Bruce Family Papers
MS-40

ABSTRACT

This collection discusses the life of a large, 19th century slave owning Covington, KY family involved in business, banking, agriculture and the Roebling Bridge construction. Discusses aspects of slavery, the Civil War, health including cholera outbreaks. Includes several early pencil drawings by Mary Bruce Sharon.

SUMMARY INFORMATION

Creators:
Alexander, Nannie Bruce
Bruce Family
Bruce, Henrietta
Bruce, Henry, Sr., 1777-1855
Bruce, Eleanor Threlkeld
Bruce, George Stubblefield
Bruce, Henry, Jr., 1811-1891
Bruce Henry C., 1831-
Bruce, Eli Metcalf
Bruce, Mary E.
Bruce, George, Jr.
Bruce, Nancy T.
Bruce, Henry W.
Bruce, James
Bruce, Lillie
Chambers, Jane
Dudley, Harriet Hackley Bruce, 1805-1883
Duke, Pauline Bruce
Green, Henrietta Bruce
Green, Richard Lashbrook, 18__-1878
Green, John
Lashbrook, Ann
Lowry, George G.
Morgan, Ann Bruce
Sharon, Frederick C.
Sharon, Mary Bruce Green
Teal, Ellen R. Bruce

Span Dates: 1816-1953, undated
Bulk Dates: 1831-1891

Extent: ___ linear feet
Languages: The materials are in English.

Repository Location: Eva G. Farris Special Collections and Schlachter University Archives, W. Frank Steely Library, Northern Kentucky University, Highland Heights, Kentucky

ACCESS POINTS

Subjects:

Names:
Alexander, Nannie Bruce
Bruce Family
Bruce, Henrietta
Bruce, Henry, Sr., 1777-1855
Bruce, Eleanor Threlkeld
Bruce, George Stubblefield
Bruce, Henry, Jr., 1811-1891
Bruce Henry C., 1831-
Bruce, Eli Metcalf
Bruce, Mary E.
Bruce, George, Jr.
Bruce, Nancy T.
Bruce, Henry W.
Bruce, James
Bruce, Lillie
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Dudley, Harriet Hackley Bruce, 1805-1883
Duke, Pauline Bruce
Green, Henrietta Bruce
Green, Richard Lashbrook, 18__-1878
Green, John
Lashbrook, Ann
Lowry, George G.
Morgan, Ann Bruce
Sharon, Frederick C.
Sharon, Mary Bruce Green
Teal, Ellen R. Bruce

Places:
Covington (Ky.)
Covington (Ky.)--Greenup Street
Covington (Ky.)—Sandford Street
RELATED MATERIALS

Other Inventories: Bruce family genealogy starting with ancestors of Henry Bruce, Sr. and continuing thru several generations of his descendants written in 2005 by archivist Jennifer Gregory, sources unknown. This document includes limited information about four of Henry Bruce Sr.’s slaves. Student employee A. Daniels created a partial(?) index to Civil War references in collection documents. Both documents are included in the NKU Digital Repository along with this finding aid.

Related Archival Materials: See books in Special Collections: Life of Henry Bruce by Harry T. Morgan for family genealogy; Scenes from Childhood by Mary Bruce Sharon for other examples of her artwork; Pieces of the Past by Jim Reis, page 58-59.

See MS-57 the Shinkle Business Papers for several documents about the Covington and Cincinnati Bridge Company and two of its presidents https://inside.nku.edu/steelyarchives/specialcollections/alphabeticalist/shinkle.html.


Existence and Location of Originals: The subgroup Henry Bruce, Jr, series IV on the Covington and Cincinnati Bridge Company includes copies of five documents from Box 4, folders 100-104. Initially the location of the originals was unknown. Per 2019/08/13 conversation with local historian/author Don Tolzman the originals are part of the John A. Roebling Papers, 1855-1859, n.d., Mss 587, Cincinnati Museum Center.

The location of the originals of Henry Bruce, Sr.’s personal correspondence, series I, is given as Virginia. Although the location of the originals for a number of other documents is unknown, this fact is recorded in the description for those documents to which it applies.

ADMINISTRATIVE/BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY

This collection includes the papers of twenty-four different members of the Bruce family of Covington, KY. across four generations. Most are blood descendants of George Bruce, Sr., although some are spouses or in-laws of descendants. The numbers in front of the names below indicate their generation relative to George
Bruce, Sr. Only those children who have papers in the collection or whose spouses have papers in the collection appear in the brief genealogy below. For a more complete listing of all children for a given couple, refer to the separate genealogy located with this finding aid in the NKU Digital Repository. In some cases the names of recipients of correspondence or relatives names in financial records have been included for clarity, but this is not an exhaustive list.

Individual biographies are included for more significant family members whose papers are found in the collection.

1. George Bruce, Sr. married Mary Stubblefield. They were the parents of Henry Bruce, Sr. and George Stubblefield Bruce, Jr.
2. Henry Bruce, Sr. (1777-1855) married Eleanor Threlkeld in 1798. Parents of George Stubblefield Bruce, Lucy Lang Bruce, Harriett Hackley Bruce, Mary Ann Bruce, Eleanor “Ellen” Bruce, Henry Bruce, Jr., James Bruce, Elizabeth Grant Bruce, Ann Bruce and Lucinda Bruce.
3. Eleanor Threlkeld Bruce (1778-1863) wife of Henry Bruce, Sr.
5. Mattie Withers Bruce (1854-unknown) married Dudley S. Reynolds, M.D. in 1881, a Yankee per Box 6 Folder 156.
7. Lucy Lang Bruce (1802-1881) married Thomas Porter in 1821.
12. Henry Bruce, Jr. (1811-1891) married his first cousin Mary E. Bruce in 1836. Parents of Pauline Bruce, Nannie Bruce, Henrietta Bruce and Lillie Ellen Bruce.
13. Mary E. Bruce (of Illinois) daughter of Nancy T. Bruce [per Box 1 Folder 19], wife of Henry Bruce, Jr., grandmother of Mary Bruce Green Sharon [per Box 6 Folder 203].
5. Mary Bruce Green (1877-1961) married Frederick C. Sharon about 1900. Frederick C. Sharon was a businessman in Kansas City, MO.
3. James Bruce (1814-1880) married Martha Johnson in unknown year. They lived in SC.
3. Elizabeth Grant Bruce (1816-1851) married Woodson B. Morgan in 1835.
3. Woodson B. Morgan (unknown) husband of Elizabeth Grant Bruce.
4. Woodson Morgan (unknown).
3. William Franklin Morgan (unknown) husband of Ann Bruce.
3. Lucinda Bruce (1821-unknown) married William Bell, M.D. in 1850.
3. William Bell, M.D. (unknown) spouse of Lucinda Bruce.
2. George Bruce, Jr. (1779-1853) married Nancy Tompkins Weaver in 1805. They lived in Sparta, GA. Parents of Lucian Pollard Bruce, Henry Weaver Bruce, George Stubblefield Bruce III, Frances “Fanny” Anders Bruce, Mary Elizabeth Bruce, Eleanor “Ellen”? Roberts Bruce and Nancy Weaver Bruce.
2. Nancy Tompkins Weaver (1787-1863) wife of George Bruce, Jr.
3. Lucian Pollard Bruce (1807-1840) married George Grant Lowry in 1829.
3. George Grant Lowry (unknown) married Lucian Pollard Bruce in 1829. After her death in 1840, he remarried in 1842 to Lucian’s sister Nancy Weaver Bruce.
3. George Stubblefield Bruce III (1810-1843) married Catharine Cochran in 1843.
3. Mary Elizabeth Bruce (1817-1882) married her first cousin Henry Bruce, Jr. in 1836. See his line for their children.
3. Eleanor “Ellen”? Roberts Bruce (1819-after 1875) married Benjamin Teal in 1836. They lived in McLean Co., IL.
3. Nancy Weaver Bruce (1821-unknown) was the second wife of George Grant Lowry, her former brother-in-law.
John Green (1801-1851) husband of Ann Green, father of “Dick” Green (John Lashbrook Green?).
Ann Lashbrook wife of John Green?
John Lashbrook uncle of Richard Lashbrook Green per Box 6 Folder 194.

Henry Bruce, Sr. (1777-1855)
Was born October 30, 1777, in Stafford County, Virginia, to George Bruce, Sr. and Mary (Stubblefield) Bruce. His father, George Bruce, Sr. died in 1778, and he and his mother went to live with her family. In 1781, Mary Bruce remarried and Henry, Sr. was sent to live with his great uncle Charles Bruce. In 1789,
Henry, Sr. left Charles to move in with his grandfather, William Bruce. William died in 1792, leaving Henry, Sr. to move back home with his mother, step-father and brother George Bruce, Jr. In 1793 Henry, Sr. ran away from home to Fleming County, Kentucky. Between 1794 and 1797, Henry, Sr., worked various farm labor jobs in Fleming County. In 1797, he purchased his first 50 acres on Johnson Creek. On January 11, 1798, he married Eleanor Threlkeld. Their first son, George S. Bruce, was born in 1800. Between 1802 and 1809, four daughters were born followed by Henry, Jr. in 1811, James Bruce in 1814, and three more daughters by 1821. By 1830, Henry Bruce, Sr., had a total of ten children, supported by three maiden aunts, he owned a number of slaves, and had a farm of more than 1,000 acres. Henry Bruce, Sr. died in 1855, and was buried on his farm in Fleming County, Kentucky.

**Henry Bruce, Jr. (1811-1891)**

Was born in 1811, in Fleming County, Kentucky, to Henry Bruce, Sr., and Eleanor (Threlkeld) Bruce. In 1830, he accompanied his father on one of his many hog drives through the South, ending in Sparta, Georgia where his uncle George S. Bruce, Jr. lived. That same year Henry, Jr. was sent to Florida to conduct more trading on his own followed in 1831 by a highly successful 2,000 mile business trading trip. Henry Bruce, Jr. married his first cousin Mary E. Bruce, daughter of George S. Bruce, Jr. In 1848 George, Jr. and his family moved into Henry, Jr.'s home in Covington, Kentucky. Henry, Jr. purchased a home (Rugby) on Sandford Street in Covington in 1853.

**Eli Metcalfe Bruce (1828-1866)**

Was born on a farm near Flemingsburg, Kentucky, on February 22, 1828, to George S. and Sabina Metcalfe Bruce. He attended local schools until 1847 when he began working at a dry goods store in Maysville, Kentucky. Shortly thereafter, he moved to northern Kentucky and worked with his uncle John S. Morgan, who owned a pork packing plant in Cincinnati, Ohio. He married Sallie Elizabeth Withers in 1853. They were the parents of Mattie Withers Bruce, George S. Bruce and Charles W. Bruce. Eli and his uncle Henry Bruce, Jr. started an iron furnace business near Terre Haute, Indiana in 1854. Five years later he sold his interest in the business. Eli was a successful businessman. Shortly before the Civil War began, he closed his northern businesses and moved them to the South. During the war he spent an estimated $400,000 of his own money supporting the Confederate cause in addition to providing other support. After the war and a presidential pardon, Eli moved to New York City where he became a cotton broker. On December 15, 1866, he died at age 38 in New York City, a victim of heart disease. His body was returned on December 19th and buried in Linden Grove Cemetery, Covington, Kentucky. In 1917, his remains were removed to Highland Cemetery, Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky and placed next to those of his wife Sallie, who died in 1915, and their daughter Mattie, who
died in 1916. The Northern Kentucky chapter of the Sons of Confederate
Veterans is named in his honor.¹

**Mary Bruce (Green) Sharon (1877-1961)**

Born in 1877 in Northern Kentucky to Richard Lashbrook Green and Henrietta
(Bruce) Green, the young Mary spent much of her childhood among her mother's
relatives in Covington, Kentucky. Following her father's death in 1878, Mary and
her mother moved in with her grandfather, Henry Bruce, Jr., then living in Kansas
City, MO. At the turn of the century she married Frederick C. Sharon, a Kansas
City businessman. In 1948, at the age of 71 Mary Bruce Sharon began her
painting career. A modern primitive, Sharon painted scenes from her Kentucky
childhood. She produced 150 paintings before her death in 1961.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT**

The Bruce Family Papers is a collection of personal correspondence; legal,
financial and business documents; and a few school records and literary works
by twenty-four family members beginning in 1816 and spanning four generations
of a large family into the 1950s. Most of the materials were created by five or six
family members between 1831 and 1891. The Bruce family was a local
Covington, KY family some of whom owned slaves and/or supported the
Confederacy. There are some unattributed genealogical materials, family photos
and unattributed literary works.

