ride she
will be here early tomorrow – all the rest of

(Mrs. Jacob or Mrs. Edward Sprigg)
(Mrs. Mary Belt Pindell (William Jr.) Hammond)

us are well. Mr. Ridgley being on the Route
to Kentucky to bring home his negros, hap-
pened fortunately to arrive in town first
as I was going to send off Bill Jones to
see his sons & to spend the Summer with them
& 2 boys for Thomas – The Negros are
so high here that I cannot think of giving
the prices, or I should have purchased a
young

Page 3

Back page torn off, small corner left at bottom left reads:

Not I
Law much
other from
___ - Heathe

Hagers Town. Apl. 26th 1810.

My Dear Jer

I have not rec.d a letter from either Polly or yourself since I last wrote yet I cannot suffer so good an Opportunity to pass without writing. Thomas writes often but he is so much the Man of Business, that he talks of nothing else I suppose — I am sure he writes of nothing else. He does not mention his Sister or yours in one letter in Ten — I scarcely ever mention the name of a Friend — Eliza is quite provoked that he cannot even send his love, to shew that he thinks of her.

I mentioned to him in my last that your Dear Old Grandmother had fallen down Stairs and injured herself very much — The Symptoms were extremely alarming at first, but we now have the most flattering hopes of her speedy recovery.

I think there are now very few Human Beings, who have have so much of

lo

losophy as she possesses – When pale and al-
most lifeless, scarcely breathing under the excruciating
Torture arising from a fractured arm & violent contusions
every accent breathed comfort to her
afflicted son but her more distressed Grandchildren
Saying oh my Dear Children dont be distressed
I am not much Hurt, I shall soon be better
and I can say with truth that she has not
complained as much since it happened (which
was on Saturday night last) as I should have
done in a few hours. We were so certain of
the Injury proving fatal that we sent express
for my Sisters. Mrs Spriggs arrived this evening
& I am sure if Mr Hammond is able to ride he
will be here early tomorrow – all the rest of
us are well. Mr Ridgely being on the Road
to Kentucky to bring home his Negroes, hap-
pened fortunately to arrive in town just
as I was going to send off Bill Jones to
see his Sons & to spend the Summer with them
& 2 Boys for Thomas – The Negroes are
so high here that I cannot think of giving
the Prices, or I should have purchased a
Young

NOTE: This is a letter from James Shelby to his wife, written just prior to his capture during the War of 1812. She was home with a 3 year old Richard Pindell and a new born, Susan Hart.
He was captured in May and released a few weeks later to the great relief of his Father and family in Kentucky (see copies of pages 76-77 from S. Roger Keller's "Isaac Shelby". This event is also referred to in Sylvia Wrobel and George Grider's "Isaac Shelby Kentucky's First Governor and Hero of Three Wars". Also, following is a copy of the feathers from his helmet that are glued into Mary Pindell's scrapbook and reference to his duties.

He was captured on May 4, 1813 near Fort Meigs. Thought to be dead, he was released a few weeks later to the great relief of his father and family. He later was promoted to Major General of the 5th Divisio of the Kentucky Militia and after the conflict ended was promoted to Brigadier General. **Dating 1813 4/9**

Addressed: Mrs. Mary Shelby
near Lexington (Ky)
From: J. Shelby

Cincinnati Apl 9th 1813

My dear Mary

Your truly welcomed & very affectionate
favour by Mr. Carr reached me yesterday afternoon
admist the most distressing confusion, turmult & insubor-
dination immaginable. This horrible state of
things commenced with our Rendezvous, & with every
exertion (by the few individuals, in the detachment
who know how to appreciate the consequences) to bring
about order & discipline, has unfortunately attended
our march to this place. I really entertain serious
apprehension for the honour of the Kentucky Character – Such
another undisciplined rabble never was collected in any Country.
And such scandalous neglect in furnishing the necessary supply
of provisions & forage, by the Quarter Masters Dept. as we
have met with at every stage since we left Lexington has
is disgraceful to the Gov.t & may prove ruinous to the popularity
of the present administration. Hence My Dear you can
easily immagine the inevitable state of mind in which I am
doomed to endure – However at every intervil of relaxation

