



Mayerville Feb 24th 1878

My Dear Robbie

I have at last gotten the Table cover finished, and will express it to you this evening. I hope you will like it. It is so long since I have done any thing of the kind, I hardly knew how to go about it, but through the kindness of our friends, have succeeded in making something, which I think, quite pretty.

Mary Thomas Wood said, as it was for you, she would like to embroider the monogram, I took it to Miss Lizzie Coy, to get her to show me how to finish it off, but she insisted on doing it herself. The work around the edges, and the diamond around the monogram, was done by her. After the letters were worked, your Pa, suggested that it would look better to have something more in the centre, and in examining

the Index, discovered the diamond, as a part of your badge. We all think it an improvement, and know you will too.

Miss Lizzie is in very delicate health, and confined to the house. The physician says she must not go out, before the month of May. Her friends fear that her lungs are ~~seriously~~ affected. I hope you will appreciate this nice work she has done for you. I must not forget to tell you that I made the fringe, or you may think I clipped out of the job altogether. Robt, you must be particular with it, and always lay it ^{out} of the dust when you are sweeping and dusting. You will find three dusting cloths in the box. When one gets too dirty to use, have it washed.

I send you some music. I don't know whether it will suit you or not, but it is hard to get any thing very good. I hear so little music myself. You will find some of your old pieces amongst the

lot. I would like you to revive your instrumental music. I am sorry you were so unfortunate as to get your flute broken. I expect your Pa will get you another as soon as he can.

Thinking you would not make object to something grateful to your palate, I attempted to make some chocolate caramels, but they were too soft. I then concluded to try pulling, but failed to get the mass to harden, will send it any how, maybe you can manage to get rid of it.

Cousin Lizzie Barbour hearing what I was about, made some nice white sugar candy, and sent over for me to enclose to you, with her love.

I sent your Index to Miss Lizzie that she might see the design of the diamond. She wrote me a note in returning it, which I will enclose to you, that you may see how she enjoyed it. Hoping every thing will reach you in good order, and prove acceptable,
I am with much love, Your mother

to send you or bring with us. I forgot
to tell you when I put the razor in your
trunk, that you would have to get you
a brush and soap.

I have just written an answer to Cousin
Lizzie Norton's letter I got some time
ago, and as I do so little writing, my
hand is pretty tired. Dinner is just ready
too and I am expecting your Pa in
every minute with our Wood.

Your Pa has written you, and sent
you the Eagle and Bulletin, I hope you
will get all. We hope to get some word
from you tonight. Love from all to you
May Heaven's choicest blessings fall
upon you, my dear child, is the prayer

of,
Your loving Mother

Marysville Aug 23^d 1878

My Dear Robbie

I don't know whether
you will be looking for a letter from
me or not; so soon after your Pa writing
but I know it will be none the less
acceptable from being unexpected.

I feel so anxious to know how you got
through with your journey, that the
time will seem long to get a letter from
you. January wrote us a card from
Cincinnati saying he saw you start off
nicely in the cars. You have had
delightful weather, except that the
mornings and evenings were quite
cool. I was afraid you might have
felt the need of your overcoat, as you
were travelling much. I hope you
have taken no cold. As you were
leaving the wharf, there came up such

an appearance of a storm that I felt quite uneasy, but it passed off in a little while. The moonlight party were disappointed in their excursion owing to the threatening clouds. Wednesday evening they all went down on the *Bonanza* and met the other boat. Miss Davidson is suffering very much from a bad cold. I went over to see her yesterday evening and found her in bed. She is better to day. The Anna Douglas ~~had~~ send you their love, and say they miss you very much. I believe they are invited to Mrs Chenoweth's this evening.

Well dear Robt how are you impressed with every thing thus far? I hope pleasantly, but if not, don't feel discouraged, we can't always ^{judge} of the merit of a place or people from first appearances.

This is quite an undertaking for you, but you are a brave, sensible boy, and I believe

will prove yourself equal to it.

Your Pa, ^{and I} have shown our confidence in you, by letting you make your start alone, amongst strangers, and in a new field of labor and study. But we are trusting to your good sense, your adherence to the principles of right, which are natural to your character, and which we as your parents have always impressed upon you, and these with the blessings of kind Providence upon you, (which we continually implore) will carry you safely through.