This collection provides a view on the business activities of Henry Bruce, Jr,
(1811-1891); the daily and social life of a genteel southern family; a 19th century
woman’s life; 19th century health including cholera outbreaks; Confederate views
on slavery; the perspective of one southern minister on slavery; slave sales,
news of the Civil War and its impact on southern families and businesses; land
transactions, information about 19th century banking, and business development
in the northern Kentucky/Cincinnati region including the Covington & Cincinnati
Bridge Co. (Roebling Bridge); several Kenton County Circuit Court decisions, as
well as several early pencil drawings by the famed America primitive painter
Mary Bruce Sharon.

1. Henry Bruce, Sr.

**Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing (1821, 1832, 1852-1855),**
consists of one letter to his newly married daughter Lucy giving her advice on
how to treat her husband, children and slaves. The remaining twelve letters to his
son Henry Bruce, Jr. discuss family news, health and deaths; local news; cholera
outbreaks; J.S. Morgan’s estate; livestock and crop prices; loans made by Henry,
Sr.; a property dispute among relatives; a new rail line to Maysville and turnpikes
(roads) to Flemingsburg and Helena, KY; Henry, Jr.’s purchase of the IN

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¹ Jim Reis, "Eli Bruce’s wealth aided penniless soldiers" The Kentucky Post, July 2, 1984, p. 10K.
ironworks; an escaped slave, Henry, Sr.'s slave Gilbert, his opinions of “negros”, and a neighbor’s talk of moving to IL where there are no slaves; extensive discussion on the division between free and slave states, the Missouri compromise, and Fugitive Slave Act; concern for his widowed daughter Ellen Bruce Morgan’s finances.

**Series II, Legal Records and Financial Receipts (1831-1851),** consists of documents relative to collecting loans made, several deeds or bonds for land, and several receipts.

2. Henry Bruce, Jr.

**Series I, Legal Records (1845-1862),** consists of a legal settlement from lawsuits; deed to family burial plot in Linden Grove on former land of the Western Baptist Theological Seminary, Covington, KY; decision from a Kenton County Circuit Court case; financial loan documents; land deed; assets and debts statement for iron works in IN; deed for land to widen Sandford Street, Covington; deed for sale of 3 slaves.

**Series II, Business Correspondence (1856-1858, 1866),** consists of correspondence to his nephew/business partner about the iron furnace in IN, about lot prices in Chicago; a Kenton County Circuit Court decision about Covington, KY Lot No. 47. Also includes a copy of an ad from the Southern Hotel in New York City from its new owner Henry Bruce, Jr.

**Series III, Financial Records-Checks, Receipts, Deposits (1831-1890),** consists of loan documents; Dr. J.C. Thomas’ receipt for medical treatment of Henry, Jr. slave Gilbert; 46 checks drawn on Ellis & Morton, Branch of the Northern Bank of Kentucky, Deposit Bank of Covington, Commercial Bank of Cincinnati, Third National Bank of Cincinnati, National Bank of Commerce (Kansas City, MO) and several deposit receipts; part of a document signed and sealed by a notary public; 1857 Covington, KY tax bill which includes slaves as part of what is taxed; receipt from John Lehman Confectionary, Covington, KY; 1862 military assessment bill from Union Army; partial letter discussing gold investments on Wall Street.

**Series IV, Cincinnati and Covington Bridge Company (1856-1863),** consists of Henry, Jr.’s notes on the initial bridge work and a letter about buying land; and copies of documents including a balance sheet, agreements to sell stock, Roebling’s request for his salary and discussion of businesses surrounding the bridge construction.

**Series V, Administrator of J.S. Morgan’s Estate (1856-1863),** consists of financial records related to settling J.S. Morgan’s estate as executor, including the sale of slaves.
Series VI, Regarding Richard Lashbrook Green’s Estate (1878-1882), Henry, Jr.’s role relative to his son-in-law’s is unknown, but documents consist of notification of Green’s death, funeral arrangements, information about Green’s business/financial affairs, payment of property taxes for land.

Series VII, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing (1835-1891), includes a written marriage proposal to his future wife; family news including health and deaths; financial news; the loss of one slave and death of “two negro children;” instructions to convert his Confederate money to gold due to the drop in value; the 1864 Presidential election; Henry, Jr.’s move to Covington, KY; boat travel on the Ohio; the Atlantic Telegraph Cable; Christmas gifts; a fishing trip to MN; letters with his granddaughter Mary (May) Bruce Green about school; civil war politics on the state and national scale in 1863, succession; efforts to purchase a slave impacted by Emancipation Proclamation and recent Confederate victories; an 1875 invitation for Jefferson Davis to speak at an agricultural exposition and a reflection on his life on his eightieth birthday.

Series VIII, Personal Correspondence-Incoming (1844-1864), discusses horse sales; the 1844 Presidential election; one letter is suggestive of being from a slave catcher regarding two slaves named Betty and Gilbert; family news; recent auction prices for slaves, current news of the Confederacy; hiring out of slaves; discussion of the slave market in Lexington, KY and Cincinnati, OH; KY politics and abolitionism; travel passes and loyalty oaths, the value of confederate money, Union treatment of Eli Metcalfe and Sallie Bruce’s house; 1863 possible coded letter from his niece Lucy Dorsey; a slave boy given as a gift.

3. Henrietta Bruce Green
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing (1863-1878, 1896), consists of letters sent to family discussing family news, religious revivals, local news, misses family who moved to Kansas, discussion of martial law in Cincinnati due to escape of John Hunt Morgan, the arrest of cousin Jim Chapple, social news, Christmas gifts, description of her husband’s death.

Series II, Personal Correspondence-Incoming (1866-1879, 1897, 1912, circa 1932), consists of social invitations, information about money owed to her husband, condolences on her husband’s death, admission to the Daughters of the American Revolution, notice of the death of Linden C. Alexander and request for instructions for his body.

Series III, School Work, Dance Card, DAR Membership Card (1860-1871, 1897), includes a report card from the Wesleyan Female College, a dance card and Daughters of the American Revolution membership cards.
4. Mary E. Bruce
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing (1838-1877, circa 1932), consists of letters to family members about health/illness, cholera, “paralisis” (stroke), making/preserving food, a religious meeting, a letter to her grandmother’s “Colored woman”, her new home in Covington, KY, childcare advice, family news, family marriages including to a “Yankee”, one letter gives Richard Lashbrook Green permission to marry her daughter Henrietta. Includes 1859-60 Wesleyan Female College annual catalog and Mary’s obituary.

5. Mary (May) Bruce Green Sharon
Series I, Personal Correspondence (1885-1937), consists of both outgoing and incoming correspondence.

Series II, Schoolwork (1885-1890s), consists of school compositions.

Series III, Artwork (early 1920s, 1948), consists of several circa 1920s pencil sketches, and information on painting values from a museum.

6. Eleanor Threlkeld Bruce
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing (1835), consists of a partially burned letter to Mary E. Bruce.

7. George S. Bruce
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing (1857, 1893), consists of letters to family about health, finances; deaths of a family slave, friends; crops; inquires about the Covington and Cincinnati Bridge, land speculation in IL; discusses the new bank he forms with Henry Bruce, Jr. Includes a program for a family dinner after George S. Bruce’s death.

8. Eli Metcalfe Bruce
Series I, Business Correspondence-Outgoing (1853-1856), consists of correspondence to Henry Bruce, Jr. about their iron furnace business in IN.

9. Henry C. Bruce
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing (1857, 1878, 1881), consists of three letters to family with news of Henry C. Bruce’s businesses, the impact of the poor economy in Lafayette, IN on new construction, the death of Richard Lashbrook Green, description of land Green owned in NC, news of friends.

Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing (1857), consists of a letter from Harriet and her husband to her brother Henry Bruce, Jr. about the purchase of a steam engine for a saw mill, and Harriet and Henry’s mother’s health.
11. Pauline Bruce  
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing (1853-1879), consists of letters to family describing new home and its lot; Henry Bruce, Jr. and Eli Bruce going to look at land; steamboat and train travel; iron furnace production; arrival of Mr. Helm, new preacher from Mayslick and his slaves; description of the sites in the White Mountains in NH; family news, thank-you for Christmas presents; health; war news from TN; copy of and history of poem “The Rebel's Dream”; the “loss” of local slaves, recruitment of negro troops, the capture of a cousin at Cynthiana, KY; President Lincoln’s assassination and fear of government reprisals against the South.

12. Nannie Bruce  
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing (1891-1892), consists of a note about a trunk of clothes and a letter to her niece about the upcoming summer school vacation.

13. Frederick C. Sharon  
Series I, Personal Correspondence (1904, 1939-1941), consists of undated Thanksgiving thoughts, several love letters to his wife one accompanying an anniversary gift, two letters about the sale of land in NC, and Sharon’s birth certificate.

14. Richard Lashbrook Green  
Series I, Business Records (1873-1882), consists of property records, expenses for three houses in Kansas City, MO, and a letter with business news.

15. Lillie Bruce  
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing (1874-1877), consists of two letters with family news, particularly mentioning cousin Mattie Bruce who doesn’t seem on good terms with Lillie’s family, possibly due to her marriage to a “Yankee.”

16. James Bruce  
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing (1869), consists of a family letter discussing farming, the trouble of employing a free negro, local business attempts, and predictions for the South and its people.

17. Ann Bruce Morgan  
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing (1892), consists of fragment of a letter relating the death of Henry Bruce, Jr.

18. George Bruce, Jr.  
Series I, Legal Record and Personal Correspondence (1816, 1822), consists of an indenture for land in Sparta, GA and a letter to his wife.
19. Nancy T, Bruce  
**Series I, Personal Correspondence (1835-1837, 1851),** consists of outgoing and incoming correspondence about health and family news.

20. George G. Lowry  
**Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing (1857),** consists of two letters to Henry Bruce, Jr. about hogs, crops, health, particularly of Henry’s mother-in-law Mary who is visiting the Lowrys and requests instructions for disposition of Mary’s body should she die.

21. Henry W. Bruce  
**Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing (1844-1849),** consists of two letters to family about health, marriages, the Whigs and Democrats, President Polk’s election, the Sons of Temperance, activity as a Mason, opinions on religion.

22. Ellen R. Teal  
**Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing (1856, 1882),** consists of two letters to family about food production, social news, her sister’s death and family news.

23. John Green  
**Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing (1847-1859),** consists primarily of letters to his wife Ann, mentions travel by boat, the purchase of house furnishings, cholera fears. Includes request for instructions for John Green’s headstone, and writs for his debts; 1859 tax receipt with value of taxable estate.

24. Ann Lashbrook  
**Series I, Personal Correspondence-Incoming (circa 1830-1836),** consists of correspondence from Jane Chambers and Charlotte J. Duke.

