

same - Ruth had her glasses and Chauncy had a beautiful Princeton seal watch fob and the watch that his father had on his 21st birthday, it being his 21st birthday gift. Miss Wheeler had asked her landlady's daughter to come in and play cards - She is a very pretty girl and goes to Wellesley.

I have had two letters from Marie Stoddard - She is visiting up near, or on the Plaza in New York - and wanted me to go to the rink with her to skate but my tendon Achilles is off again - so I have to skate at rare intervals - I think that I shall have to try Christian Science on it for it is quite a nuisance to have it although it doesn't hurt me ^{except} when I tie up my shoes tightly it ~~does~~ hurts.

I saw Ethel Flynn for a few minutes at Susette Grundy's - she told me that she had become a business



Dec 31 - 1904 -
135 Remsen St.

Dearest Brother -

This is the last letter that I shall ever write in our dear old friend 1904 - the year that my little brother became a big man, (in years) graduated from college and entered the business world, a great deal has happened hasn't it and everything has been of such a nice kind.

We've been over to see Mr. Wheeler to luncheon with Ruth and Chauncy and a friend or two from Denver - The latter reminded me very much of Arthur to a point except that he is a little stronger build and about Chauncy's height. They looked about the

woman and upon further confession ~~possessive~~
said that she was a stenographer in New York.
It is a shame I think that she had to be away
there ought to be some other way for her to
earn her living.

~~to see~~ ^{to see} Mr Allen and Father are going down
to see a lecture upon the St. Louis "Expedition".
I am not going because I stayed up so late last
night to read the "Lightning Conductor" which
is a pretty little story I think - I have
read several books this vacation "Vesty of the
Basins" was very interesting but the others went
with very much -

Aunt Kate has written several
letters to us lately and she also sent
a little Christian Science Book which
she wants me to send to you and
wants you all to read it - Aunt Father's
cousin Laura etc. -

I leave only until Tuesday now - I
may leave on the early train or else the
late - Mr Allen hasn't decided yet. -

Father is reading aloud at present and
so I will have to stop - With a very great
deal of love -

Your affectionate sister

Joe

BROOKLYN, N.Y.
JAN. 1
1-AM.
1905



Mr. George Ezra Woodruff
933 Second Street
Louisville.
Kentucky.



71
BROOKLYN
JAN 1 - 1905

LOUISVILLE, KY.
JAN 1 1905

Beautiful" when the
after-part is so deplora-
-bly - first slushy - then
icy - then slippery & c & c -
Let old vile mortal ^{mind}
make up go and let us
get down to rather
to the up Reality. Ideal
of good things! And then
if I do you will call a
halt and say "Transcen-
-dentism" by the way
I am going to mail you
a book tomorrow I hope
you will enjoy. The
Scene, ~~is~~ the story
is about College Gools

[Dec. 30, 1904]

1424 Erie Avenue

Phila, Pa, Dec. 30, '04.

My dear Nephew: - Your
most interesting letter
received some days ago
Amid the Unas-cerifu-
-sim-times, making
ready for Old Santa I
have deferred writing
to tell you what a
darny cold time, white
with the Beautiful it
was indeed, - though, I
must say there can be
a surfeit of "The

and their plans and so forth.
Of course you will be interested
in School girls doing, since
you have launched out into the
business world you have not found
to be such a staid old man as not
to enjoy college days especially of
girls. As you love advice, only one
I will give here "Avoid the fabrics
-tions of the girls" only no story
books, but again by the way 'tis a
truth-story-book. You say you ^{think}
you will like L - after you grow
accustomed to little towns after a

life in N.Y. & Eastern Cities, I do
love dear Old Phila and all large
Cities where one's identity is en-
-tirely lost amid the concourse
of people that throng such cities.
There is more freedom, more to en-
-ertain one, more to educate one
less monotony, to me every thing is
^{good} on the side for a "Big" two or three
million population town.