We gave you no directions about the furnishing of your room, as we hardly knew what to say, and have to leave this to your judgement. I would not get more than you actually need however, until we can come and see you. A bedstead, bureau and washstand are necessities. You can judge however by seeing other rooms. Write us about every thing, and if there is any thing you would like us

him in, and I was glad to see him. We all missed you greatly. My enjoyment of the evening was marred by your absence, and I know it would have added to the pleasure of the rest to have had you at home. It is a great sacrifice we are making Robbie to have you so far from us, but we submit, with the view that it is for your good. You did not tell us how you spent your first Sabbath in Amherst. We want you to have one particular church to attend in the morning, and by no means to omit the Bible class in the afternoon, that the students are expected to attend. This is your Pa's desire as well as mine. It will take the place of the Sabbath school with you, I hope Robbie you will look upon the study of the Bible as of great importance, and that it may be made interesting to you, as it is of more importance than anything else. My sheet is full, and is glad to hear from you. Much

love from all to you. My thoughts are constantly with you my child. Love bless you.

Your loving Mother

Mayerville Sept. 1st 1878

My Dear Son

Your letter of the 28th was received last night. We were very glad to get it, but a little disappointed that it did not bear the date of the 29th, as we are so anxious to hear the result of the examination. We are hoping, and at the same time feeling positively confident that it terminated favorably. If such be the case, you have by this time entered school, and have you thought that the new start you are taking in your education is just at the beginning of your 16th year, tomorrow being your birthday.

And now, dear Robbie, is a proper time to form new and good resolves for the future. I trust as this new era in your life opens up before you, you are im-

-possessed with the importance of im-
-proving the golden moments as they
fly, realizing ^{the fact} that life is a reality, and
demands earnest, self denying work,
that we may answer the end of our
being, viz, usefulness while here, and
that we may fit ourselves for a blessed
immortality beyond this life.

You will never regret in after years,
four years of faithful study, if you are
spared to go through the course.

A well cultivated mind enhances in
a great degree our enjoyment of this
life. It makes one much more attractive
in society, ~~and at the same time~~, and
at the same time renders him in-
dependent of outside influences for
his pleasure and happiness.

Your letters have been very interesting,
but we hope the next one may be more
satisfactory, in that it will tell us of
your having fitted up your room, and in

what way you have done it. You ought
to attend to this as soon as possible, as
it is of course more expensive staying at
the Hotel.

Willie left Saturday for Danville. The
Lexington girls did not go with them
him as they expected, but will leave
on Tuesday. They seem to have enjoyed
themselves very much. We had them
to spend last Monday evening, after tea,
with us. Aled Aunt Louise & Uncle
Horace with their company, Mary
McConnell, and a Miss Marshall from
Augusta. I did not invite any boys,
as I thought it would be a variety
for them to spend one evening without
them. Just before we partook of our
refreshment John Foyatz came in. He
had just returned from his trip to St.
Louis, and hearing the young ladies were
here came up to see them, but knowing
they were invited out. Willie brought

Return to BARBOUR & COCHRAN,
No. 11 Court Street, MAYSVILLE, Ky.,
If not delivered within 10 days.



Robt A Cochran Jr
Amherst
No 29. N. E. M. a. C. Mass.

They will board with Mr Merrimether,
and leave the first of next week month.
Aunt Emma thinks they can live cheap-
er there than here, but I doubt see how
that can be.

Robbie, I don't know of any ^{when} news to tell
you, your Pa sends you the papers
regularly. I hope you get them

My dear child, my thoughts are con-
stantly with you, day and night, praying
for your safekeeping both in body and
soul. If you are guided by a Heavenly
Friend and Counselor, I shall be happy,
and this guidance I trust you daily
improve. We are none of us safe
without it. Much love from all
to you. I hope to get a letter in two
or three days. Your Pa answered
your last immediately, and now
Robbie dear I must close.