25. Family Genealogy, History, Photos (undated), consists of handwritten, typed or newspaper clippings of Bruce family genealogy, two family recollections and miscellaneous photos.

26. Partially Identified Correspondence (1854-1921, undated), partially identified family correspondence.

27. Unattributed Stories and Poems (undated), typed or handwritten copies of unattributed works.

28. Notebook, Social Invitations, and Recipe (circa 1860s), includes an annotated souvenir notebook of New York City, several social invitations and a pudding recipe.
29. Unidentified Receipts, Political Convention, Roebling Bridge (1863, 1928, 1953), two receipts, two tickets to the 1928 Republican National Convention in Kansas City and a 1953 news clipping about the Roebling Bridge.

SYSTEM OF ARRANGEMENT

Papers have been rearranged intellectually but not physically within the boxes. Individuals with the most significant bodies of papers are described first followed by the papers of the remaining family members organized by generation following the same sequence as the biographical history list. Five series at the end are grouped by format: family genealogy, correspondence, creative works, social items and leftovers. Personal correspondence has been separated from legal and/or business papers.

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS AND USE

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Preferred Citation: [Box #, Folder #], MS-40 Bruce Family Papers, Eva G. Farris Special Collections, W. Frank Steely Library, Northern Kentucky University.

ACQUISITION AND APPRAISAL

Immediate Source of Acquisition: Accession M1981-1010

NOTES

Processing Information: processed by Staff, 2005. All documents were interfiled chronologically regardless of creator. Some documents were flattened and enclosed in mylar requiring storage in larger boxes causing gaps in the chronological sequence of letter or legal sized boxes. Papers were digitized and partially transcribed in 2007. Intellectual rearrangement of collection by creator 2008 by Lois Hamill. Finding aid migrated to new template fall 2014 by L. Hamill. DACS compliant Finding aid completed June 2020 by L. Hamill.

CONTAINER LISTING
1. Henry Bruce, Sr.
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing

24 September 1821 - TL - Henry Bruce, Sr. [Fleming Co., KY] to Lucy L. Bruce Porter [Fleming Co., KY]. Bruce gives his newly married daughter advice on attaining a happy and successful life, including how to treat her husband, her children, and her slaves. Original is believed to be housed in Virginia. Box 1, folder 2

10 December 1832 - TL - Henry Bruce, Sr. [Fleming Co., KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Sparta, GA]. Conveys the news of the death of Mary Ann Bruce, discusses other local news (cholera has subsided) and business concerns, and cautions on traveling with money. Original is believed to be housed in Virginia. Box 1, folder 7

14 July 1852 - TL - Henry Bruce, Sr. [Fleming Co., KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY] Mentions paperwork necessary for handling the estate of J.S. Morgan. Also mentions the latest outbreak of cholera in Flemingsburg, KY. Original is believed to be housed in Virginia. Box 2, folder 43

4 January 1853 - TL - Henry Bruce, Sr. [Fleming Co., KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. Discusses his ailing brother, the health of himself and his wife, cattle and livestock prices, and a disagreement between Woodson Morgan and Mr. Porter over the ownership of a farm. Original is believed to be housed in Virginia. Box 2, folder 45

12 January 1853 - TL - Henry Bruce, Sr. [Fleming Co., KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. Bruce discusses the illnesses and death among his neighbors, as well as where to inter his dying brother. Original is believed to be housed in Virginia. Box 2, folder 46

1 March 1853 - TL - Henry Bruce, Sr. [Fleming Co., KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. Most of this concerns the various notes held by Bruce, Sr. and on the possible interest due. An escaped slave is also mentioned. Original is believed to be housed in Virginia. Box 2, folder 47

29 March 1853 - TL - Henry Bruce, Sr. [Fleming Co., KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. The letter details all of Bruce, Sr.’s involvement in the property dispute between Mr. Porter and the estate of J.S. Morgan. Original believed to be housed in Virginia. Box 2, folder 48

18 May 1853 - TL - Henry Bruce, Sr. [Flemingsburg, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. Mentions a carriage he wishes to purchase, visits from friends and relatives, and what he wishes done with the payment for a note he holds for the late J.S. Morgan. Also mentions new rail lines to Maysville and a new section of turnpike to Flemingsburg. Original believed to be housed in Virginia. Box 2, folder 51

31 October 1853 - TL - Henry Bruce, Sr. [Fleming Co., KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. The rail line has been suspended due to lack of funds, but the turnpike to Helena is nearly
finished. Bruce, Sr. also writes about the lawsuit involving Thomas Porter and the J.S. Morgan estate. Porter will get a valuable farm, but is suffering severe losses from a "House" failure in Cincinnati. News of friends, family and neighbors; livestock and crop prices, and Bruce, Jr.'s purchase of an Indiana ironworks are also mentioned. Original is believed to be housed in Virginia. Box 2, folder 53

12 April 1854 - TL - Henry Bruce, Sr. [Fleming Co., KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. Conveys the news from Sparta, GA as well as the local news, including a neighbor who "talks of selling and going to Illinoise wher there is no Slaves". Thomas Porter has sold the Morgan farm. The current state of Ellen Bruce Morgan and her finances are discussed. Bruce, Sr. also mentions his slaves, including Gilbert, and his opinions on "Negros" overall. Original is believed to be housed in Virginia. Box 2, folder 56

20 April 1854 - TL - Henry Bruce, Sr. [Fleming Co., KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. Most of the letter concerns financial matters relating to the final disposition of the J.S. Morgan estate. Original is believed to be housed in Virginia. Box 2, folder 58

29 April 1854 - TL - Henry Bruce, Sr. [Fleming Co., KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. After mentioning the Morgan estate and crop prices, Bruce, Sr. writes extensively on the division between free states and slave states, the Missouri Compromise and the Fugitive Slave Act, before returning to the subject of the Morgan estate. The slave Gilbert is again mentioned. Original is believed to be housed in Virginia. Box 2, folder 59

22 March 1855 - TL - Henry Bruce, Sr. [Fleming Co., KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. Bruce, Sr. worries about his daughter Ellen Bruce Morgan and the Morgan finances. He also congratulates Bruce, Jr. and Pauline on joining the Baptist church. Original is believed to be housed in Virginia. Box 3, folder 65

**Series II, Legal Records and Financial Receipts**

4 November 1831 - ADS - Legal document [Columbus, GA] filed by Henry Bruce, Sr., and Thomas Porter against Mills & Perry for the sum of $1,615. Their promissory note had gone unpaid by 1 November 1831. Box 1, folder 5

28 May 1844 - ADS - Indenture for 239 1/2 acres of land in Fleming County, Kentucky, between Henry Bruce, Sr., and Henry Bruce, Jr. Signed by Henry Bruce, Sr., although the document is not in his hand. Box 1, folder 23

24 October 1845 - ADS - Copy of a bond between Dr. George G. Lowry and Henry Bruce, Sr. Henry, Jr., had sold the farm he purchased from his father to Lowry. The bond was against the dowry of Mrs. Henry Bruce, Sr., in the event of his death. Box 1, folder 27

7 April 1851 - ANS - Notice of a deed for 239 1/2 acres from Henry Bruce, Sr., to Henry Bruce, Jr., dated October 1845 in the [county ?] clerk's office. Box 2, folder 37
15 January 1832 - ADS - Henry Bruce, Sr.'s receipt for his room and board at the United States Hotel, Augusta, GA. The receipt is signed by the proprietor, William G. Grimes. Box 1, folder 6

26 March 1834 - ANS - Thomas T. Arnold to Henry Bruce. Receipt of $97.40 from Bruce through John S. Morgan. Box 1, folder 11

December 1838 - ANS - James B. Shockey & Co. to Henry Bruce, Sr. Receipt for $20.84 1/2 for lumber purchased on December 11 and December 27, 1838. Notes of other financial transactions are written on the reverse. Box 1, folder 21

2. Henry Bruce, Jr.
Series I, Legal Records
21 February 1845 - ADS - Legal settlement between Henry Bruce, Jr., and George G. Lowry. Mentions legal cases involving Jack Downing and William D. Hasper [?]. Bruce is being released from all liabilities for costs involved in the suit. Box 1, folder 26

9 April 1852 - DS - Deed for family burial plot in Linden Grove Cemetery, Covington, Kentucky. Plot was from the land owned by the Western Baptist Theological Seminary, Covington, Kentucky. Box 2, folder 41

January 1855 - TD - Decision of the Kenton County Circuit Court (KY) in Thomas H. Porter vs. Henry Bruce, Jr. The court ruled in favor of Bruce. Box 3, folder 62

9 January 1855 - ADS - Note of Woodson Morgan for $400.00 to be paid to Henry Bruce, Jr., on February 1, 1855. This appears to be the original noted in the document in Folder 64. Box 3, folder 63

9 January 1855 - ADS - Promissory note for Woodson Morgan held by Henry Bruce, Jr. This document notes that it is a copy, and that the original document was given to Woodson Morgan. Box 3, folder 64

24 September 1855 - ADS - Land deed between Henry Bruce, Jr., and Eli M. Bruce, in consideration of $1.00 for land in Vermillion County, Indiana. Box 3, folder 68

14 January 1856 - ADS - Statement of debts and assets of Henry Bruce, Jr., and Eli M. Bruce for their iron furnace in Vermillion County, Indiana. Box 3, folder 70

19 July 1859 - ADS - Deed in the amount of $1.00 between Henry Bruce, Jr., Thomas Bird, and the City of Covington, Kentucky, for land to widen an alley east of Greenup Street to extend Sandford Street. Box 4, folder 105

18 December 1862 - ADS - Deed of slave sale by Henry Bruce, Jr. The sum of $1350 was paid for a slave called Louisa and two children, Henry and Garret. Box 4, folder 113
Series II, Business Correspondence

19 July 1856 - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY], to Eli M. Bruce [Vermillion County, IN?]. Business letter including information on debts, credits, interest, the possible sale of the business, and Henry's interest in selling his share in the business. Box 3, folder 72

28 August 1856 - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY], to Eli M. Bruce [Vermillion County, IN?]. Angry letter from Henry regarding Eli's protest at his selling of his shares in the iron furnace business. Post script note about John Roebling arriving that morning; with the supplies on hand, work on the bridge should begin immediately. Box 3, folder 74

21 January 1857 - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY] to Eli M. Bruce [Indiana Furnace, IN]. Henry has chosen R. H. Ransom to arbitrate the disagreement between himself and Eli over the sale of the iron furnace business. Much interesting detail about the origin of the disagreement and the possible solution. Box 3, folder 78

8 April 1857 - ALS - W. M. King [Shelbyville, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. Business letter with much detailed information about the price of lots in Chicago, from where he has just returned. Mention of the city of Chicago creating a park and building a canal from the river to the lake very near the lots that are for sale. Box 3, folder 79


11 November 1858 - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY] to Eli M. Bruce. Henry has sold a promissory note to the Branch Northern Bank of Kentucky from Eli because he has not paid him what is due. Box 4, folder 95

SOUTHERN HOTEL [669 & 679 Broadway, New York City, NY].
1 June 1866 - Photocopy of an advertisement for the Southern Hotel [669 & 679 Broadway, New York City, NY]. It is a printed document with an engraving of the hotel and a message from its new proprietor, Henry Bruce, Jr. Location of original is unknown. Box 5, folder 138

undated - Business cards for Henry Bruce (Southern Hotel) and Mme. Mears. Box 8, folder 261

Series III, Financial Records-Checks, Receipts, Deposits
22 February 1831 - AN - Note dated Apalachicola Bay, Florida. A column of numbers with amount received, paid out, and balance left. Names on the note are: Henry Bruce, H. Bruce, G. L. Bruce, James D. Bruce, James D. Bruce, and G. L. Bruce. Signature of Henry Bruce, Jr., appears under the final balance. Box 1, folder 4