However, after all, place is not
any thing but the Real reflection
dwells out ⁱⁿ the open firmament

of divine Love, God, as
individual Consciousness,
and we are only what
and where we care con-
-scious of. Then let us
be true to our real selves
and guard our thoughts
strenuously, as I say
we are our "Thoughts" nothing
more nor less. as thought
brings action, our acts then
are our thoughts, so you
attend the Baptist church
I presume there are not very
many there who used to
attend when you were
and I were there. Indeed
L - has outgrown a grove
out of my mind entirely

not having lived there
for several years, soon
when I was a resident,
I knew very few people,
I have not seen Kathryn
since you wrote tho
she sent me word she will
call soon, they have all
been busy with Xmas
times, Mr. Nice buried
a sister on Wed 28th I
guess they all felt a
sorrow at loss, Mrs. Nice
was here to see me three
days before Xmas, she
said the girls were
bury, I presume they all
especially Madge enjoyed

the sleighing for us or
three weeks it was fine
tho' now it has melted
on roads leaving tho'
piles of snow all along
street walks, now I
written you a long
nothing to interest this
your rejoice will be the
last this year at least,
with many all good
wishes for a Happy
New Year with love
from Aunt Kate,

THIS PAPER WAS SUPPLIED
This paper was supplied
present quite a large
lot of it, from a Cousin

PHILADELPHIA
DEC 30
12-PM
19 04
PA.

NICETOWN
STATION



Mr. Geo. Ezra Woodruff
415. West-Main Str.,
Louisville,
Kentucky.

LOUISVILLE, KY.
V
5-AM.
1905

much nicer than the one I gave
him so now he has a Sunday
tip from you and an every day
tip from me -

Mrs Dyrkham + Ruth have
just-called to see us and
Grace had just-started
to see Ruth - so they missed
each other - I am so glad you
liked your things - and if you
need anything you must let
us know - and you must get
a nice new winter suit - and
send us the bill as your father
feels quite equal to paying for
it - now his pay is increased -
so you not need some new

December 29, 1904

135 - Remsen Street.

Brooklyn, N. Y.

My dear Sonnie -

The time has been
sweeping by and the old
year has almost run its
course - it has been a very
eventful year to our family -
your graduation and going
out into the world to seek
your fortune is one of the
most important occurrences
in a young mans life
and we feel it so to us also

I gave your father some cards with
his new title engraved upon them
Col. Egna Woodruff - you know the
Senate has confirmed the nomination
and passed the appropriation bill
also - giving the pay from last
April - so that might-be con-
sidered as Christmas gift - as we
know it - for the first time positively
in Xmas eve - Grace gave your
father a nice pair of sleeve buttons
in gum - metal - and your tee to him was

we have had a pleasant
time this Christmas, leaving the
fact that you were not with
us - but - we have also been
very quiet -

Santa Claus was very good
I am sure - your gifts to us
were fine - The candy was very
much appreciated and it is
lovely candy - Grace is going
to take it - back to College to treat
the girls so it will be a
double treat - and the chewing
gum is great too - we will
have enough to last us
for some time - a year at least

Mr. Hasbrouck had sold
out a few weeks ago to a
man in Highland - who
was going to run it next
summer - with Mr Hasbrouck
as clerk - and Mr Harcourt
as steward - the same as
formerly - a brother of Mrs Has-
brouck - The loss was stated
to be fifteen thousand dollars
and no insurance was mentioned

You have had the first clear
day for nearly a month - although
the sun shines - it is very windy &
cold - with bushels of love and
best wishes for a Happy New Year
from your devoted Mother
Frances Woodruff

under flannels? by this time -

I know Aunt Hattie's dinner
was good - and delicious -
but am sorry to hear baby
Harriet has not been well

The long dry spell in Kentucky
was not conducive to very healthy
conditions - but now it is over.