Your affectionate Mother



Love

Wayville Sept 2nd 1878

My Dear Son

We were so glad to get
your last letter, though it seemed a long
time coming, as we were so anxious to
know of the result of your examination.
The letter was very satisfactory on that
point. I suppose by this time you are
fairly initiated in the workings of your
school, and hope in your next you will
be able to give us some idea, as to how
your time is divided and employed. I
want you to be systematic in every
thing, it will be a great advantage to
you, and make every thing seem easier
for you. This is one reason why we want
you to devote a part of every Sunday after-
noon for writing home. I feel, at that
time, you will have more leisure for
writing, and that your thoughts will

naturally revert more towards home.
I like to think of you writing to us at
the same time we are writing to you.

I feel as though I could scarcely wait
for the time to roll round, so that we
may go and see you. I am so anxious
to know how you are fixed.

Willie January writes that he is
comfortably located ^{with} Mrs Batterton,
and is very much pleased with what
he has seen of Danville. The news is,
that there is a case of yellow fever at
Danville, in a mild form however.

It is a young man at college from
Holly Springs, N.C., a relative of
Dr. Perkins. I expect there will come
of the disease all over the country,
there are so many refugees every where.
Is not the news from the South dread-
ful? and to think there is no probability
of a cessation of the scourge for some
time to come. The whole country is

~~not~~ responding nobly to the appeals
for help from the sufferers.

It becomes us to walk softly before the
Lord in view of his terrible judgments,
and to render him a willing and hearty
service, when we know that our lives
and destinies are entirely in his hands.

I suppose you got Willie's letter with
mine written last Sunday. We were
quite amused in reading it over, it
was so characteristic of him. We let
it go just as he wrote it, without any
correction. Your Pa has taken the
three boys down to see Aunt Louie,
and a boat at the river, brought here
to raise some coal boats sunk by the
floodwood the other night. Andrew
has gone down to see Cousin George, so
I am entirely alone.

I am going to give you a piece of news.
Your Aunt Louisa and family are
going to Louisville to spend the winter

sad case. I see from the papers there is to be a concert given under Mrs Mannen's direction for the benefit of the sufferers. Anna Douglas was just in, and sends her love, says you must answer her letter.

I heard the other day Sam Poyatz was to be married next month to Miss Underwood. Lottie has not gone to school yet. Mary Barkelow is going to Louisville to spend the winter as her Ma is going to New York to be under a physicians care.

Bobbi I must close as it is supper time. When you write dont forget to answer my questions. Every body sends love.

Love your loving
Mother

Marysville Sept. 15th 1878

My Dear Son

This is such a bright and beautiful Sabbath day. All nature has been refreshed by a beautiful rain during the past week, and this, in connection with the calm and quiet of the day, renders it very delightful. If we could but appreciate these weekly recurring Sabbaths rightly, how blessed they might become to our souls. Each one is a reminder to us of the goodness of God, in providing rest for the temporal man, and in the blessed work of our Saviour which culminated in his bursting the bonds which bound him in the tomb, and made it possible for the human soul to rise to immortal glory, through faith in his name.

and may you and I Robbi, and all that we love have an assurance of that eternal rest of which each Sabbath day is an emblem. Now you tell me in your next letter, whose church you attend, and what kind of preaching you have. I want you to cultivate an attentive habit when in church, and get all the good you can. Let me urge another thing upon you, and that is, to acquire the habit of giving, no matter how little, regularly to the church. If but five cents a week, you will have the satisfaction of feeling that much is rightly spent, and if it requires a little self-denial so much the better, as that will add to the strength of your character.

It has turned so cool since the rain, we have been sitting by a fire for several days. And it must be still colder with you. I want to know what you have to cover you at night. You must be careful

not to take cold. If you want me to send any thing in the way of bed clothing, you ought to let me know right away.

I don't like the idea of your taking a room mate. It is too soon for you to form an estimate of character. Robbi you must bear with a mother's anxieties. It is so important for the young to have the right kind of associations. I want to feel that your feet are firmly planted on the right, and that no temptation will make you swerve.