Page 2

from the exertion of either body or mind, the recollection of you
& Your blessed Babes fills me with sensations, of past pleasures of future
days of great felicity – My Dear wife, my Dear children.
That Heaven may again restore me to you. I feel the most
consoling presentiment – farewell my love's – I am unable to
write you a longer letter –
I am Truly yr's
J Shelby

In Mary PindellShelby Stallcup's scrapbook 3 white feathers (from plume of Gen'l James Shelby – Militia Gen'l – Ky

Cincinnati Apl. 9th 1813

My dear Mary

Your truly welcome & very affectionate favour by Mr. Carr reached me yesterday afternoon amidst the most distressing confusion, tumult & insubordination imaginable. This horrible state of things commenced with our Rendezvous, & with very exertion (by the few individuals, in the Detachment who know how to appreciate the consequences) to bring about order & discipline, has unfortunately attended our march to this place. I really entertain serious apprehensions for the honour of the Kentucky Character - such another undisciplined rabble never was collected in any Country. And such scandalous neglect in furnishing the necessary supply of provisions & forage, by the Quarter Masters dept. as we have met with at every stage since we left Lexington has is disgraceful to the Govt & may prove ruinous to the popularity of the present administration. Hence my dear you can easily imagine the inevitable state of mind in which I am doomed to endure. However at every interval of relaxation

from the exertion of either body or mind, the recollection of you
& your blessed Babes fills me with sensations, of past pleasure &
days of great felicity - My Dear Wife, My Dear children -
That Heaven may again restore me to you, I feel the most
consoling presentiment - Farewell my loves - I am unable to
write you a longer letter - I am truly yours J Shelby

Mrs Mary Shelby
Near Louisville
Ky

NOTE: A school report written by **Susan Hart Shelby**, second child of James and Mary (Polly) Pindell Shelby, at age 10 while attending Lexington Female Academy. In 1827 she made a note at the bottom, however, the academy was not renamed until General LaFayette's visit on May 16, 1825. See her letter to Mary Pindell Shelby Stallcup dated 12/21/1894; "*our maternal grandmother who married Richard Pindell a surgeon in the army under Washington who was called by the Commander to dress the wounds received by our French ally in aiding us to achieve our liberty. I witnessed a meeting in after years between the old surgeon and the never to be forgotten Lafayette in his visit to our country. I was called out by the principle of the school when he met the citizens of Lexington and presented to the general as the granddaughter of two of his army companions* (Gov. Isaac Shelby & Dr. Richard Pindell). *I made my courtesy to the old gentleman and repeated Pope's universal prayer* ("Father of all! in every age,In every clime adored, By saint, by savage, and by sage, Jehovah, Jove, or Lord,"). *From that day the school was known as the Lafayette Female Academy."* Actually she attended school at "the home of Col. Josiah Dunham (who conducted a girl's academy visited by and afterwards named for the Marquis de Lafayette)" a quote from "Old Episcolpal Burying Ground" by Frances Keffer Swinford Barr. She might well have said the prayer in French.

On the backside: Falls of Niagara
S H Shelby
July 24,1823
Lafayette Female
Accademy

A Description of the Falls of Niagara

There are many grand Falls in different parts of the World, but none, that from the accounts we read of it, can equal the Falls of Niagara; The height from which the water falls is not greater than some others, but the quantity of water is much larger. The waters of four immense Lakes, as all collected together, and pounds down a precipice of 105 feet. The spray or foam, is constantly rising like a cloud, and in clear weather a beautiful rainbow is sometimes seen. The noise of the falling water is frequently heard at the distance of 30 miles, and the ground is said to tremble around to a much greater distance. Travellers from all parts of the Country, visit these falls, and think themselves well rewarded for their trouble. America exceeds all the rest of the World, in its size and grandeur, and also for its Mountains and Rivers. The Andes, are among the highest mountains in the World; and the 4 largest Rivers known, are likewise in America. Its immense Forest also, exceed any that can be found in the old World; and although America is considered inferior to Europeans Cultivation, yet in natural greatness it altogether excels it.

S. H. Shelby

July 24th 1823

Note from S. H. Shelby (at age 14):

Written at the age of 10 years at the Lafayette Female accademy Lexington July 21st 1827

A Description of the Falls of Niagara.