I hope you will not have
to take much quinine - you
must get your father to send
you some other kind of
Pills -

The Razors are the kind the
West Point Cadets use al-
together and Gen Rodgers thinks

not know how she will manage
to go - she has so much on her
hands -

Miss Wheeler came around yesterday
and invited her to a lunch to meet
Ruth and Chauncey Halney and their
other young people -

Have you heard about - Belleau
tiller being down to the ground
He saw a mention in the newspaper
simply stating the fact - without
giving any of the particulars -

they cannot be beaten -
for excellence - and the
Pig Skin case seems to be all
the go - and I am so glad you
like them all -

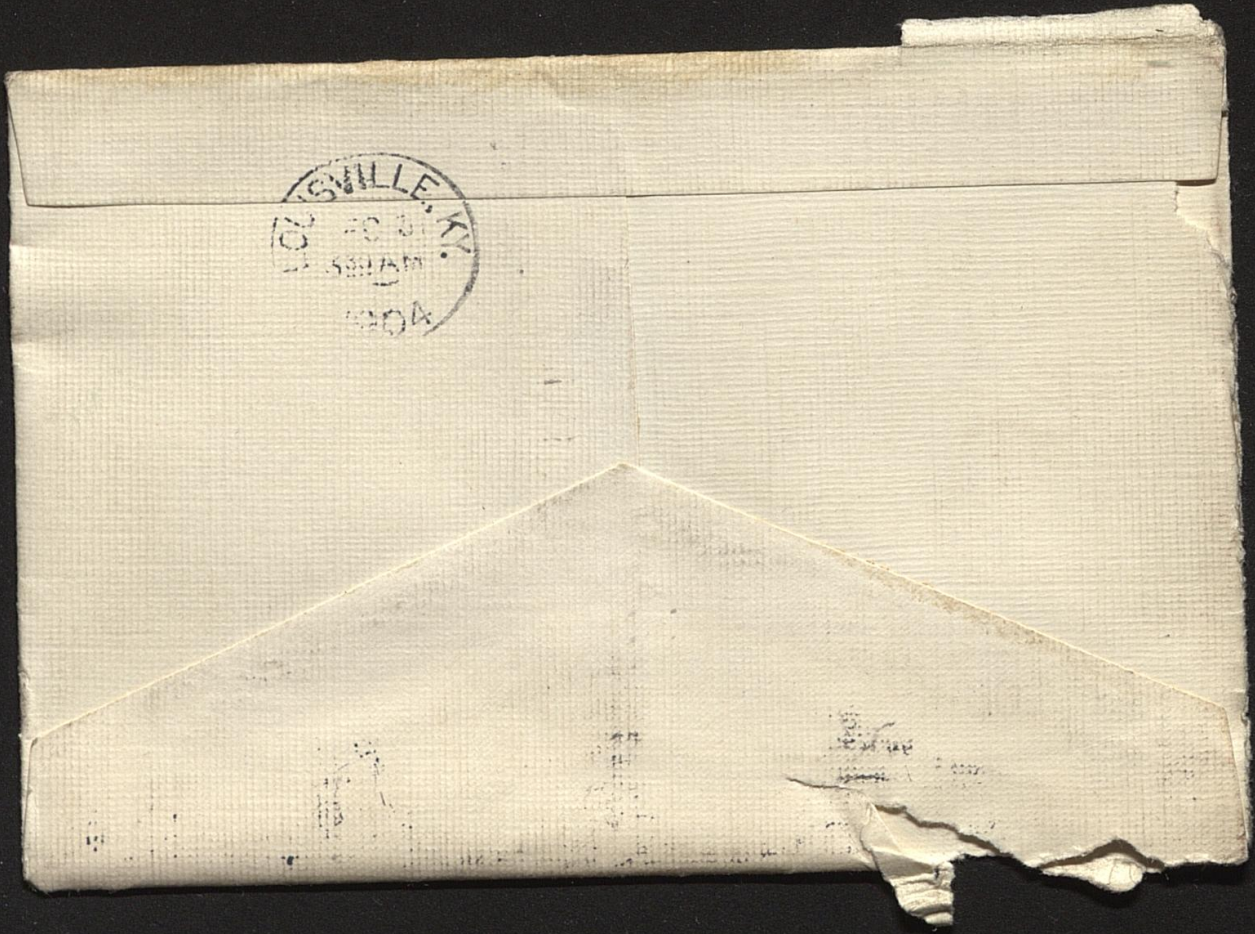
Grace went over to New York
yesterday and took lunch with
Emma Rees - her East-years
room - mate - she lives at
the "Dakota" on 72nd Street.