Norace has just come in to take supper with us. Aunt Louie and the children are in Fleming. He says the river has risen 25 feet since last night. I hope the weather may keep cool, so that it may have a favorable effect in the south. I believe I told you in my last letter of one of the Danville students from the South having the yellow fever. I am sorry to say he died. It was a



Robt Hochrump
Sudbury
Mass.

No. 29 N. C. W. C.

They inquired particularly for you,
and sent their love. The girls have all
gone now, I believe, but Lottie. She,
I think, has decided not to go to
Louisville until after her brother's
wedding.

I have written this letter hurriedly,
as it is about dinner time, and I
have to go to the Society this after-
noon. This is the day for your letter
to come, you don't know how anxiously
we look for it.

With love from us all, I am, my
dear Robbie, as ever,

Your affectionate Mother

Maysville Oct. 2d 1899

My Dear Son

I intended writing to you
on Sunday, but Willie was right sick,
and I was engaged nursing him. Your
Pa wrote however, and I take it for
granted you will not object to getting
another letter this week.

Willie had a spell like the one he had
some time ago, when you were at home.
He suffered very much for a day and
night, but he is over it now, and at
school.

We were quite pleased with your last
letter, you write well, and we enjoy
your letters very much. I feel better
reconciled to the idea of your having a
roommate, as I want you to keep up
your music, and of course it is more
pleasant to you to have company. You

do not describe your companion. We hope he is a young man of correct, sound habits. This should be the first consideration in selecting an intimate friend. If he should prove otherwise, we expect you to stand upon your principle of right, and influence others in the right way. I was reading, not long ago, the instructions of a grandfather to his grandson, at the time, the latter ^{left} home. My son, do what you have a mind to; be sure you have a mind to do right, and then do it, no matter what circumstances may surround you. Let no temptation make you swerve to the right or left.

This firmness of character will make you popular with the good of a community, and you will be more respected by the opposite class. And what is more, you will have the approval of your own conscience, and the smiles

of your Heavenly Father upon you.

Robbie, in your next letter, I want you to give me the width of your bed. I think I had better make you a comfort at home. I am going to make smaller sheets for you. We thought it not worth while to send them, as we expect to go and see you soon. Your Pa wrote you to get a pair of blankets; I suppose you can get them without any trouble. Have you a closet or wardrobe to hang your clothes in? If you have to hang them up outside in your room, had I not better something for you to cover them with to keep the dust from them? Who does your washing? and how is it done? There are so many things I want to know, but I cannot think of all at once.

I had a call the other day from Mary Barkelrod and Julia Chenoweth.

"How can I attain to a higher position of life?" is sometimes asked by young men. Let us say to every such young man, you can do this after this manner: Establish, through right habits, a pure and symmetrical character, continue in all things honest and truthful, keep yourself to the measure of a just judgment, hold yourself at the place which your capacities fit you for, form a moderate estimate of your importance, take a place lower than that for which you are qualified, and then you will be continually invited to go higher. And as you are thus advanced keep humble, guard against temptations, maintain a strict integrity, properly regard the responsibilities of life, and be ever mindful of your obliga-

tions to God. "Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."

Loose Item

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article of faith without a negative
is a nursery of skepticism and in
and nothing better. At the same
there is no intolerance so bitter and
ful as that of the so-called churches
faith consists in not believing.

We quote the above because it is
and because it is the language of Dr
Peabody, a Unitarian minister.
severe on Unitarianism as anything
have seen.

THE Dean of Chichester thus
appeals to Darwin and his school
second his appeal:

Ye men of science, leave me my
towers in Paradise, and I will not give
yours in the Zoölogical Gardens!

What more could the development
ry men ask than this?

Ms. A. 9. 2. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100.

Loose Item

have, I would like to know how it is conducted. You say the Pastor of the Congregational Church is dead. I suppose it is the one you have been hearing preach. Are they taking any steps to procure another, in his place?