11 January 1838 - ANS - Promissory note of John S. Morgan to Henry Bruce, Jr., for $300. A later addition notes that the loan was never repaid. Box 1, folder 20

25 May 1854 - ANS - Dr. J. C. Thomas' receipt for medical attendance on Gilbert, a slave of Henry Bruce, Jr. Box 2, folder 60

All of the following are in Box 2, folder 40:
- Three checks drawn on Ellis & Morton [Cincinnati, OH] dated 3 March, 16 March, and 5 December 1852
- Five checks drawn on Branch of the Northern Bank of Kentucky, at Covington dated 23 March, 24 July (2 checks), 8 August, and 14 August 1854
- Five checks drawn on Branch of the Northern Bank of Kentucky, at Covington and Branch Farmers' Bank of Kentucky, at Covington dated 13 September, 25 September, 9 October, 24 October, and 28 October 1854
- Three checks drawn on Branch of the Northern Bank of Kentucky, at Covington dated 29 November, 1 December, and 8 December 1854
- Three checks drawn on Branch Farmers' Bank of Kentucky, at Covington dated 11, 25 and 31 January 1855
- One check drawn on Branch of the Northern Bank of Kentucky, at Covington dated 31 January 1855
- Four checks drawn on Branch of the Northern Bank of Kentucky, at Covington dated 3 February, 13 March, 28 March and 29 March 1855
- Four checks drawn on Branch of the Northern Bank of Kentucky, at Covington and Branch Farmers' Bank of Kentucky, at Covington dated 5 April, 24 April, 6 August, and 25 August 1855
- Three checks drawn on Branch of the Northern Bank of Kentucky, at Covington and Branch Farmers' Bank of Kentucky, at Covington dated 19 September, 22 September, and 15 October 1855
- One check drawn on Branch of the Northern Bank of Kentucky, at Covington dated 23 October 1855
- Two checks drawn on Branch of the Northern Bank of Kentucky, at Covington and Branch Farmers' Bank of Kentucky, at Covington dated 3 and 15 November 1855
- Three checks drawn on Branch of the Northern Bank of Kentucky, at Covington dated 28 June, 1 July, and 3 July 1857
- Three checks drawn on the Deposit Bank of Covington and an unknown institution dated 4 February, 5 April, and 6 August 1858
- One check drawn on the Commercial Bank of Cincinnati dated 17 February 1859
- One check drawn on an unknown institution dated 19 September 1866
- Three checks drawn on Third National Bank of Cincinnati (paid to the Ocean National
Bank) and unknown institutions dated 22 September, 24 September, and 8 October 1866
-Three receipts dated 25 October (two receipts) and 5 December 1866
-One check drawn on the National Bank of Commerce [Kansas City, MO], deposited with the Bank of Grand Avenue [Kansas City, MO], and dated 15 July 1890
-undated - Bottom piece of a document signed and sealed by a notary public.

19 June 1857 - DS - Tax bill to Henry Bruce, Jr., from the city of Covington, Kentucky. Of interest is the $1,200 value of the slaves and the total value of the estate is $21,525. Box 3, folder 84

5 January 1858 - DS - Receipt to Henry Bruce, Jr., from John Lehman Confectionary [sic], Covington, Kentucky. Total bill of $20.95 for black cake, pound cake, basket of cakes, candy, ice cream, jelly, sardines, and oysters, which were delivered on January 1st. Box 4, folder 90

4 October 1862 - DS - Receipt of military assessment on Henry Bruce, Jr. by the Union Army, payable at the Odd Fellows Hall, Covington, KY. Box 4, folder 112

13 August 1864 - ADS - Photocopy of a deposit receipt for Henry Bruce, Jr. from the Bank of Montreal [Toronto, Canada]. Location of original is unknown. Box 5, folder 133

27 August 1864 - ADS - Deposit receipt for Henry Bruce, Jr. from the Ontario Bank [Toronto, Canada]. Box 5, folder 134 and digital file bruce5f134a.jpeg

1864? - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr., probably to his wife, Mary E. Bruce. This letter fragment included with the deposit receipt mentions confidential accounts and gold investments on Wall Street. Box 5, folder 134 and digital file bruce5f134b.jpeg

undated - Miscellaneous notes and receipts of Henry Bruce Jr. on scraps of paper. Box 8, folder 260

Series IV, Cincinnati and Covington Bridge Company

2 October 1856 - AN - Notes by Henry Bruce, Jr., on the initial work for the Covington and Cincinnati Suspension Bridge indicating date of excavation for the towers and when the first log was laid for the tower foundations. Box 3, folder 75

16 February 1859 - AD - Photocopy of the balance sheet for the Covington & Cincinnati Bridge Company. Location of original unknown. See Existence and Location of Originals field. Box 4, folder 100

9 March 1859 - ALS - John A. Roebling [Covington, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. Photocopy of original letter authorizing Bruce to purchase $750 worth of Covington
& Cincinnati Bridge Company stock on the account of Roebling. Location of original unknown. See Existence and Location of Originals field. Box 4, folder 101

19 April 1859 - AL - Photocopy of agreement of the Board of Directors for the Covington & Cincinnati Bridge Company to contract a stock deal with John A. Roebling. The board was composed of Miles Greenwood, President, Amos Shinkle, N. B. Stephens, and Thomas Sherlock, Directors. Location of original unknown. See Existence and Location of Originals field. Box 4, folder 102

4 May 1859 - ALS - Photocopy of agreement by the Board of Directors for the Covington & Cincinnati Bridge Company for sale of stock to John A. Roebling and Henry Bruce, Jr. Location of original unknown. See Existence and Location of Originals field. Box 4, folder 103

16 July 1859 - ALS - John A. Roebling [Pittsburgh, PA] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. Photocopy letter regarding $750 owed to Roebling by the Covington & Cincinnati Bridge Company for salary. Location of original unknown. See Existence and Location of Originals field. Box 4, folder 104

[Winter 1859?] - ALS - John A. Roebling [Pittsburgh, PA?] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. Photocopy of fragmentary letter regarding general business surrounding the bridge construction. Mentions that the prospects in New York "are not very flattering." Location of original unknown. Box 4, folder 107

6 January 1863 - ALS - J.G. Hickman [Maysville, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. Mentions sale of Suspension Bridge stock, and requests that Bruce find a purchaser for the property of a Mr. Ransom. Box 4, folder 114

Series V, Administrator of J.S. Morgan’s Estate

4 November 1856 - ANS - Promissory note of John J. Morgan and Ellen Morgan to George W. Morgan for $60.00 due January 1, 1857. Box 3, folder 76

3 November 1858 - ADS - Two duplicate receipts on the estate of J.S. Morgan with Henry Bruce, Jr., as administrator. Box 4, folder 94

12 November 1858 - ADS - Receipt signed by W. P. Dorsey and Lucy M. Dorsey for $938.09, from the sale of slaves. Henry Bruce, Jr., was the administrator of J.S. Morgan’s estate. Box 4, folder 96

12 November 1858 – ADS – Receipt signed by John Dougherty and Benjamin F. Edwards for any services rendered by Henry Bruce, Jr., as the administrator of J.S. Morgan’s estate. Box 4, folder 97.
12 November 1858 - ADS - Two receipts for $938.09 each signed by John Dougherty on behalf of his wards Ellen Morgan and Bruce Morgan, to Henry Bruce, Jr., as administrator of J.S. Morgan's estate. Box 4, folder 97

26 June 1863 - ADS - Promissory note to Henry Bruce, Jr. from Ellen and George W. Morgan in relation to the J.S. Morgan estate. Box 4, folder 118

26 June 1863 - ADS - Refund note by Lucy M. Dorsey and George W. Morgan on the estate of J.S Morgan. Box 4, folder 119

26 June 1863 - ADS - Refund of bond related to the J.S. Morgan estate. Box 4, folder 120

26 June 1863 - ANS - A receipt for money paid to Ellen Morgan as part of the settlement in the lawsuit between the J.S. Morgan estate and Thomas Porter. Box 4, folder 120a

Series VI, Regarding Richard Lashbrook Green’s Estate

20 August 1878 - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Kansas City, MO] to Henry C. Bruce [Cincinnati, OH]. Conveys the news of Richard Lashbrook Green's death and gives instructions for the funeral in Covington, KY. Box 6, folder 183

20 August 1878 - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Kansas City, MO] to Henry C. Bruce [Cincinnati, OH]. Continued funeral arrangements for Richard Lashbrook Green. Box 6, folder 185

20 August 1878 - AN - Listing of expenses for the transport and burial of Richard Lashbrook Green. Included is a note from the attending physician certifying that Green did not die of a contagious disease. Box 6, folder 186

21 August 1878 - ALS - J.G. Hickman [Maysville, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. Hickman conveys his sympathy, and details Richard Lashbrook Green's business dealings that were known to him. Box 6, folder 187

31 August 1878 - ALS - J.G. Hickman [Maysville, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Kansas City, MO]. Hickman conveys further information on the affairs of Richard Lashbrook Green and what it may mean for his widow and daughter. Box 6, folder 188


4 January 1881 - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Kansas City, MO] to J.W. Hennesa. Bruce is paying the property tax for 640 acres of land from Richard Lashbrook Green's estate. Box 6, folder 197
23 February 1881 - AN - Financial details from the estate of Richard Lashbrook Green. Box 6, folder 199

28 July 1882 - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Kansas City, MO] to a county judge [Cherokee Co., NC]. Bruce is attempting to pay property taxes on the land owned by his late son-in-law, Richard Lashbrook Green. He has not received a response to his inquiries among a number of county officials, and now turns to the judge for help. Box 6, folder 202

Series VII, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing

19 April 1835 - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Charleston, SC] to Mary Bruce [Sparta, GA]. Written prior to their marriage, he discusses his journey from Sparta to Charleston. News of his sister Elizabeth’s marriage to W. B. Morgan, brother of John S. Morgan who married his sister, Eleanor. Marriage proposal by Henry with indication of a rival, Lewis H. Mentions his bacon shipment being delayed due to ice in the Ohio River. Box 1, folder 12

4 December 1835 - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Washington, GA], to Mary Bruce [Elizaville, KY]. Love letter from Henry. Response from him of her news of weddings of several of his friends. News of two weddings in Sparta, Georgia. Financial prospects for selling his hogs and horses; the horses are ill and he is not hopeful of selling them. Box 1, folder 16


24 March 1855 - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY], to George S. Bruce. Copy of letter to his brother. Business dealings; no detail. Mentions the loss of his father-in-law, his daughter "Frank", and "two negro children" in the five years since they have lived in Covington. He is pleased, though, with the move to Covington, but advises George to remain where he is if he is, indeed, satisfied. Box 3, folder 66

30 April 1858 - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Uniontown, KY], to Pauline Bruce [Covington, KY]. Henry is on board the steamer, Diana, and describes the trip over the falls at Louisville. He visited Jim Porter (the "Celebrated Ky Giant") at Porter’s grocery store in Louisville. At Louisville they take on a number of Presbyterian preachers traveling to a national assembly in New Orleans, among whom are _____ Breckinridge and _____ Rice. Mentions that he has been speaking with a young United States Navy lieutenant from the steam ship, Susquehena {sp?}, which had yellow fever on board when it recently arrived in New York. The lieutenant has showed Henry pieces and parts of the
Atlantic Telegraph Cable. The boat has stopped at Hawesville, Evansville, Owensboro, and Paducah. Box 4, folder 91

26 January 1863 - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY] to Dr. William Bell. Civil War politics both on a national and state scale are discussed. There is a hint that other states may secede from the Union and join the Confederacy. Henry Bruce is also attempting to purchase a slave girl from Dr. Bell, but the Emancipation Proclamation and recent Confederate victories have driven up prices. Box 4, folder 115