Maria Stoddard is in New
York on a visit - in 54th Street
and has written to Grace to
come to see her - and go
skating with her - but I do

BROOKLYN, N.Y.
DEC 29
9 30 P M
1904



Mr Geo E Woodruff
933 Second Street
Louisville
Kentucky



WILLE. T.
10 20 3
1881
1004

[Dec. 24, 1904]

pride of his son known as "Sport" but who was called "Beck" before he left home - He was a tall lanky and most unspainly boy when he first came to college & wanted to go back home - he was most late feel about every thing - his father tells him not to smoke or sleep around until 11 o'clock but to study hard but as soon as his father leaves he starts in to learn all the tricks he can - and his poor country father doesn't know what to make of it all when he beholds him in all of his newly acquired finery.

My dearest son, Grace was not satisfied with that preceding and threatened to destroy it, but I have persuaded her to let it stand and she can write again. This Xmas morning is cold, flowy and snowy. We have a late breakfast but arose at our usual time 7³⁰ and had a very nice breakfast at 8³⁰. Everybody seemed to be smiling and pleasant and Merry Xmas, flew about the room uninvitedly

Dearest Mother -

Father and I have just come home from the theater where we were with Helen & Eileen - We went to see the "College Widow" at the Garden Theatre - It was awfully funny and true to life - I wished all the time that you were there - The story is about the charming daughter of the college president who each year has some favorite student who leaves her desolate or supposedly so at commencement each June - There are some farm youths who come and develop rapidly into sports youths in a year or so, that's up you laughing all the time - The new father is a small, wide, is a wonderful foot-ball player, who was on his way to a rival college but was enticed to stay and be on the college team by the daughter - There are lots of debonaire youths and the funny father of the country boy (who has become a sport), is initiated into college life - they teach him how to spend and drink, walked him around in front of a line of boys marching in lock step singing and his name Heks - Heeks - Heeks, Heeks Heeks - He was very

After breakfast Grace hurried us all
up to our room to open the Xmas gifts.
We were all in a twitter of pleasure
each one of us being quite happy ~~in~~ ^{with} our
presents. Aunt Hatty sent mama a beautiful
clock with a lumines dial, and she sent to
Grace a large box of ^{five} beautiful stationery
which had Graces monogram on it. Grace
was very much pleased. Lanie sent her a lovely
card case and Aunt Laura sent her an exquisite
embroidered Chile waist and she sent me some
nice large linen handkerchiefs and your mother
a Spanish lace mantilla. These are some of
of the many presents from L but your presents
gave us a great deal of pleasure. Your mother
felt quite proud at getting such a big box
of candy and my neckwear will be used on
Sunday exclusively. Graces book is beautiful.
The only drawback at our celebration was
your absence but as you are away in line
of duty we are satisfied. And be full sure that
you will have a pleasant day, with dinner
at Uncle George and if the weather is fair
a good walk; - many a Xmas has fair weather