Robbie, dear, remember you are one of Christ's flock. I pray that the Good Shepherd may keep you safely in his fold, and that no wolves in sheep's clothing may be able to separate you from his ^{love}. Heaven grant that we may all, father, mother, and children be kept through faith, unto salvation. Robbie my darling child pray with me for this, and accept the faithful love of

Your affectionate Mother

Mayville Oct. 15th 1878

My Dear Son

When I wrote my last letter to you, I thought, by the middle of this present week, we would be ready to start to Amherst. I had settled this in my own mind, from having heard your Pa say before you left home, that he thought we would be able to go about the middle of October. When talking seriously to him last week on the subject, I must confess to feeling quite disappointed, to be told that it would be impossible to leave home before November. So I can do nothing but submit, taking it for granted, that all is for the best.

I had intended taking you your shoes, but my purpose now, is, to send them, if possible, this week, with the

comfort I am having made. Last week it was quite warm, but yesterday the weather changed, and now we are sitting all day by a fire. I expect up in the mountains it is quite cool. How are you going to warm your room? with a stove or grate?

You say you have bought me comfort. If you have not gotten a blanket, had I not better bring you one?

You will require more bedclothes, than if you were at home. I expect to send you some undershirts, thinking you may need them.

Robbie, you don't tell us any thing about your studies, how you are getting along, and which you like best. What time do you study? and how long?

What time do you go to bed, and rise in the morning? I feel as though I wanted to know how every hour is occupied. Willie writes that he is

studying very hard, and is more and more pleased with Danville.

Our Aunt Emma and family have postponed their departure to Louisville for another week.

Mr Barbour has two nieces visiting him, by the name of Vick. They have been here several weeks. Their home is in Hicksburg. Friday evening they spent with us, also Lizzie & Soller, Emma and Anna Douglas, and Mr Alderson. Mrs Alderson is making a visit in Danville. Edward Ansell in Danville next week. Mr A expects to go, and will be absent next Sabbath. We had quite a large congregation this morning, as Mr Witherspoon is away.

Robbie you say nothing about the Bible class, whether you have complied with our wish that you should attend it regularly. I take it for granted you

morning. I only saw Sam across the street. Lottie stopped in Louisville on her return from the wedding, to begin school.

I don't know of any news to write you, and as it is about dark will have to close.

We sent you a pair of Hankets last week, hope they reached you safely. I was not satisfied with the Comfort. Our next letter may give you some definite idea, as to when you may expect us. Much love to you from all. With a prayer for Heaven's richest blessing upon you my darling boy,

I am,

Your affectionate Mother

Mayville Nov 3d 1878

My Dear Son

It seems a long time since I wrote you ^{my} last letter. Having company for two Sundays past prevented my writing. This, I suppose, your Pa explained to you. We had a nice visit from Cousin Lizzie and Laura. They were with us nearly two weeks.

I had never seen so much of Laura before, and I was delighted with her. I think she is a lovely girl. She and Cousin Lizzie desired me to send you their when I should write. They both said they enjoyed your visits very much. Laura said the design of her visit to Mayville was to take me home with them. I did not feel that I could enjoy a visit any where, until I had taken the long

expected trip to see you. The time for this seems still to be doubtful.

I should like to be with you Thanks-giving as it might help you to pass the time a little more pleasantly.

Has there been a day appointed in Massachusetts yet? I have seen no appointments in any of the States.

I have written to Fannie Hodge, asking her to come down and stay with the children while we are away, and also to spend the winter if it is agreeable to her.

I reckon you were disappointed in not getting your uniform. I was in hopes we would see you with it on, but you know the Catalogue said they were not to be put on until the second term.

How are you getting along with your studies? You never mention them. I wish you would write me what

you do every day, for a week, so I may know how your time is divided.

Do you have time to practise much on your flute? It is a nice time to spend your evenings, when not engaged in studying. What about your Glee Club, you spoke of organizing. I want you to cultivate your voice for singing.

We had a nice concert a short time ago given by Curriers band. The music was very fine.

We have heard but once from your Aunt Emma. Your Pa had a letter from her last ^{week}. She says Anna Douglas will have a nice winter, if it does not take too much money. Their plea for going to Louisville was, that it would be cheaper for them. This I never believed, and I expect they will make the money fly.

Sam Poyntz has returned with his bride. They were at church this

Maysville Nov 17th 1878

My Dear Son.