There are many grand Falls in different parts of the World, but none, that from the accounts we read of it, can equal the Falls of Niagara. The height from which the water falls is not greater than some others, but the quantity of water is much larger. The water of four immense Lakes, is all collected together, and poured down a precipice of 105 feet. The spray or foam, is continually rising like a cloud, and in clear weather a beautiful rainbow is sometimes seen. The noise of the falling water is frequently heard at the distance of 30 miles, and the ground is said to tremble around to a much greater Distance. Travellers from all parts of the Country, visit these falls, and think themselves well rewarded for their trouble. America exceeds all the rest of the World, in its size and Grandeur, and also for its Mountains and Rivers. The Andes, are among the highest mountains in the World; and the 4 largest Rivers known, are likewise in America. Its immense Forests also, exceed any that can be found in the old World; and although America is considered inferior to Europe in Cultivation, yet in natural greatness it altogether excells it.

Written at the age of 10 years at the Lafayette Female academy Lexington M. W. Shelby. July 24th 1827

July 24th 1823

1823

NOTE: In 1832, Susan's second husband and adopted 16-year-old daughter, Susan Shelby died of Yellow Fever in Guatemala. These may have been the words to the music box song…

These was probably shared with Susan Hart Shelby Carter during their time in Lexington together and thus they were in Mary Pindell Shelby Stallcup's papers.

"Walnut Grove, erected in 1817 by John H. Morton, stood in Maxwelton Court off South Limestone Street and opposite the Memorial Hall, Susan Hart Shelby, daughter of Kentucky's first governor, lived here; other occupants have been Dr. James Fishback... In 1946, the historic house was razed to make way for the College of the Bible (Lexington Theological Seminary) which moved from the Transylvania campus in 1950 and now occupies the site." quoted from The Squire's Sketches of Lexington by J. Winston Coleman, Jr. **Dating 1834 5/10**

No Postmark or envelope – Walnut Grove **May 10, 1834.**

By: S.H.S.S. **(Susanna Hart Shelby Shannon)**

On listening to a musical box and
the associations it brought up

1 It was a false illume light
That let my soul so strangely on.
To follow often fancied joys
That faded from me one by one.

2 But death and grief have broke the spell
Those joys too fondly cherished, turned
And one by one their sad farewell
The mournful truth has left behind.

3 How strange! to dream that happiness,
A plant alone of Heavenly youth
Could flourish in a world like this
Or claim one kindred tie to Earth!

4 And strange! to think that happiness
Could ever flow from Earthly treasures
To souls that formed for Heavenly bliss
And all its pure undying pleasures!

5 O boundless love of God to man
That thus our hopes and joys do perish,
Of things belonging to this short span
Which first as hopes of Heaven cherish!

6 Then let me never more pursue
Those phantoms love, and hope, and fame
But give my heart to Heaven more true,
That will not disappoint my Aim.

S. H. S. S.

Walnut Grove 10 May 1834

On listening to a musical box and the associations it brought up.

1 It was a false illusive light
That led my soul so strangely on,
To follow oft fancied Joys
That faded from me one by one.

2 But death and grief have broke the spell
Those Joys too fondly cherished, turned,
And one by one their sad farewell
The mournful truth has left behind.

3 How strange! to dream that happiness,
A plant alone of Heavenly growth,
Could flourish in a world like this
Or claim one hundred tie to Earth!

4 And strange! to think that happiness
Could ever flow from Earthly treasures,
To Souls that formed for Heavenly bliss
And all ~~its~~ pure inducing pleasures!

5 O boundless love of God to man
That thus our hopes and joys do perish,
Of things belonging to this short span
Which point us hopes of Heaven to cherish!

6 Then let me never more pursue
Those phantoms love, and hope, and fame;
But give my heart to Heaven more true,
That will not disappoint my aim.