and foul, I have walked the streets of
the old town with a chum talking about
our future plans and ambitions, and your
being in L at this time revives my memory
of those days and they seem quite near.
Perhaps the biggest Xmas gift of all is
the one the Government has just conferred
bestowed upon me. On Dec 16th the Senate
confirmed my nomination as Colonel and
gives me the pay since April 23rd the date
of the passage of the act by Congress. This will
enable us to live a little better than we
have been doing. It adds \$375- per annum
to my pay, and gives me the rank of Colonel
which pleases us all very much, - for a Colonel
in the Army is no small thing.
I have not suggested to you that you hunt
up any of my old friends, for as I told you
none of them recognized me when I was in
L. two years ago and they none of them, would
probably be of any use to you or take any interest
in you. If I live, some day, when I visit
you, we will call on some of them together.
In the meantime you have for you a virgin soil

I wonder if my garrulous scribbling
tires you. Mother always accuses me of
being too talky-talky and very probably
I am guilty for the old are apt to talk
too much; but I feel like talking to you
if only to let you know that I am alive
and thinking of you. I feel that it keeps us
closer together and more in rapport with
each other. The day has passed when I can
give you advice. You are to a large extent
the master of your own fate, and the pilot
of your own bark of destiny, and your little
vessel is on the sea. It is too late for hailings
to reach you distinctly and you must be guided
by your own charts and knowledge of
navigation. You have good sailing directions, but
the weather may be tempestuous, and it will
require courage, wisdom and patience
to handle the craft and steer her into port.
With God's help you can do it. I believe you
have seized the skirts of happy chance, and
by holding on you will "arrive" as the French say.
Do not expect results too soon, but stick to it
and results will loom up.

P. F. O.
Please turn over

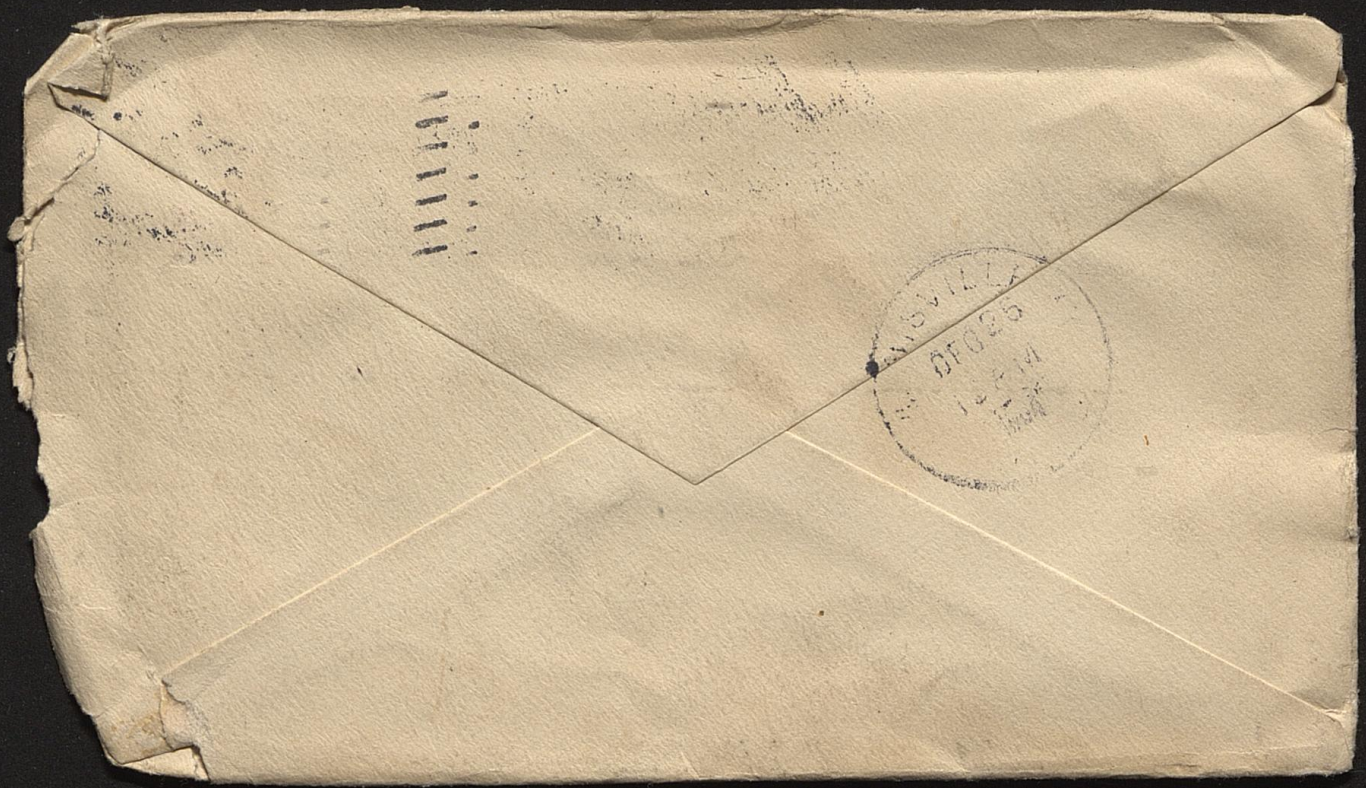
Mother and Gracie join me in sending
you our best love, and what can we
say more; - you are the hope and stay
of this Woodruff family. We desire you to
excel us all, to advance to great prosperity
financially, but most of all to excel in
the graces of Christian manhood. This will
give you motive for your life work, and
may you achieve success in the prayer
of your loving Father.