The boys have used up my writing paper, so that I am compelled to resort to one of your Pa's large sheets. Willie received your letter last night, and was greatly pleased with it, so much so, that he has written again this afternoon. Jamie commenced a letter too, but I don't know whether he will get it finished. He is not quite so ready with his pen as Willie. Horace enjoyed hearing your letter read. He says he does wish that winter would hurry up and be gone so that Robbie could come home. He is learning well at school, is in the Second Reader now. Miss Sallie is with and is, as you know, pleasant company. She says she promised them in Ashland to return before Christmas. I had thought it likely, she would stay with us all winter. We, that is Sallie, Lizzie Davis and myself went out one day last week to call on the bride, Sam Poyntz's wife. She is quite pretty, has a very sweet face, and very pleasant manners. I think the family are all pleased with her. We had a call from Mrs Chenoweth and Julia the other day. They both inquired

particularly for you, and send their love when I should write. Julia says she is going to write to you soon.

The time is fast approaching for us to leave home to visit you, as we expect to start tomorrow week, so as to be with you Thanksgiving day. I am afraid all the pleasant weather will have passed by that time, and that we will have a cold spell for our trip, but if all keep well, we will not let that deter us. You never say any thing about your health. I take it for granted you have been well thus far.

Did you get the box containing the jumbles and candy? I failed in each, neither the cake or candy were as good as I would like to have sent from home, but thought your sweet tooth would find them acceptable.

Well Pobbie, I reckon we will not write again, before leaving home, and till we meet, I pray, that a kind Providence will watch over us all, keeping our hearts and lives in the fear of God, and his love abiding upon us.

Miss Chalkie joins with us all in much love to you.

Your affectionate Mother,

Nov 18 78



Robt A Cochran Jr
Amherst

No 13 S. C. No. 16.

Mass.

has another daughter, and she has complimented me with the name, calling it Kaddie Cochran. The weather was so bad this afternoon, or I would have gone down to see them.

I expect you are going to have real winter with you now, but I hope you are well prepared for it. I can't help but wish your new suit was a heavier one. I forgot to tell you, when you go to use your blankets, to put them next your sheets. Don't neglect to get a rat trap, and catch those ~~rats~~ you hear prowling around you. We feel greatly pleased that we have made the trip, and found out exactly how you are located, and while we would feel better satisfied to think you had some of the comforts of home around you, perhaps the lesson of self reliance you will be compelled to learn

will be of great advantage to you. It seems a long time for us to be separated, but we have the pleasant anticipation of meeting at home again, and until then, may our desire and determination be, to walk in the path of duty, that there may be no regrets for the past. With a bushel of love to you from us all, I am lovingly,
Your Mother.

Wayville Dec 24th 1878

My Dearest Robbie

We arrived at home last night, about 8 o'clock, on the Romanza, coming through Cincinnati. It was the most pleasant route, as it enabled us to reach home earlier in the night.

We found all well, and expecting us, as your Pa dispatched from Cincinnati.

The children, servants and all inquired directly, how is Robbie? how does he look, and so on, and seemed so glad to hear from you. Andrew met us at the boat, but had to go directly to the train to meet Dr. Savage. He is here today, and holds a Union Bible service at the Baptist church tonight.

You were a dear, good boy to write so promptly after returning to Amherst.

We were anxious to hear how you got along

and were delighted to get your letter last night. You don't know how badly I felt about your going back to be alone before school opened again, and was so relieved to know that your roommate had returned so soon. I am sorry we did not meet him, and make his acquaintance. Remember us kindly to him. I hope your sojourn together will be pleasant, and your intercourse will prove of mutual advantage.

Our stay in Washington was very pleasant. I was charmed with the city. We spent the most of Thursday at the Capitol. What a magnificent structure it is; worthy of this great nation. We were at the White House, but did not see the President, as it was late in the afternoon. We were shown into the East room, also the Blue and Green room. At half past eight Friday morning, we left for Cincinnati on the

Baltimore and Ohio railroad. We found a deep snow on the mountains, which we crossed in the afternoon. The mountain scenery was certainly very grand, but the road is such a frightful one, I could not enjoy it much, and I don't believe I can be tempted to travel that road again. But there is danger every where, and we certainly ought to feel thankful to a kind Providence who granted to us a safe and pleasant journey. This morning, we beheld the ground covered with snow, but ^{it is} not very cold. We had a small congregation, owing to the weather. Dr. Beattie from Steubenville preached. He has been visiting Mrs. Nelson for several days. Our friends seemed glad to see us back again, and each one made particular inquiry for you. We were greeted last night with the news of an addition to Uncle Horace's family. Aunt Louie

Return to BANK OF MAYSVILLE,
MAYSVILLE, Ky.,
If not delivered within 10 days.