28 September 1864 - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Bancroft House, New York City, NY] to his wife, Mary Bruce [Covington, KY]. Bruce mentions his poor financial circumstances and his loss of another slave. He urges his wife to sell some property in Covington, as real estate is doing much better there than in New York. He also orders his Confederate money exchanged for gold immediately, as the value of the currency continues to drop. Bruce discusses the upcoming presidential election, and mentions the possibility of moving from Covington to Cincinnati, though he hopes it will not be necessary. Interestingly, he mentions receiving a neighbor's letter via Canada. Box 5, folder 135

6 January 1865 - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Madison Square Hotel, New York City, NY] to his daughter, Nannie Bruce [Covington, KY]. Consists mainly of family news. Box 5, folder 137

12 June 1869 - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Maltby House, 23 Great Jones St., New York, NY] to his brother, James Bruce. Discusses his financial trouble, and the possibilities of moving back into the country. Mostly family news. Box 5, folder 147

29 June 1870 - AL - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Cincinnati, OH] to his daughter, Nannie Bruce Alexander. Words of affection for a distant daughter, and some family news. Box 6, folder 154

5 January 1875 - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Kansas City, MO] to Henrietta Bruce Green and Lillie Bruce [Covington, KY]. Gives local news. [Last page(s) missing] Box 6, folder 170

19 August 1875 - AL - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Kansas City, MO] to Jefferson Davis [Memphis, TN]. This is the rough draft of a letter inviting Davis to speak at a local agricultural exposition and to stay at Bruce’s hotel. Box 6, folder 173

5 September 1875 - ALS - Jefferson Davis [Memphis, TN] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Kansas City, MO]. Photocopy of letter from Davis excepting the invitation to stay at Bruce’s hotel. Eli M. Bruce is mentioned. Location of original is unknown. Box 6, folder 174

13 September 1875 - AL - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Kansas City, MO] to Jefferson Davis [Memphis, TN]. This is the rough draft of a letter expressing disappointment that Davis had to lodge elsewhere in the city. Box 6, folder 175
29 January 1885 - TL - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Kansas City, MO] to Ann Bruce Morgan. Contains the news of Pauline Bruce Duke's death, as well as other family news. Location of original unknown. Box 6, folder 204

25 December 1885 - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr.[Kansas City, MO] to Nannie Bruce Alexander. Bruce feels that death is near and send a farewell poem to his daughter as well as a newspaper clipping (which is included). A postscript mentions the Christmas gifts and wishes sent. Box 6, folder 206

4 April 1891 - AL - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Kansas City, MO] to Mary (May) Bruce Green. Bruce is glad she appreciated the dictionary he sent her, and the strawberries sent by her Aunt Lillie. The last page(s) of the letter is missing. Box 7, folder 209

26 July 1891 - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr. ["Prior Lake", MN] to Nannie Bruce Alexander and Henrietta Bruce Green. Bruce is enjoying his fishing trip, and writes in honor of his own eightieth birthday. Box 7, folder 210

26 October 1891 - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Kansas City, MO] to Mary (May) Bruce Green [Eureka Springs, AR]. Bruce admonishes his granddaughter to learn all she can in school. He also conveys the news of the death of his sister, Eleanor Bruce Morgan. Box 7, folder 213

16 November 1891 - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Kansas City, MO] to Henrietta Bruce Green [Eureka Springs, AR]. Family news and pride over a well-written letter from May Bruce Green. Box 7, folder 216

29 November 1891 - ALS - Henry Bruce, Jr. [Kansas City, MO] to May Bruce Green [Eureka Springs, AR]. Bruce sends her a Thanksgiving poem, and comments on a drawing she sent in her last letter. Box 7, folder 217

26 July 1891 - AL - Henry Bruce, Jr. reflects on his life on the day of his eightieth birthday. Box 7, folder 211

Series VIII, Personal Correspondence-Incoming

2 November 1844 - ALS - E. M. Burtone [Washington, GA] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Flemingsburg, KY]. Complains about Henry's brother, James, for bringing inferior horses to sell in Washington. Prices for "our staple commodity" in "square bales" [probably hemp]. Political news about Georgia sending Democrats to Congress and fear that Georgia will support James K. Polk. Not concerned about his area of Kentucky in politics, but worry over the western and southern portion of the state. Strong belief in Henry Clay's ability to become President. Lengthy description for a pair of bay horses he wants to purchase from Bruce and when he needs them. Box 1, folder 24
12 July 1858 - ALS - E. R. Phillips [Maysville, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. Mentions that he has fallen in with "a darkey preacher from Canada by the name of Mitchel". Mitchel, according to Phillips, was at Detroit and Windsor when he was there. Mitchel was on board the Caladonia [sp?] and came up to Ripley. Phillips notes that he has "improved the opportunity to gain all the information I could from him as he is well acquainted with the Parties in whom we are interested[,] he informs me that they have moved to Malden". On the back of the letter in Henry’s handwriting is "E. R. Phillips / subject, Betty & Gilbert / July 12/58." This letter has overtones that Phillips may have been a slave catcher; the fact that Betty and Gilbert are identified only by their first names is also indicative that this is about runaway slaves. Box 4, folder 92

4 February 1862 - ALS - William P. Bruce [Carlisle, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. Receipt of a check is acknowledged. The letter mentions family in the South, and the lack of communication do to the war. Cousin Pauline’s upcoming wedding and other family news are also mentioned. Box 4, folder 110

14 July 1862 - ALS - Anthony Kilgore [Fernleaf, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. Lists the prices for slaves recently sold at auction. Details the current state of the Confederacy as reported by a visiting "Rebel acquaintance". Also includes some Kilgore family news. Box 4, folder 111

29 January 1863 - ALS - Saul H. Clay to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. The renting of a farm and the hiring out of slaves is discussed. Box 4, folder 116

21 June 1863 - ALS - Rev. S.L. Helm [Lexington, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. Rev. Helm mentions a sermon he wrote during his recent imprisonment and offers to deliver it for the ill Nancy Bruce at her church, or at her funeral "if she cant get out". He writes that Henry Bruce is assured of finding slaves at a good price if he can send an agent to Lexington. He also mentions that Greater Cincinnati is becoming a booming slave market. Kentucky politics and "infidel abolitionism" are also discussed. Box 4, folder 117

27 July 1863 - ALS - Anthony Kilgore [Fernleaf, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. Despite the news that "the rebellion is virtually ended", Kilgore believes that this is merely to increase enlistment in the Union army and that the war will not end soon. He also mentions passes needed to go South, and the lack of slaves for sale that Bruce may find suitable. Box 5, folder 122

16 October 1863 - ALS - James H. Bruce [Nashville, TN] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. James Bruce mentions that he is working for the Nashville Union, an abolitionist newspaper, because it was the only job he could find. He discusses procuring travel passes and the need to swear a loyalty oath, something he has avoided because of his newspaper employment. He finds this amusing as "there are only two Union men in the office". The present worth of Confederate money is discussed, as both possess such currency. James also updates his cousin on Ely and Sally Bruce who barely escaped
before General Bragg's army. Bragg used their house for his headquarters. The house
was burned after General Rosecrans arrived. Box 5, folder 126

3 December 1863 - ALS Lucy M. Dorsey [Carlisle, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington,
KY]. The letter contains only family news conveyed in an odd fashion that indicates the
letter may have been written in code. Box 5, folder 127

4 February 1864 - ALS - Rev. S.L. Helm [Lexington, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington,
KY]. Briefly mentions leaving the outcome of the war in God's hands. Most of the letter
is family news. Box 5, folder 130

10 May 1864 - ALS - F.M. Bruce [Brandenburgh, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington,
KY]. Henry Bruce has sent a slave boy as a gift to F.M.'s son, Henry. F.M. Bruce writes
that he has no room for the boy at present, but will take him later. He also complains
about the lack of letters from a friend in the army. Box 5, folder 131

1860's - 1880's - Old envelopes addressed to Henry Bruce Jr. Box 8, folder 246

3. Henrietta Bruce Green
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing

n.d. - ANS - Henrietta Bruce to Jeme[?] thanking her for the doll and that she plays with
all the time and mother makes clothes for it. Daddy saw a cow loose and one man
caught it while others crowded around. Box 8, folder 264

? July 1863 - ALS - Henrietta Bruce and her mother [Covington, KY] to Pauline and
Nannie Bruce. Henrietta and her mother have gone shopping in Cincinnati now that the
period of martial law imposed due to the escape of John Hunt Morgan is ended.
Henrietta also mentions the Cincinnati arrest of "Cousin Jim Chapple" who was "taken
to the political prison". Mrs. Bruce admonishes the children to be good and to pass on
her messages to the Dukes family with whom they are staying. Box 5, folder 123

4 August 1867 - ALS - Henrietta Bruce [Continental Hotel, Long Branch, NJ] to her
cousin, Lucy Dorsey. Gossip and social news. Box 5, folder 141

26 December 1867 - ALS - Henrietta Bruce to Mr. Wilson. Henrietta thanks him for the
holiday gift of a bird which she has named for "our noble" Robert E. Lee. Box 5, folder
142

October 1869 - ALS - Henrietta Bruce [New York, NY] to her cousin, Tom Morgan.
Family news mostly concerning Nannie Bruce who is traveling. Box 5, folder 149

13 February 1870 - AL - Probably Henrietta Bruce ["Mount Hope", IL] to a friend. She
discusses her travels and a local revival. Box 6, folder 15119 February 1870 - ALS -
Henrietta Bruce [Mount Hope, IL] to a cousin, probably Ellen Morgan [Covington, KY]. Henrietta longs to be back in a city. Most of the letter is family news. Box 6, folder 152

February 1870 - ALS - Henrietta Bruce [Mount Hope, IL] to Henry Bruce, Jr. A Methodist revival, the family’s impending move to Cincinnati, and other family news are discussed. Box 6, folder 153

18 August 1872 - ALS - From Henrietta Bruce Green to Henry Bruce, Jr. Henrietta tells of meeting her husband’s family. Box 6, folder 162

10 October 1872 - ALS - Henrietta Bruce Green [Cincinnati, OH] to Henry Bruce, Jr. Henrietta misses her family as they’ve all moved to Kansas. Talks about her husband, son and nephew. Box 6, folder 164

28 November 1873 - ALS - Henrietta Bruce Green [Cincinnati, OH] to Henry Bruce, Jr. Henrietta sends local news and expresses concern over her father’s search for a housekeeper. Box 6, folder 166

21 December 1873 - ALS - Henrietta Bruce Green [Cincinnati, OH] to her family. Henrietta sends Christmas wishes and gifts. Box 6, folder 167

14 May 1877 - ALS - Henrietta Bruce Green to Mary E. Bruce [Kansas City, MO]. Family news. Box 6, folder 177

2 August 1877 - ALS - Henrietta Bruce Green [Covington, KY] to Mary E. Bruce [Kansas City, MO]. Henrietta is lonely and wishes Lillie to visit, and other family members to write often. She relates some news about her daughter May, her cousin Ellen Morgan, and other friends and family. Box 6, folder 180


c. 1896 - AN - Probably Henrietta Bruce Green [Boston, MA] to May Bruce Green [Bradford, MA]. The letter is most likely from Henrietta who writes to May and two other girls who just returned to Bradford Academy after visiting her in Boston. The subject is a bouquet of flowers sent by a cousin. Box 7, folder 223

c. 1932 - ALS - Mrs. H.B. Green [Kansas City, MO] to Jemmie relaying family news. Box 7, folder 235