Lezra Woodruff

BROOKLYN
DEC 25 7
4-PM
1904



Mr George C. Woodruff
933. 25 St.
Louisville Ky



[1904]



With best wishes for
A Merry Christmas
and a prosperous and
Happy New Year

Texas Drug Company

Dallas, 1904-5

John B. Kennedy, Pres.

Fred T. Bradley, Treas.

Carl W. Johnson, Secy.

Office of
The English & Mersick Co.,
Importers, Manufacturers and Dealers in
Carriage Goods,

In answer to yours
of _____

New Haven, Conn. 12/23/04

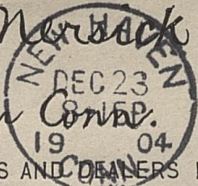
Dear Woody,

Have no time to write an interesting
reply. Best to a Merry Xmas!
Wish you would write

as ever

C.C.R.

The English & Merrett
New Haven Conn.



IMPORTERS, MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS IN
CARRIAGE GOODS.



William G. E. Woodhuff, Esq.,
% Peaslee-Gaultbert Co

Louisville,
Ky.

LOUISVILLE, KY
DEC 25
8-AM
1904

to be mounted in your
progress upward - The
more cheerfully you look
upon this task and the
more earnestly and cheer-
fully you work - the
better and easier or more
easily can your ^{own} work

be done by almost
ready to ship - and I think
it will be expressed to
day or to-morrow - Your
Father has about recovered
from his cold - although he
is a little afraid of the
right air - With much love
from your devoted Mother
Frances G. Woodruff

December 12, 1904

138 Rensselaer Street -

Brooklyn - New York

My dear Sonny -

After a bright-cold
sunshiny Sunday - this
Monday morning dawned
dark gray and snowing
again - the third snow
in one week - The
winter - is at least a
month earlier than last
year with its snow storms
I found a very nice
letter this a-m from Aunt
Hattie on the breakfast table

through knowledge of accounts -
or bookkeeping - to be an expert ac-
countant is a great accomplishment
in itself - and a practical knowledge
of B. K. is greatly to be desired -
I can only not think you are to
see narrowed down to book keeping
& office work - it is only a preliminary
step to other
many or preparatory steps to other
things - one of the rounds of the ladder

She says very complimentary
things about you - I
would enclose it for you
to read but perhaps she
might not like it -