S. H. S. S.

Walnut Grove 10 May 1834

NOTE: No Postmark or envelope – Walnut Grove June 6, 1834. In 1832, Susan's second husband and niece, Susan Shelby (2nd daughter of Maj. Thomas Hart Shelby & Mary McDowell) died of Yellow Fever in Guatemala. This is seventh one of them. - **Susanna Hart Shelby Shannon. Dating 1834 6/6**

My life has been a summer day, Alas!
how bright its joys have seemed.
"Twit after twit" they've flown away
And scarcely on my vision gleamed
My life has been a running brook.
How swiftly passed its pleasures by!
For secure has fancy caught one look
When it was doomed to heave a sigh.
My life has been a morning cloud
Which threatened oft a day of gloom,
But still the day with triumph proud
Would in a splendid aspect come.
My life has been a weary calm, Unruffled and secure at times:
Deceitful oft for soon a storm (and then a storm)
Or terrified of the fervid brines. (Or tempest of the fervid climes.)

My life has been a toilsome Sea, (boisterous Sea)
Whose angry billows foam and strife,
Raged like the grief that scarce could be
Appeased, but by the waste of life
In summer day, in running stream,
In morning cloud, in weary calm,
In life's tumultuous troubled dream
One hope has left me what I am.
A hope that when this life is o'er,
And all its joys and sorrows past,
The tempest, or the storm no more (or the Calm no more)
Can break the peace that's mine at last.
S. H. S. S. (S. H. S. Shannon)

Walnut Grove June 6, 1834

My life has been a summer day.
Alas! how brief its joys have seemed:
"Just after that" they v' flown away
And scarcely on my vision gleamed.

My life has been a running brook.
How swiftly passed its pleasures by!
For scarce has fancy caught one look
When it was doomed to heave a sigh:

My life has been a morning cloud,
Which threatened oft a day of gloom;
But still the day with triumph proud
Would in a splendid aspect come.

My life has been a many calm,
Unruffled, and serene at times,
Deceitful oft, and then a storm,
Or tempest of the fervid climes.

My life has been a boistrous Sea
Whose angry bellows foam and strife,
Raged like the grief that scarce could be
Appeased, but by the waste of life.

over

In summer day, in running stream;
In morning cloud, in weary calm;
In life's tumultuous, troubled dream
One hope has left me what I am;

A hope that when this life is O'er,
And all its joys and sorrows past;
The Tempest — or the Calm no more,
Can break the peace thats mine at last.

S. H. S. Shannon

March 1836.

In the same writing as S. H. S. S. and in the same stack so I am dating about same time, June 1834. Again this was probably shared with **Susan Hart Shelby Carter**

Not for the summer hour alone,
When skies resplendent shine,
And youth and pleasure fill the thorn,
Our heart and hands we join.

But for those stern and waiting days,
Of sorrow, pain and fear,
When Heaven's wise discipline doth make,
Our earthly journey drear.

Not for this span of life alone
Which like a blast doth fly,
And as transient flower of grass
Just blossom – droop, and die.

But for a being without end,
This vow of love we take,
Grant us, O God – one home at last
For our Redeemer's sake.

Not for the summer hour alone,
When Thee resplendent shine,
And youth and pleasure fill the throne
Our hearts and hands we join;

But for those stern and wintry days
Of Sorrow, pain and fear,
When Heaven's wise discipline doth make
Our earthly journey drear.

Not for this span of life alone,
Which like a blast doth fly,
And as the transient flower of grass
Just blossom — droop, and die;

But for a being without end,
This vow of love we take, —
Grant us, Oh God — one home at last,
For our Redeemer's sake

NOTE: Evan Shelby attended Kenyon College in Gambier Ohio, still in existence today. He was Susan Hart Shelby's youngest brother. She was the only surviving daughter and next oldest child of James & Mary Pindell Shelby and James was the eldest son of Gov. Isaac Shelby.

NOTE: "inst" is an abbreviation used meaning; of the present month

Postmarked: Gambier, Ohio Nov 12 18 4/3 stamped in red in upper right corner

Addressed to: Miss Susan Shelby
Lexington
Kentucky

From: Evan Shelby

Kenyon College **11th Nov 1839**

Dearest Sister,

Since I received yours of the first inst, I have commenced 2 or 3 letters to you but my college duties pressing me so very hard I was prevented from finishing one.

