

My dear Grand child

Ashland 22^d Nov. 1850

Your brother Tommy has had a serious and protracted illness at Judge Mans Lotts. We feared we should lose him, but thank God he is spared to us and is now convalescent. Mrs. Smith has been unremitting in her kind attentions to him. Your aunt Susan with her children has, I suppose arrived by this time at Louisville, having left your uncle James to follow her this winter or next Spring.

I have had no letter from you since my return; but I received yesterday the official report of your conduct for the month. I was sorry to see the number of 36 demerits put down against you. I am afraid, my dear child, that you do not sufficiently appreciate the great advantages you have in your position at the Academy, nor the disgrace that you would have attached to your name if you should be compelled to leave it from neglect or incompetency. How would poor Eugene Ewing rejoice if he had your situation! I pray you to redouble your efforts and act a part worthy of your poor father's name and mine. Imagine him to be looking down on you! How would his spirit be mortified if you dishonored him

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