I hope your shoes
have cleared since
your last letter - and that
you now see more clearly
why you are expected
to master book-keeping -
it is the main spring of
the vast machine called
business - and no matter
what directs the business
may be - its basis is an

F's Gold.
Xmas boxes
Bk. helping - ny
Church

BROOKLYN, N.Y.
DEC 12
2:30 PM
1904



Geo. E. Woodruff
933 Second Street
Louisville
Kentucky

Care of
Miss Clark

LOUISVILLE, KY
FC 10
3 30 P.M.
1904

W. W. W.

[Dec. 11, 1904]

My dearest Brother -

I do wish that you could come and spend Xmas with your little family, but as you say, I think that it will be much better for you to have a vacation in the summer time, when it's hot and you feel less like working.

It's been cold here and I've been skating three times - we learned how to do the "Flying Mercury" and can do the outer edge quite well, but not perfectly by any means - Our own lake is open now & ready to be skated on so that we won't have to go down to Spring Lake about a quarter of a mile from here as we have been doing lately.

Last night the second ball play was given - I was one of

the best ones that there has
been - Gertrude Taylor, the president
of our class was the chief actor -
It is given twice, once in the
afternoon & once in the evening -
Last evening our class & the Seniors
went together - It was fun, because
they, being our sister class - we could
sing to each other & we sophomores
never have any songs to our selves
but sing most devoted & extravagant
songs to '05 - such as

'05 - '05 - '05 -

The finest class alive
Ole that's the class
You can't surpass
no matter how you strive
Yo! he! Yo! Hi!
Well at times by & by
if any body loves the Senior class
It's O - O - O - O - O -

and many others - some sad &
some gay -

Last night I asked Emma
Rebo & S. Williams & two
other girls to the new to dinner
with me - Emma & S.W. were
up here visiting - Emma is to
be married in April I believe -
She asked me to come to her wedding

Anna sends a merry Xmas
and wants to know whether
you took geology or geneology.
They don't teach the latter here -
~~but yes~~ - next time you
write please tell me what
is the name, author & are
the publishers of that book
which you used in geneology
last year - (Anna dictated
this) I think my style is

is better than beer -
Don't you? Yes
No, sir! Don't you believe it!
Merry Christmas to Teacher!
Nice ^{and} big Anne.

Goodbye

Nice little sister
Patsie

POUGHKEEPSIE
DEC 12
11 AM
1904
N. Y.



Mr Geo. Ezra Woodruff
933 Second Ave
Saviesville

Key

LOUISVILLE, KY.
DEC 13
4-PM
1904

[1904]

with a poem in the centre. Well, my brother made at New Year about \$25- and feeling rich, he also having laudable ambitions towards bettering his prospects, he went round to Mr. Boyds business college and took a course in Bookkeeping which absorbed his \$25- but proved to be of the greatest advantage in after life. So you see I have written a whole lot about bookkeeping, - and now I do not know bookkeeping, but you are also learning bookkeeping. It is a very necessary thing in business, - the foundation of success, and it is very proper that you should learn it, and learn it thoroughly; - so that its basic principles will never leave your brain. You need not fear that you merely intend you to become a bookkeeper, - and nothing more. Dismiss that thought from your mind at once. They are ~~planning~~ ^{planning} to give you an insight into business which is a step towards becoming a good business man.

My dearest boy my mind is so full of what I would like to write to you that everything