I was in such fine spirits upon the evening I received your letter that in cracking a joke upon Bishop Hopkin's son of Vermont I provoked him to slap my cheek, & in retaliation I knocked him down with a chair, where upon my room mate interposed, there was nothing more said about the matter. Hopkins received his dismision to day; for the following offenses, (v.s.) 1st for keeping pistols 2nd for disowning them & being caught in a lie & 3rd for throwing a stone through a tutors window.

An interesting tryal took place to day. Mr. Hedington one of the Jakeys (ie. a country fellow) was indicted for assault & battery upon the person Marcus Brown a student of the grammar school. The result of which was, Hedington fined $50.00 which by the way was very unjust. I saw the whole affair my self. Hedington a boy of 18 years old passed through

Page 2

Gambier returning home from Mt Vernon as drunk as he could be to walk. Brown amongst others made fun of him. And he ran up to him with a halter in his hand, and to scare him raised it up over his back & by accident a part of the rope fell on B shoulder. A mortal antipathy has always existed between the Jakeys and

the students. In 5 minutes I believe all the students in College were collected around this poor boy and would have demolished him in a little less than no time had not professor Muenschen come & sent us to our rooms. After prof. M had gone home a party of us pursued him about 1 ½ miles but were unable to overtake him. One of our brave boys snaped an unloaded pistol at him 3 times.

Mr. Landels(?), one of the tutors is not expected to live. One of the sophomore class is in the same condition & upon the whole I take it there is a great deal of sickness in the country.

Got to sleep in church Sunday & Dr. Sparrow was so mad that the boys say he looked clean through me, & I believe that is what woke me up. Dr. Sparrow & the bishop had a falling out at the convention last vocation & at this time are scarcely on speaking terms. Brotherly love between Christians.

Page 3

I have now given you all the gossip of place which I suppose will not interest you much. It is now getting late & I must go to bed.

I am your affectionate brother

E. Shelby

Kenyon College 11th Nov 1839

Dearest Sister

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I was in such fine spirits upon the evening I received your letter that in cracking a joke upon bishop Hopkins son of Vermont I provoked him to slap my cheek & in retaliation I knocked him down with a chair, whereupon my room mate interposing there was nothing more said about the matter. Hopkins received his dismission to day; for the following offences, (viz.) 1st for keeping pistols 2ndly for disowning them & being caught in a lie 3dly for throwing a stone through a tutors window.

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I am your affectionate bro Thos

18¼

Miss Susan Shelby
Lexington
Kentucky

Tallapoosa

NOTE: I believe this to be Gen. James Shelby's son, Fayette (Lafayette), written to his brother, Isaac (Ike) Shelby. Eureka Springs is by Jonesboro, Ark. I am not sure why he addresses the envelope to Mr. Isaac Shelby, jr. **Ague:** malarial infection characterized by paroxysms (stages of chills, fever, and sweating at regularly recurring times) and followed by an interval or intermission of varying duration. Popularly, the disease was known as "fever and ague", "chill fever", "the shakes." An intermittent fever, with cold fits succeeded by hot flashed.

To: Isaac (Ike) Shelby

From: Lafayette Shelby

Envelop reads:
Jonesboro 25 (cents)
Jany 16th jsbo (with curly-cues)

Mr Isaac Shelby jr.
Near Lexington
Ky

Sunday Jan 12th 1840

Dear Ike

I am going to write to you not because I am indebted to you for a letter but because like you were when you wrote to Jim, I am at home alone on a lonesome Sunday, with nothing to occupy my mind, and nothing to read having finished the last line of my newspaper. That is one reason, another is that I am in hopes that it will draw from you another letter as novel, interesting, and amusing as your former one. I have written to Susan, to father & to Evan and have received not a line in return and if you don't answer this I will forswear writing any more letters. But the principal cause of my writing to you at this time is that I have business with you, that I have need of you. I want to return to Kentucky (how you stretch your eyes)

Page 2

and I want you to intercede with the old man in my behalf, as you will know how. A few words from you would have more weight with him than all I could write in a month. I am sick of the country and I feel like if I was back in Kentucky and once more well of the ague and the itch, that I would be content. I cure the ague sometimes for a while and then I think that I can live here as well as anywhere. I ride about the country looking at places

and once or twice I have been pretty near trading for one. The chills return on me & then I curse the whole state and wonder within myself how I could have been such a fool as to have talked about buying a place where I would eternally have the chills. At such times I would not give the land over the road for any country here and if father will give me that I will live on it and work like a Turk. I can make four times as much there as I can here and why if I vest the profits in public land here, will it not be a better plan than to live here and make nothing?