Dec 9th '78



Robt A. Cochran, Jr.
Amherst,
Mass.

M. A. C.

passages for special reading, on a slip of paper, and put in your Bible, but you ought to begin and read it regularly through. I wish you would keep it on your bureau, instead of in the book case.

We started you a box on Friday, and hope it will reach you by Christmas day, and that you will be able to enjoy its contents.

There has been no report sent us yet. If you have gotten one, would you let us see it? Perhaps they don't give them in till the end of the year.

Andrew is hurrying me to take this to the mail, so I must close. All send much love to you, and again we wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Your affectionate Mother

OXFORD

Mayeville Dec 22^d 1898

My Dear Bobbie

I have been reading some time to the children, and have not left much time for a letter to you. If you could see how I am surrounded, you would wonder that I could write at all. Imagine me in the big chair in the dining room, with my book and paper in my lap, as I usually write, Willie at my right, penning a letter to you, Horace sitting on the left arm of the chair, with his arm around my neck, watching every letter I make, and supposing whether old Pop, (he means this as a term of endearment) does not want to see some of the girls, and wishing he could see you. Gannie sits in a low chair in the corner, getting over his review questions for Sunday school, as

it is the end of the year, and every word
and then bothering me with questions,
so you see I am writing under difficulties

This has been a very cold day, about
the coldest of the season. I find myself
wondering very often about the weather
in the New England hills, and how you
are standing the cold. I am reminded
of the ^{Scotch} song, "My heart's in the Highlands"

It is quite a pleasure to me to locate
you in my mind's eye, in the different
places you pointed out when we were
with you, and I never take my seat in
church that I do not imagine you, where
I hope you will always feel it your
duty and pleasure to be, though separated
from us, engaged in the same service
in the sanctuary. Always preserve
the habit of regular attendance at
church, and cultivate an attentive ear.
I wish you would always tell me
who you hear preach, the text, and

subject of the sermon. This will help
to fix your attention. Robbie, whatever
you do, never allow yourself to forget
your obligations to your God; they are
binding upon you, and you are a re-
sponsible, accountable being. I admire
bravery of spirit, but it is not a brave
thing to allow yourself ^{to be influenced} by whatever
surrounds you, whether for good or
evil, but rather by your own free
will to promise never to yield to any
thing that may do you great harm.

Therefore set yourself as a flint
against anything of an evil tendency,
and place yourself always in a position
to receive good influences. Let me beg
of you, my dear boy, to read your
Bible, make it your guide book, it is
the only true guide. Its precepts will
lead you safely through life, and fit
you for the life to come, if followed in
the right spirit. I wrote down some

OXFORD

Maysville Dec 22nd 1878

My Dear Brother

I wrote you a letter last Saturday but I lost it. We had a real wet snow Friday night, we had a very good sleigh riding place on the side of the house and Saturday night it froze and was ice all over the parments on Sunday and a good many boys sleighrided on Sunday. Horace just then asked mama if you would not like to see some girls and take them stiff riding again. Lottie Poyntz just come home to spend Christmas. How deep is the snow on the mountains there now, and do you have much sleighriding there. Miss Sallie Hodge is going to spend Christmas here. And Willie January is going to spend Christmas at Louisville and I wish you

could come home and spend Christmas here. Mister Plane says if a Sunday School scholar is there promptly there at nine o'clock every Sunday morning all the next year from the first of January should have their name put on the roll of honor

your affectionate

brother

William Cochran

Dec 23rd '77



Robt. A. Cochran Jr.

Amherst

M. A. C. No. 13 S. C.

Mass.