135 Remsen St Brooklyn N.Y. Dec 4th
My dearest son your mother wrote you a nice long letter last evening and this gray gloomy morning, I am home bound. I shall endeavor to occupy a little while in writing to you also. Your mother is going to New York this morning to secure her Xmas gifts for her friends and I hope it may not snow while she is away. I cannot but express my congratulations upon your improved penmanship. I remember that Major Bagby once told me that he had gone to school to learn calligraphy and how he had succeeded to show me he wrote out his address on a card in the very best style of Spencerian, but while he could do so well, as to relate he fell back upon his old careless style for his every day work. When I was a boy in a book store, I used to go to night school to learn to write. We sat around a long table, - each fellow furnishing his own candle

for we had no gas in that room. Our teacher was an artist in pen work. He would take a Lillots 303 pen and a large piece of folio post vellum paper and with free hand work would make the most wonderful eagles, feathers, heads and all kinds of ornamental scroll work, it was wonderful to see him. He also taught bookkeeping. At my table one of the learners was a little Jew named Abe Hasson, who kept a little variety store down on the river front bet. 304 & 305. He used to stick out his tongue like Samuel Weller when he was writing his valentine and every now and then he would say, "You needn't shake the table any more than you have a mind to." I suppose he became a millionaire as usual with his kind. He was sober and industrious and saving as I remember, - and patient. Even now those qualities count. When our teacher would instruct his bookkeeping scholar, he used to repeat as the main point; - Debit what costs you value and credit what produces you value. I remember this much and no more of bookkeeping. You probably could tell me lots about it. My

older brother George went to Elizabethton New Jersey to live with his uncle Timothy when he was about 13 years old, so that Brother William and myself were more together in our boyhood. When he was about 13 or 14 he went down to Morton & Griswold's book bindery to learn book binding. There was one contract of apprenticeship each side being free to sever the connection. He was there for perhaps a couple of years and was a pretty good workman so that he did nearly a journeyman's work for a boys wage, - about \$2.50 per week. I was in the office of the Louisville Journal at that time, acting as Mr. Prentiss' amanuensis and putting up the mail. I saw that my brother ~~was~~ would never do much as a journeyman book binder however well he might bind books, so I persuaded him to drop his job, and come to the Journal office where he got work on a paper route. You may know that the patrons whom he served with papers were accustomed to tip the boys at New Year, when the carrier presented to each one in person what was called a "carrier address", a gorgeous typographic sheet

is jumbled together. Now I have been preaching to you the learning of that Heaven's great gift, - wisdom, and I have been praying that you might be granted this divine attribute. You know it is the gift of our Heavenly Father, and to those of us unfortunates upon whom it has not been bestowed at birth, it must come only by seeking and seeking constantly, by prayer and thought. Now at my age I think I can advise you to try to think out the matter, learn the inwardness of events, so that you may act wisely. If your employees are actuated only by a desire to use you for their purposes and profit only, it might arouse antagonism in the employe. This occurs in trades and corporations, hence you have ~~strikes~~ organization on both sides and strikes occur. But in your case there is more than selfishness in the employer to be considered. There is affection arising from blood relationship, - on both sides. They wish you well and you desire to give them your best.

service. Now remember that to become a wise
business man requires time, and remember that
you have been at work, but a little while,
and remember that you have no data to even
guess at conclusions, so that my advice is to
pay cheerful strict attention to all your duties.
Dismiss from your mind all fears of the future
and do the daily duties, thanking our Heavenly Father
for your glorious privileges and aim at your
star, - the star of Hope. Remember that your
father and your mother have faith in you
and your abilities and do not expect you to
run before you can walk. Festina lente, Soft
and fair goes far in a day. If you feel
impatient, pray for patience. Rome was not built in a day.

You see what a long rambling letter I have scrawled
and I could fill a book. (a little one) with examples of men
who have succeeded after much work, with under less favorable conditions
than yours. Encourage the bull dog spirit of persistence. When I look
back on my career, and it seems to me that an opportunity like yours
would have sent me into a paroxysm of delight and satisfaction.

I shall write you again and will not inflict such a long
discursion upon you again. With best love, I am,
Your loving father Ezra Woodruff

BROOKLYN, N.Y.
DEC 7
2:30 P.M.
1904



Mr George E. Woodruff
933 Second St
Louisville
Kentucky

LOUISVILLE, KY.
50
8³⁰
1904