Page 3

I have written to father to inform him of my desire to return and I shall be governed entirely by his answer if he says he is willing for me to return I shall be glad of it, but if he thinks it better otherwise I shall try to content myself here.

John Clay left for Ky. last Tuesday week, he says he'll be dead if he will live in any such outlandish country. He expected to find us living in a fine house, with guns, dogs and a fine library, and all the business of life around us, but he was woefully mistaken, and was for getting back as soon as possible.

I believe I have not much more to say & I will therefore close with requesting that you will give my love to Susan, and ask her to be so kind & obliging as to write me that letter she owes me.

Write me an answer as speedily as may suit your convenience after first doing me the favour I asked of you, and much oblige

Your affectionate brother

Fayette

Sunday Jan. 12th 1840

Dear Ike

I am going to write to you not because I am indebted to you for a letter, but because like you were when you wrote to Jim, I am at home alone, and a lonesome Sunday, with nothing to occupy my mind, and nothing to read having finished the last line of my newspaper. That is one reason, another is that I am in hopes that it will draw from you another letter as novel, interesting, and amusing as your former one. I have written to Susan, to father & to Evan and have received not a line in return, and if you don't answer this I will forswear writing any more letters. But the principal cause of my writing to you at this time is that I have business with you, that I have need of you. I want to return to Kentucky (now you stretch your eyes)

and I want you to intercede with the old man in my behalf, as you will know how. A few words from you would have more weight with him than all I could write in six months. I am sick of this country and I feel like if I was back in Kentucky and once more well of the ague and the itch, that I would be content. I have the ague sometimes for a while, and then I think that I can live here as well as anywhere. I ride about the country looking at places and once or twice I have been pretty near trading for one. The chills return on me & then I curse the whole State and wonder within myself how I could have been such a fool as to have talked about buying a place where I would eternally have the chills. At such times I would not give the land <u>over the road</u> for any country here, and if father will give me that I will live on it and work like a Turk. I can make four times as much there as I can here, and why if I net the profits in public land here, will it not be a better plan than to live here and make nothing?

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Your affecte Brother

Lafayette

Schenectady
Jany 16th 1820 No 3

2.5

Mr Isaac Shelby jr
Near Lexington
Ky

NOTE: Due to the rounded bottom of the first name, which has been torn out, I believe the name to be Evan. All three (Mandeville, Charles and Evan) attended Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio with Prof. Smith. I believe that Raily should read Riley and that he lived near Evan.

Postmarked Niagara Falls, NY Aug 31, (1840) Large 23. in upper righthand corner

Addressed to: Messer **Char. R. Raily & Evan Shelby**
Lexington
Ky.

From: **Manderville Thum**

Niagara falls New York, **Aug 30th, 1840**

My dear friends,

You will perceive by this letter that the darling object of my heart has been achieved; vis a view of Niagara falls. Tired & exhausted with exploring I am indeed in rather an unfit condition to write & in fact such an influence has the vastness of grandeur of the falls had upon me that I could hardly settle myself down to the tame task of writing. I suppose you would like to hear a word or two of my leaving Gambier & my trip here before I enter upon the more difficult task of attempting Niagara's description.

About ten or eleven days ago I received letters from home & Baltimore with monies in them; but owing to the difficulty of getting the drafts cashed I was detained till Monday evening & as Pro. Smith was going the same route Tuesday night I agreed to wait & accompany him. By detention at one place & another I arrived here only yesterday morning. On my route I have been very seriously ill & am at present so very weak that the least exercise fatigues me & being in this state by exhausting my animal spirits leaves me to be entirely overwhelmed by the roar & magnificence of Niagara. That vigor of admiration, which allows of intense enjoyment of the scene, by this weakness I am entire cut off & instead these of that inane imbecility overwhelmed with wonder, which an infant might display at the same spectacle. However, I am fast regaining my original strength & as I shall stay here for two or three days, yet I trust to enjoy the scene in the full majesty of its sublimity. I left Pro. Smith at Buffalo in company with some friends in the army, who are stationed at that point. I believe one of these officers was presiding officer in Florida when Pro. Smith was an officer there. I shall remain here until Tuesday next (today being Sunday) waiting for him, as I should leave Monday evening had I not to wait for him.