**Series II, Personal Correspondence-Incoming**

c. 1866 - ANS - A note by three southern gentlemen [New York City] to the Bruce sisters at the Southern Hotel inviting them to get acquainted. Box 5, folder 139
February 1868 - Invitation addressed to the "Misses Bruce" to hear music at the home of Madame Mears, 21 February. Box 5, folder 143

18 November 1875 - AN - A.G. Lewis to Henrietta Bruce. Lewis requests to escort her to church in the morning in order to deliver a message from another acquaintance. Box 6, folder 176

9 December 1878 - ALS - E.F. Wickham [St. Louis, MO] to Henrietta Bruce Green [Kansas City, MO]. Conveys information on the continuing search for a diamond stud lost on a train by Richard Lashbrook Green. Box 6, folder 192

6 February 1879 - ALS - J.G. Hickman [Maysville, KY] to Henrietta Bruce Green [Kansas City, MO]. Hickman writes about the efforts he has made to collect on the last three promissory notes owed to Richard Lashbrook Green. Box 6, folder 193

10 June 1879 - ALS - John Lashbrook [Washington, KY] to Henrietta Bruce Green [Kansas City, MO]. Letter conveying Lashbrook's sympathy on his nephew's death. He apologizes for not writing sooner, but was prevented by his poor health. Box 6, folder 194

9 October 1879 - ALS - J.G Hickman [Maysville, KY] to Henrietta Bruce Green [Kansas City, MO]. Hickman sends the money from one of Lashbrook's creditors. He now only has two promissory notes left to collect. Box 6, folder 196

19 February 1897 - ANS - Catherine R. Collins [Covington, KY] to Henrietta Bruce Green [Boston, MA]. Collins writes as the Secretary for the Elizabeth Kentucky Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution to notify Green that her and her daughter's membership applications have been accepted. Box 7, folder 226

5 March 1912 - Telegram from C.B. Shelby [Spokane, WA] to Henrietta Bruce Green [St. Louis, MO]. News of the death of Linden C. Alexander. Shelby wishes to know what to do with Alexander's body. Box 7, folder 231

Series III, School Work, Dance Card, DAR Membership Card

25 January 1860 - D - Report card of Henrietta Bruce from the Wesleyan Female College of Cincinnati. Box 4, folder 109

31 December 1864 - ALS - End of year retrospective by Henrietta Bruce. Box 5, folder 136

5, 7-8 September 1871 - Dance card belonging to Henrietta Bruce from a "Social Hop" given by the "Young Men of Bourbon, at the Bourbon House". Box 6, folder 155
18 January 1897 - D.A.R. membership cards for Henrietta Bruce Green and Mary (May) Bruce Green. Box 7, folder 225

n.d. - School merit cards of Henrietta Bruce Green. Box 8 folder 253

n.d. - Handwritten religious poem by Henrietta Bruce Green. Box 8 folder 254

4. Mary E. Bruce
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing

25 December 1838 - ALS - Mary E. Bruce to Nancy T. Bruce. Note of regret from Mary that she cannot dine with her mother today. The weather is extremely cold. Christmas wishes. Box 1, folder 19

8 October 1841 - ALS - Mary E. Bruce [Fleming County, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Nashville, TN]. Illness of one of the cows. Mentions her two widowed sisters (not by name), a house guest (Elizabeth Dewey), and a camp meeting at Bethel. The death of James Galiger [sic]. Box 1, folder 22

12 August 1850 - ALS - Mary Bruce [Covington, KY] to Nancy T. Bruce [Mayslick, KY]. Loss of several area children due to cholera. Complains of a toothache and the number of mosquitoes this month. Mention of a new milk cow and calf. Butter making, pickling, black berry cordial making, and jelly making mentioned. Box 2, folder 36

18 April 185[3] (date has been erased by scraping) - ALS - Mary E. Bruce [Covington, KY] to Sarah Tanner and Mary ______. [Envelope has more recent pencil note: "Letter my Mother wrote to Better Colored woman belonging to my Grand mother and letter my mother wrote to neighbor she moved to Covington".] Mary Bruce is pleased with her new home in Covington. Her parents are also pleased with their new home. Box 2, folder 49

19 October 1855 - ALS - Mary E. Bruce [Covington, KY] to Ellen R. Teal [Mayslick, KY]. Concerned for her sister's husband's health pending their move to Illinois. Warns her to watch out for her children if they take a steamboat so that they do not fall overboard. Box 3, folder 69

27 July 1857 - ALS - Mary E. Bruce [Fleming County, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. Reports the improvement of the health of her mother.. She thinks that another attack of "Paralisis" [probably a stroke] will kill her. Complains about the noisy condition of the house and wishes that it would cease so that the ill woman could recover properly. Mentions that Woodson Morgan and his family are leaving soon for Illinois and that they are having a sale tomorrow. Questions about pickling, canning, preserving, and the vegetable garden. Box 3, folder 87
3 August 1857 - ALS - Mary E. Bruce [Fleming County, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. News about the improved health of her mother and that they will be coming to Covington by boat on Wednesday morning [August 5th]. Henry's mother has moved to William Morgan's home. Box 3, folder 88

25 December 1863 - ALS - Mary Bruce [Covington, KY] to Brother S.L. Helm. Describes the death of her mother on 5 December. Box 5, folder 129

c.a. 1870's - ALS - Mary Bruce to Nannie Bruce Alexander regarding illness of Nannie's baby and sister, other family news. Box 6, folder 150

Winter 1871-1872 - ALS - Mary E. Bruce [Cincinnati, OH] to her daughter, Nannie Bruce Alexander [St. Louis, MO]. Partial letter to Nannie. There is much family news including the marriage of Mattie Bruce to a "Yankee", and the attention Richard Lashbrook Green is paying to Henrietta. Box 6, folder 156

25 March 1872 - ALS - Mary E. Bruce [Cincinnati, OH] to her daughter, Nannie Bruce Alexander [St. Louis, MO]. Mary is full of advice for Nannie who is expecting her first child. An upcoming visit, family news, and general gossip are also discussed. Box 6, folder 157

May 1872 - ALS - Mary E. Bruce and Nannie Bruce Alexander [St. Louis, MO] to Henrietta Bruce. More family news. This may be another portion of the previous letter. Box 6, folder 160

20 May 1872 - ALS - Mary E. Bruce [St. Louis, MO] to Richard Lashbrook Green. Mary Bruce gives her permission for Richard Green to marry her daughter, Henrietta. Box 6, folder 158

28 May 1872 - AL - Mary E. Bruce [St. Louis, MO] to Henrietta Bruce. She gives the news of Nan and her new baby, and discusses a possible wedding date for Henrietta. Box 6, folder 159

24 June 1872 - AL - Mary E. Bruce [Cincinnati, OH] to Nannie Bruce Alexander [St. Louis, MO]. Henrietta's recent wedding to Richard Green is discussed. [The letter is missing the last page(s).] Box 6, folder 161

22 August 1872 - ALS - Mary E. Bruce [Richland, KY] to Nannie Bruce Alexander [St. Louis, MO]. Family news including Mary's recent accident, Henrietta's visit with her husband's relatives, and a few lines from one of the grandchildren. Box 6, folder 163

23 January 1875 - ALS - Mary E. Bruce [Covington, KY] to Pauline Bruce Duke [Kansas City, MO]. Mary writes about family news, and gives specific instructions regarding the diet of Henry Bruce, Jr., in order to prevent a relapse of his previous illness. Box 6, folder 171
8 June 1877 - ALS - Mary E. Bruce [Kansas City, MO] to Lillie Bruce [Cincinnati, OH].
Family news. Box 6, folder 178

1859 - Annual catalog for the Wesleyan Female College, 1859-60. Inside was a
newspaper clipping announcing the funeral of Mary E. Bruce. Box 4, folder 99

5. Mary (May) Bruce (Green) Sharon
Series I, Personal Correspondence

31 August 1885 - ALS - May Bruce Green [Kansas City, MO] to Henrietta Bruce Green.
A child’s letter with family news. "Aunt Lillie" is soon to have a child. Box 6, folder 205

ca. 1890's - ALS - Mary Bruce Green to Frederick Sharon discussing her trip to Boston
and how it was 102 degrees but beautiful, other family news. Box 7, folder 227

26 October 1891 - ALS - May (Mary) Bruce Green [Eureka Springs, AR] to Henry Bruce,
Jr. [Kansas City, MO]. May writes to her Grandfather from school. The letter is news of
school, and mention of a desire to return to live in Covington, KY. Box 7, folder 212

8 November 1891 - ALS - May Bruce Green [Eureka Springs, AR] to Henry Bruce, Jr.
[Kansas City, MO]. In response to Bruce's letter of 26 October, May says she found his
words inspiring, and is studying hard. She mentions the possibility of going away to
school the following year. She mentions the story of Italy's Queen Margherita, and
conveys news of her neighbors. Box 7, folder 215

16 September 1892 - May Bruce Green [Bradford Academy, Bradford, MA] to Henrietta
Bruce Green [Kansas City, MO]. Having just arrived at her new school, May describes
her journey and her school to her mother. She sends messages to various friends and
family at home. She also mentions the cholera outbreak in New York, telling her mother
not to worry because the air on the hilltop is good, and the drinking water is all boiled.
Box 7, folder 220

ca 1892-93 - May Bruce Green [Bradford Academy, Bradford, MA] to Henrietta Bruce
Green [Kansas City, MO]. May writes home about the events at school, her desire for a
trip to Boston, and her request for more spending money. Box 7, folder 221

January 1897 - ANS - Note from Mary Bruce Green to Mrs. DeKay Thompson
authorizing her to be Mary's proxy at the upcoming Colonial Dames meeting. Box 7,
folder 224

19 February 1897 - ANS - Catherine R. Collins [Covington, KY] to Henrietta Bruce
Green [Boston, MA]. Collins writes as the Secretary for the Elizabeth Kentucky Chapter
of the Daughters of the American Revolution to notify Green that her and her daughter's
membership applications have been accepted. Box 7, folder 226
ca. 1932 - ALS - Mrs. Charles E. Wortham, Jr. [Richmond, VA] to Mary Bruce Green Sharon. A letter regarding the death of Mary's mother. Box 7, folder 236

15 April 1937 - AL - Probably from one of their children [Kansas City, MO] to Frederick C. and Mary (May) Bruce Sharon [Kansas City, MO]. A letter giving heartfelt thanks for two great parents. Box 7, folder 237

**Series II, Schoolwork, DAR Membership Card**

c. 1885 - School composition by May Bruce Green on the subject of her grandmother, Mary E. Bruce. Box 6, folder 203

c. 1890 - A school composition by May Bruce Green on the subject of witchcraft. Box 7, folder 207

c. 1890's - AMS - High school report by Mary Bruce Green about Cleopatra. Box 7, folder 208

18 January 1897 - D.A.R. membership cards for Henrietta Bruce Green and Mary (May) Bruce Green. Box 7, folder 225

**Series III, Artwork**

c. 1920's - Early drawings of Mary Bruce Green (Sharon) of flappers and other passengers on the ship S.S. South American. Box 7, folder 234

8 December 1948 - Note of paintings and their value written on American British Art Gallery [New York City, NY] stationary. Box 7, folder 241

**6. Eleanor Threlkeld Bruce**

**Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing**

25 August 1835 - ALS - Letter addressed to Mary E. Bruce, Fleming County, KY from Eleanor Threlkeld Bruce. Though the letter appears to have been partially burned, some portions are readable. The pieces of the letter were later stored in an envelope marked "Queen Anne's Mansion, S.W." on which is written "Letter written by my Grand Mother to my Mother 1835". The letter has not been transcribed. Box 1, folder 15

24 May 1868 - TL - Ann Threlkeld Bruce Morgan [IL] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [New York City, NY]. Entirely family news. Location of original is unknown. Box 5, folder 145