However, I think that amusement & novelty of scenery might be found here for weeks together without allowing any one scene or amusement to pale upon the taste.

The curiosities I have seen & the sights of wonder I have witnessed put it entirely out of my power to give any adequate description of what I have passed through since my arrival here.

Of the falls of Niagara I can give you no adequate idea. The sight thereof is of & in itself alone capable of doing it. Picture to yourselves a wild precipitous shore with beatling rocks guarding on each side the deep waters of a might river & over a large precipitous rock 164 feet perpendicular the waters of all the western lakes pouring their united steams & as the waters of the flood descending meet the deep waters in the abyss below the earth for miles round shaking with the concussion, the deafening roar of waters (only to be heard at Niagara) celebrating it & in the hollow depths of its hoarse murmurings & the brilliant white of its curling mists affording fit emblems of the voice & robes of the God of Nature. Such when fully realized is Niagara. In gazing from the heights above upon the ferry skip diminishes to a cockle shell, one is almost unnevered with alarm at the eminent danger of those embarked passing within a hundred yards of the boiling foam at the fall of the waters. 'Tis only when we look the heights above upon the size of well known objects below that the full magnitude of the falls seems to be realized. But the beauty of the falls is very much enhanced by the surrounding scenery. On goat or Iris island to which there is a bridge & where visitors always go on their first arrival to see the falls, the scenery is delightful; left as it is, mostly to the wild vagaries of nature's original formation, which our common mother seems so much to delight in here, it projects a scene of rural beauty almost unsurpassable. I have been on the Canada side twice, once yesterday & once today. There is a troop of Highland soldiers stationed here (a part of the body guard of the Queen of G. B.). I think they wear a very splendid dress but by far too cumbersome for war. At our landing a soldier met us & after a scruting, in silence, of us, by him, we were allowed to pass on. It was a cloudy day & in going up the river from the landing to the Catareal we passed by a openly camera obscura, which I

Page 3

understand is very beautiful & presents a perfect facsimile of both falls; we also passed by the museum & entered a house in which we obtained clothes to go under the falls.

Most of the persons with me declined venturing as it is considered dangerous. Only one was willing to go under & he & I went under 230 feet with a mighty precipice on the one side & the roaring Niagara on the other sending up volumns of spray which will unless carefully, guarded against ultimately smother & suffocate the individual thus venturing. During my progress thousands of eels very

much resembling snakes would slip from beneath my hands
as I clung to the rocks, while thus engaged I slipped & saw
the boiling waters beneath me; but was caught in plenty of
time; in fact I myself could have clung to the rock (which
was not entirely perpendicular) & saved myself. This evening
I went to see the spring on the Canada shore called the
burning spring from the circumstance of the air or rather
gases coming from it supporting combustion & keeping up a blast.
The sight being grand. On going round through the Canada side
to the spring I ordered the coachman as I had hired one
on purpose to drive to the battle ground of Lundy's slain
now called Drummonsville after the British general, who
was defeated there by the Americans in the late war. I saw
the marks of the bullets & also a tree cloven with a
cannon ball. The country now is filled with British
soldiery which keep up for a while the holiness(?) of the
scene. The American's are very kindly treated when is
Canada by every one. In reference to myself, I can say
I found it quite delightful. There are numerous other
places of interest one or two splendid caves which I intend to
visit & a great many other things which at a more
seasonable opportunity I will let you have the details.
I close this letter with the recital of a narrow escape
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Page 4

Top

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out of the regular track up stream to the falls glancing
among the rocks one fair strike upon which would dash
us to pieces. Onward the drunken scoundrel urged the skiff, which

Bottom

at times poised(?) almost perpendicular upon the opposing waves
until he came within a very few paces of the return waters
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falls & crushed us to atoms. My hand was on my pistol
to blow the drunkard's brains out when he relaxed his
mad efforts & we were rapidly hurried by the waters out of
danger. It is now late Sunday night & I must now bid you
good night & refresh myself for further adventures tomorrow.

I remain you sincere friend
Manderville Thum.

Niagara falls. Newyork Aug 30th 1840

My dear friends,

You will perceive by this letter that the darling object of my heart has been achieved; viz a view of Niagara falls, Tired & exhausted with exploring I am indeed in rather an unfit condition to write & in fact such an influence has the vastness & grandeur of the falls had upon me that I could hardly settle myself down to the tame task of writing. I suppose you would like to hear a word or two of my leaving Gambier & my trip here before I enter upon the more difficult task of attempting Niagara's description. About ten or eleven days ago I received letters from home & Baltimore with moneys in them, but owing to the difficulty of getting these drafts cashed I was detained till Monday evening & as Pro Smith was going the same route Tuesday night I agreed to wait & accompany him. By detentions at one place & another I arrived here only yesterday morning. On my route I have been very seriously ill & am at present so very weak that the least exercise fatigues me & being in this state by exhausting my animal spirits leaves me to be entirely overwhelmed by the color & magnificence of Niagara. That vigor of admiration which allows by intense enjoyment of the scene, by this weakness I am entirely cut off & in fact that insane imbecility overwhelms me with wonder which an infant might display at the same spectacle. However I am fast regaining my original strength & as I shall stay here for two or three days yet I trust to enjoy the scene in the full majesty of its sublimity. I left Pro. Smith at Buffalo in company with some friends in the army, who are stationed at that point. I believe one of these officers was presiding officer at Florida when Pro Smith was an officer there. I shall remain here until Tuesday next (today being Sunday) waiting for him, as I should leave monday evening had I not to wait for him. However I think that amusement & novelty of scenery might be found here for weeks together without allowing any one scene or amusement to fall upon the taste.

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Maj. Chas. R. Daily
Lexington
Kentucky

Paid

was so almost perpendicular upon the opposing wave until he came within a very few paces of the return waters which would have brought us immediately under the falls & crushed us to atoms. My hand rested on my pistol to blow the drunkard's brains out when he relaxed his mad efforts & we were rapidly hurried by the waters out of danger. It is now late Sunday night & I must now bid you good night & refresh myself for further adventures tomorrow.

Yours truly & sincerely
Mandeville Thum.

NOTE: At top in pencil "Handed in the **Prof. J. Alexander, June 20, 1842**

Signed: **Evan Shelby**

The Batchelor

"A wife! O fetters
To man's bless'd liberty! Ah, this world's a prison,
Heaven the high wall about it, sin the gaoler
But this iron shackles weighing down our heels
Are only women."
decken's wonder of the kingdom

"While some in lively strains relate,
The pleasures of the married state;
Shall Bachelor unsung remain,
A ridiculed tho' harmless train
A scribbler's name I covet not,
This hour admired, the next forgot,
And useless thrown neglected by,
In dusty heaps his labours lie,
I only wish devoid of pride,
Whatever fate
May song await,
To sing my happy fireside.

No helpless infants noted squalls,
And ever heard within my walls:
Nor does a head-strong scolding wife,
Disturb the quiet of my life.
Lord of my house sit at ease,
And smoke my pipe when'er I please

Page 2

Whilst thou poor man to woman tied,
By cradles toys
Or restless boys
Least occupied thy fireside.

There one who obstinate & vain,
Exult in bonds & hug the chain:
Let those the sweet of wedlock boast,
And toil to'gilore a rotten past."
Lie-Crito needy & forlorn
In sack-cloth curse his bridal morn.
Bless'd with a fashionable bride,
He's teased at home
Or forced to roam,
And ne'er enjoys his fireside.

Let others tell the joys of love,
But keep me from there, powers above!
Preserve me from the plague of life.
A forward and expressive wife;
But lest my choice should wrongly fall,
E'en let me have no wife at all:
But still to gentle peace abide
With smiles survey
Each new born day,
And still enjoy my fireside.

E. Shelby

The Bachelor

"A wife! O fetters
To man's blessed liberty! All this world's a prison,
Heaven the high wall about it, sin the gaoler;
But this iron shackles weighing down our heels,
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(Secker's wonders of the Kingdom

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