**7. George S. Bruce**

**Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing**
5 January 1857 - ALS - George S. Bruce [Carlisle, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. Complains of rheumatism in his arms. Notes on the general health of his wife Sabrina, their sister Ellen, and their mother. Inquires about the progress of the Covington and Cincinnati Suspension Bridge. Some financial questions included. Box 3, folder 77

8 June 1857 - ALS - George S. Bruce [Carlisle, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. Information about some timber land he had the opportunity to purchase while "out west" [probably Illinois]. Inquires whether Henry would like to join him in speculating in some Illinois land. He has contracted to build a house on his land in Tolono, Illinois. Asks about the progress of their bank charter and the progress of the Covington and Cincinnati Suspension Bridge. News of the deaths of Mrs. Lewis Summers, cousin Maria Johnson, Uncle Porter's George [a slave], Rice Campbell, and Mitchel Patton. Marriage of Lucinda Gallagher the day after her stepfather was buried. Information about the weather and wheat, corn, and oat crops. Box 3, folder 83

21 September 1857 - ALS - George S. Bruce [Carlisle, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. Financial concerns about his inability to get more money to cover his shares of stock in their new bank business. Box 3, folder 89

12 July 1893 - A program card from the "family gathering of the late George S. Bruce" given for "their visiting cousins, Retta Bruce Green and May Bruce Green". The card lists the dinner menu and the people attending the dinner. Box 7, folder 222

8. Eli Metcalfe Bruce
Series I, Business Correspondence-Outgoing

18 _____ 1853 - NS - Eli Metcalfe Bruce [Clinton, ?] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. Telegraph note through the firm of the National Telegraph. E. M. Bruce tells Henry Bruce that they must purchase the Bright farm for their iron furnace "now or never get it at fair price". Box 2, folder 44

18 August 1856 - ALS - Eli M. Bruce [Indiana Furnace, IN] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. Response to Henry's letter of August 14th [a copy of which is not extant]. An angry, but respectful response to Henry's action of selling his shares in the iron furnace business. Box 3, folder 73

9. Henry C. Bruce
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing

19 April 1857 - ALS - Henry C. Bruce [Lafayette, IN] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. News of Henry C. Bruce's business, the unusual snowy April weather, the health of the citizens, and the lack of new building due to a poor economy in the area. Box 3, folder 81
20 August 1878 - Henry C. Bruce [Cincinnati, OH] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Smart House, Kansas City, MO]. Telegram expressing sympathy for Henrietta, and inquiring about a funeral sermon for Richard Lashbrook Green. Box 6, folder 184

13 January 1881 - ALS - Henry [C.?] Bruce [Cincinnati, OH] to Henrietta Bruce Green [Kansas City, MO]. Contains details of land owned by Richard Lashbrook Green in North Carolina. Also news of various friends in Cincinnati. Box 6, folder 198

Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing

18 May 1857 - ALS - Joseph and Harriet B. Dudley [Flemingsburg, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. Joseph is inquiring about Henry seeing about getting good terms for the purchase of a steam engine to run a saw mill in his area. Harriet writes to her brother to inform him that Mrs. Lewis Summers was struck with a palsy on May 15th and died May 17th. Health of their own mother described as "feeble" with a bad appetite. Box 3, folder 82

11. Pauline Bruce
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing

1 May 1853 - ALS - Pauline Bruce [Covington, KY] to Nancy T. Bruce. Informs her grandmother of an "exhibition" coming up in which she will read a composition and play two pieces of music. Good description of the new home and its lot. Box 2, folder 50

12 December 1853 - ALS - Pauline Bruce [Indiana Furnace, IN] to Nancy T. Bruce. Mentions that her father, Henry Bruce, Jr., and cousin Eli M. Bruce have gone down the Ohio River to look at some land. Description of the steamboat, J.G. Cline, and its passengers and cargo; description of train ride from Madison, Indiana, which gave her a headache. Travel through Indianapolis to Terre Haute. First iron run out of the furnace on December 13th. Box 2, folder 54

22 September 1854 - ALS - Pauline Bruce Duke [Covington, KY] to Nancy Bruce [Mayslick, KY]. News of the arrival of Mr. Helm, the new preacher from Mayslick. Mentions two of the Helm's slaves and the health of "Uncle Will" in Missouri. Hot and dry weather. Her mother attended the funeral of Mrs. Wither's baby. Box 2, folder 61

17 August 1858 - ALS - Pauline Bruce [Rye Beach, NH] to Henry and Mary Bruce [Covington, KY]. Description of her trip to the White Mountains, her ride to the top of Mt. Washington, the trip to the "Profile House" on Franconia Notch, the "flame," the "Poole," and "Echo Lake." Letter is incomplete. Box 4, folder 93
23 August 1859 - ALS - Pauline Bruce ["Morgandale" (Carlisle, KY)] to Henrietta Bruce [Covington, KY]. News of the visit with family and friends in the area, a trip to the Blue Licks mineral springs, and general gossip. Box 4, folder 106

2 July 1863 - ALS - Lucy M. Dorsey [Carlisle, KY] to Pauline S. Duke [Covington, KY]. Copies of a family photograph and family news are discussed. Box 5, folder 121

10 September 1863 - ALS - Pauline Bruce ["Richland" (Carlisle), KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. News of the child Hally's recovery from illness. Also included is commentary on the war news from Tennessee, and local rebel sentiments. Pauline also sent her father a copy of a poem, "The Rebel's Dream", written by Col. Basil W. Duke in the Ohio State Prison, August, 1863. She details the history of the poem as it was smuggled out of the prison. Box 5, folder 125

8 July 1864 - AL - Pauline Bruce Duke ["Richland" (Carlisle), KY] to her mother, Mary Bruce [Covington, KY]. Mentions the steady "loss" of slaves in the local area, and the recruitment of negro troops. Mentions the capture of cousin John Holiday, a major in the Confederate army, at Cynthiana, KY. Otherwise, the letter is filled with general family news. A separate page was included which obviously did not belong as it was written in 1865. The second letter is located in Folder 137a. Box 5, folder 132

[probably April or May] 1865 - AL - Pauline Bruce Duke [Carlisle, KY] to her mother, Mary Bruce [Covington, KY]. This partial letter includes more family news, and mentions Lincoln's assassination as well as fears of government reprisals against Southerners. The letter was originally included with the letter in Folder 132, though they obviously did not belong together due to the differing dates. Box 5, folder 137a

28 December 1874 - ALS - Pauline Bruce Duke [Kansas City, MO] to Henrietta Bruce Green [Cincinnati, OH]. Pauline writes to thank Henrietta for the Christmas presents, describing how each was received. Box 6, folder 169

3 July 1879 - ALS - Pauline Bruce Duke [Kansas City, MO] to Henrietta Bruce Green. Family news to Henrietta who is away visiting relatives in the country. Box 6, folder 195

12. Nannie Bruce
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing

30 October 1891 - ANS - A note accompanying a trunk of clothing, giving the history of each item. The note was originally written by Nannie Bruce Alexander. The note was later added to by her daughter Pauline Bruce Alexander McLaird 24 September 1917. Box 7, folder 214

5 June 1892 - ALS - Nannie Bruce Alexander [Kansas City, MO] to Mary (May) Bruce Green [Eureka Springs, AR]. Nannie writes to tell her niece that the entire family is
looking forward to her coming home shortly at the close of the school year. She reminisces about sending Mary to school at the beginning, and wishes Mary would spend all of her vacation in Missouri instead of leaving for Kentucky. Box 7, folder 219

13. Frederick C. Sharon  
Series I, Personal Correspondence

n.d. - TL - Thanksgiving thoughts of Frederick[?] Sharon mostly about the difficult times the nation was facing but thankful for his good fortune. Box 8, folder 250

13 October [n.y.] - ALS - Frederick C. Sharon [Kansas City, MO] to Mary (May) Bruce Green [Lynn, MA]. A brief love letter written before boarding a train. Box 7, folder 228

11 January 1904 - TLS - F.P. Axley [Murphy, NC] to Frederick C. Sharon [Kansas City, MO]. Axley, an attorney in North Carolina, writes urging Sharon to accept an offer on his wife's land in North Carolina. Box 7, folder 229

22 January 1904 - TL - Frederick C. Sharon [Kansas City, MO] to F.P. Axley [Murphy, NC]. Sharon and his wife, May (Mary) Bruce Green Sharon, have discussed the matter and decided to accept the offer made on the North Carolina land. Box 7, folder 230

6 September 1939 - ALS - Frederick C. Sharon [Kansas City, MO] to his wife, May (Mary) Bruce Green Sharon. A birthday love letter for May, who is now in her sixties. Box 7, folder 238

10 July [possibly 1940s] - ALS - Frederick C. Sharon [Kansas City, MO] to his wife, May (Mary) Bruce Green Sharon. Accompanied an anniversary gift of gloves. It was their thirty-fourth wedding anniversary. Box 7, folder 239

11 March 1941 - TDS - Affidavit of birth and delayed birth certificate for Frederick C. Sharon, filed in Carrollton, Greene Co., IL. Box 7, folder 240

14. Richard Lashbrook Green  
Series I, Business Records

14 January 1873 - ALS - Richard Lashbrook Green [Cincinnati, OH] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Kansas City]. Business and family news. Box 6, folder 165

14 July 1875 - ADS - Survey and deed document from Cherokee Co., North Carolina for land belonging to Richard Lashbrook Green. Box 6, folder 172

20 March 1878 - ALS - J.G. Hickman [Maysville, KY] to Richard Lashbrook Green. The letter concerns several promissory notes held by Green and administered by Hickman, as well as investment advice. Box 6, folder 181
5 May 1878 - ANS - Lawless and Barker [Kansas City, MO] to Richard Lashbrook Green [Kansas City, MO]. Lawless and Barker proposes to build three brick houses for the sum of $1785 each. Box 6, folder 182

10 September 1878 - AN - Listing of expenses in the building of three houses for Richard Lashbrook Green by Lawless & Barker of Kansas City, MO. Box 6, folder 189

28 January 1882 - ADS - Land title from Lyon Co., Kansas. Box 6, folder 200

See also Henry Bruce, Jr. who was involved in his late son-in-law’s funeral and estate but whose official role is unknown.

15. Lillie Bruce
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing

6 December 1874 - ALS - Lillie Bruce [Covington, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Kansas City, MO]. Lillie writes family news from her visit with Henrietta Bruce Green in Covington. Box 6, folder 168

15 June 1877 - ALS - Lillie Bruce [Cincinnati, OH] to Mary E. Bruce [Kansas City, MO]. Family news particularly concerning a cousin Mattie Bruce, with whom the Henry Bruce family does not appear to be on good terms, possibly due to her "Yankee" marriage. Box 6, folder 179

16. James Bruce
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing

28 June 1869 - ALS - James Bruce [Lowndisville?, SC] to his brother, Henry Bruce, Jr. [New York, NY]. Discusses his farming prospects, with emphasis on the trouble of employing a "lazy thrifty thinking Free Negro". He also mentions other local business attempts including a gold mine and a chartered railroad. Predictions on the future of the South and its people are mixed in. Box 5, folder 148

17. Ann Bruce Morgan
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing

6 January 1892 - TL - Ann Bruce Morgan to Lucinda Bruce Morgan. Fragment of a letter relating the death of Henry Bruce, Jr. Location of original unknown. Box 7, folder 218

18. George Bruce, Jr.
Series I, Legal Record and Personal Correspondence

21 August 1816 - ADS - Indenture for land in Sparta, Georgia, between George Bruce, Jr., (the buyer) and Henry Mitchell and James H. Jones (the sellers). Witnessed by Phil. L. Simms, John Benion [?], and Thomas Foster, Justice of the Peace. Later note on
back of document by Henry Bruce, Jr., "At this home was the birth place of Mary E. Bruce My wife." Box 1, folder 1

15 July 1822 - ALS - George Bruce, Jr. [Fleming County, KY], to his wife. Describes his move over the mountains, family status, and corn prices. Box 1, folder 3

19. Nancy T, Bruce
Series I, Personal Correspondence

3 July 1835 - ALS - Nancy T. Bruce [Sparta, GA] to Mary Bruce [Fleming County, KY]. A mother's direction to Mary and her sister Eleanor to be on good behavior while in Kentucky. She tells them to mind the Sabbath and read the Bible. News of fishing, two marriages, a death, and the illness of Mary's brother Henry. Box 1, folder 14

28 December 1837 - ALS - J. Thorp [Sparta, GA] to his sister, Nancy Bruce [Fleming County, KY ?]. Thorp laments the fact that preachers do not stay long in Sparta. News of deaths and some residents moving to Alabama. Box 1, folder 18

4 December 1851 - ALS - Nancy T. Bruce [Fleming County, KY] to Henry and Mary Bruce [Covington, KY]. Complains of odd spells and a cold for the last three or four weeks. News of the health of some children [unclear whether they are family or not]. Concern for the failing health of their child, Fannie ["Frank"]. Box 2, folder 38

26 December 1851 - ALS - Nancy T. Bruce [Fleming County, KY] to Henry and Mary Bruce [Covington, KY]. Condolences on the death of Fannie ["Frank"]. Box 2, folder 39

6 December 1863 - Packet of hair from Nancy Tomkins Bruce who died on this day at 76 years old. Box 5, folder 128

20. George G. Lowry
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing

24 June 1857 - ALS - George G. Lowry [Fleming County, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. Business information about hog and corn prices. Lowry is interested in some land in St. Louis [that Bruce has purchased ?]. Prospects for the wheat and corn crops. News of the birth of his daughter and the health of his wife, Nancy. Humorous notes about a possible wedding between two elderly people in his area. Box 3, folder 85

18 July 1857 - ALS - George G. Lowry [Fleming County, KY] to Henry Bruce, Jr. [Covington, KY]. Health of Henry's mother-in-law, Mary, who was visiting; described as a severe pain in her head, now under control through a great deal of medicine. The condition does not appear serious even though she has apparently had a previous palsy attack. Wants to know what to do with her body should she die: "... the weather is now very warm and will continue so for some time, she is quite flesh and would run into putrefaction almost immediately after death, before we way out here in the country,
could make any preparation for removal." Suggests that a metal coffin could be procured in Cincinnati. Box 3, folder 86

21. Henry W. Bruce
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing

24 November 1844 - ALS - Henry W. Bruce [Warrenton, GA] to Ann T. Bruce [near Elizaville, Fleming County, KY]. News to his mother that he has entered into a business with "an irishman By the Name of Rache". Political excitement high in the area, and he is upset that the Whigs have taken the county (himself being a Democrat). Pleasure at the election of Polk. Thinks that Clay would ruin the country and that it will take "at least twenty years" to revive religion in the country the way it was before the last election. Concern that Christianity has become corrupt. Methodists have built a new church in town. Worried about his failing eyesight, graying hair, and lack of proper education. News of family health and marriages. Box 1, folder 25

14 June 1849 - ALS - Henry W. Bruce [Warrenton, GA] to William M. Bruce [Mayslick, KY]. Concern that he will not be able to support his family because of poor business in the area. Mentions his failing eyesight. Considering giving up tanning for farming. Asks William not to go to Texas, but to come to Georgia to settle. Local chapter of the Sons of Temperance mentioned; 160 divisions in Georgia with 12,000 members. Henry tells of his involvement with the Masons. Snow storm on April 15th, which killed all vegetation and raised the prices of corn and flour. Box 1, folder 33

9 February 1868 - ALS - Henry Weaver Bruce [Warrenton, GA] to his sister. Details some of the difficulties of living in the war-ravaged South. Box 5, folder 144

22. Ellen R. Teal
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing

30 May 1856 - ALS - Ellen Bruce Teal [Mount Hope, IL] to Mary E. Bruce [Covington, KY]. Description of her household management including gardening, raising chickens, and churning butter. Social news about church, school, and entertaining the president of the Male and Female College at Bloomington. Box 3, folder 71

21 June 1882 - ALS - Ellen Teal [McLean Co., IL] to her sister. Describes the death of their sister Fannie, among other family news. Box 6, folder 201

23. John Green
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Outgoing

3 September 1847 - ALS - John Green [Philadelphia, PA] to Ann Green [Washington, KY]. Tells his wife how much he misses her and of a dream he had while at Wheeling that she was sick. He has purchased a cloak, bonnet, and shoes for her; he has not
found a dress to buy her nor has he had the time to purchase a bed stead. Box 1, folder 28

6 September 1847 - ALS - John Green [Philadelphia, PA] to Ann Green [Washington, KY]. Foresees difficulty in getting home as the [Ohio?] river is getting low, and he may have to return home overland. All other content is love letter. Box 1, folder 29

24 February 1848 - ALS - Photocopy of original. John Green [Cumberland, MD] to Ann Green [Washington, KY]. Some mention of the boat on which he is traveling and its passengers. Other news about his difficulty getting to Philadelphia. Location of original unknown. Box 1, folder 30


2 September 1849 - ALS - John Green [Cincinnati, OH] to Ann Green [Washington, KY]. Sorry to hear of the death of Mrs. Lyle and "hopeless condition" of Mary Chambers due to cholera. Purchased twenty-four chairs and a wash stand. Box 1, folder 34

9 September 1849 - ALS - John Green [Philadelphia, PA] to Ann Green [Washington, KY]. Shipped their new carpets the day before to be in Pittsburgh when he arrives there. Purchased knives, forks, candle sticks, and china. Love letter content. Regrets hearing of cholera in Paris [KY] and the deaths of Mrs. Lyle and Mary Chambers. Wants to hear from Ann soon so that he can find out if anyone in the family is ill with cholera. Box 1, folder 35

12 April 1852 - ALS - A. Beatty to William Lashbrook [Washington, KY]. Beatty is a stone cutter and is asking about the appropriate composition for the tombstone of John Green. Box 2, folder 42

21 September 1853 - ALS - James Artus [Maysville, KY] to Ann Green [Washington, KY ?]. Brief note informing her that she has two writs served on her on account of her late husband for $50.00 and $70.00. The debts were owed to E. D. Anderson and Mr. Scott. Box 2, folder 52

1859 - DS - Mason County, Kentucky, tax receipt for 1859, on the property of Ann Green. Total value of taxable estate, $14,300; $68.31 total taxes paid. Box 4, folder 98

24. Ann Lashbrook
Series I, Personal Correspondence-Incoming
ca. 1830's - ALS - Jane Chambers [Paris, KY] to Ann Lashbrook forgiving her for not writing a longer letter because she had a toothache. She discusses drinking eggnog and making candy and cakes for Christmas. Box 1, folder 8

ca. 1830's - ALS - Jane Chambers [Paris, KY] to Ann Lashbrook discussing her trip to Lexington and that someone might think her to be a "material girl" which she certainly is not. Other miscellaneous news. Box 1, folder 9

January 1833 - ALS - Jane Chambers [Paris, KY] to Ann Lashbrook [Washington, KY]. Chambers states she is coming to Washington in eight or ten days. News of Mr. Hull lecturing at the Methodist church this night. Box 1, folder 10


24 July 1836 -ALS - Charlotte J. Duke [Scott County, KY] to Ann S. Lashbrook [Washington, KY]. News of a July 4th ball in Georgetown. News of three weddings within the last three weeks; one of which she attended. The letter also mentions a possible visit to Cincinnati by way of Maysville and Washington. Box 1, folder 17

25. Family Genealogy, History, Photos

n.d. - TD - Typed genealogy of the Bruce family. Box 8, folder 245

n.d. - Two notebooks, one with addresses and the other titled "Bruce Records" listing births, deaths and marriages. Box 8, folder 256

n.d. - Newspaper article about the Bruce clan. Box 8, folder 258

n.d. - Handwritten timeline of Henry Bruce Sr. Box 8, folder 249

10 July 1855 - TD - Typed transcript of obituary of Henry Bruce, Sr.; origin of transcript is unknown, as is the paper in which it appeared. Box 3, folder 67

n.d. - Handwritten timeline for Henry Bruce on the back of part of musical playbill. Box 8, folder 257

n.d. - Handwritten listing of Henry Bruce Jr.’s daughters and spouses. Box 8, folder 248

n.d. - Miscellaneous newspaper clippings and obituaries for Henry Bruce, Mary E. Bruce and Pauline Bruce Duke. Box 8, folder 247
n.d. - TD - "Southern Memories" by Sallie Withers Bruce Morrison. Proud memories of the Confederacy during the Civil War. Box 8, folder 262

n.d. - TD - Typed story about the 1836 Bruce family portraits. Box 8, folder 243

n.d. - Miscellaneous photographs of Bruce family. Box 8, folder 269

26. Partially Identified Correspondence

19 April 1854 - ALS - Unknown [Fleming County, KY] to Mother. Fragmentary letter in pencil mentions two children, Travis and Henry, and their progress. On reverse in ink is the "Travelers Prayer". Box 2, folder 57

5 April 1869 - ALS - Sallie A. Bruce [Warrenton, GA] to her aunt. Consists mainly of family news. Box 5, folder 146

ca. 1921 - ANS - Note from "Babe" to Jeme expressing disappointment that Jeme and Lillie will not be able to visit and will miss a trip to Cooperstown. Box 7, folder 232

n.d. - ALS - Shary to Mr. Heard regarding John Roebling, Henry Clay and Jefferson Davis. Box 8, folder 252

n.d. - ALS - Babe [Cedar Rapids, Iowa] to Jeme telling her about her trip but that she wants to give up everything she has, even going to college, if Jeme will send Mary to school. Box 8, folder 265

n.d. - AN - Note to Mary Bruce requesting butter and some mutton to tide them over and to send Jemmy so she can stay for the meeting. Send word to Martha Bruce about the meeting so she can attend. Box 8, folder 266

27. Unattributed Stories and Poems

n.d. - TD - Typed short stories by unknown author; one about a flying machine, the other about Christmas. Box 8, folder 244

n.d. - "Fables in Slang" Handwritten story by unknown author. Box 8, folder 259

n.d. - "Beauties of the Seasons", handwritten tribute to the four seasons; author unknown. Box 8, folder 251

n.d. - "The Guerrillas" A poem from the Richmond Examiner written by a Confederate prisoner while in a Yankee Bastile. Box 8, folder 263

28. Notebook, Social Invitations, and Recipe
1867 - New York City souvenir notebook with handwritten notes. Probably belonged to one of the daughters of Henry Bruce, Jr. Box 5, folder 140

11 February [n.y.] - Engraved invitation to Bruce’s home, addressed to Mr. S. Lewis. Box 8, folder 255

n.d. - Miscellaneous engraved invitations to Misses Bruce for college class day and to the wedding of Alice Drake. Box 8, folder 267

ca. 1860's - Recipe for Confederate pudding. Box 4, folder 108

29. Unidentified Receipts, Political Convention, Roebling Bridge

29 August 1863 - ADS - Receipt of payment from the estate of C.H. Hays. Box 5, folder 124

n.d. - Transactions recorded for the income from cattle and lots 1-7 that were sold. Box 8, folder 268

June 1928 - Two tickets to the Republican National Convention in Kansas City. One has been used, the other has not. Box 7, folder 233

13 January 1953 - Photocopy of *Cincinnati Times-Star* article about the Roebling Suspension Bridge. Box 8, folder 242