

Accession No. M1981-1010  
Bruce Collection  
Box 1, Folder 16

[letter addressed to "Mifs [Miss] Mary Bruce, Elizaville, Kentucky, Via Washington City";  
postmarked "WASHN GA Dec 7"]

Washington Geo. [Georgia] December 4th 1835. [December 4,  
1835]

My D. [Dear] And most beloved Mary

To day [Today] I have had the inexpressible [inexpressable] pleasure of receiving, your highly [highly] appreciated and affectionate [affectionate] letter of the 8th ultimo<sup>o</sup> [ultimo]. And have now sit down to do myself the pleasure of addressing [addressing] you again. Who I hold in esteem [esteem] higher, than all others, or thing on earth, is it possible [possible] that I should not care you my Dearest object, doubt for a single moment that I do not, surely, surely not. No those impressions [impressions] which you have made upon this heart, is truly indelible, and nothing but a full possession [possession] of yours, will constitute the happiness [happiness] of H. [Henry] Bruce Jr. And tedious is the time, that lies between [between] this, and that where I shall have the pleasure of meeting you again. that I may, or at least flatter myself, have the pleasure of realizing [realizing] the love and affections of that pure and virtuous heart.

You mention of several wedding that has, and is to take place of my acquaintances, [acquaintances] which is very interesting to me, particularly [particularly] as it is so much in accordance with my own inclinations, I say success [success] to the brave you desire me to say something of your native Home, And acquaintances [acquaintances] at Sparta [Georgia], &c Some short time after the date of my first letter I got able to travel [travel] and went from this place to Sparta. And got there on the close of the examination, there was a great [there was a great] many persons in attendance, But I believe nothing of more than ordinary [ordinary] interest transpired [transpired] Except, that on the day following [following] Miss Nancy Persons Contrary [Contrary] to the knowledge, or consent of any of her [her] relations, went to bed to some [some] Gentleman whose [whose] name I misremember, And last Old Miss Holsey to A

Doctor of Lexington Go. [Georgia] those are the onley [only] weddings I heard of there, And little or no changes have been made there of consequence, I was out at your Old Home but it appeard [appeared] to me while thare [there] to be as {over}

[page 2]

solam [solemn] as death, for it had given up all its charmes, [charms] thare [there] was no Mary there, there was none of those favourite flowers there to be seen, nor did it seam [seem] to pofefs [possess] a Single Charm, Except the reflection that my Dear Mary had been thare. [there] I however did not remain long for all the time I remained my feelings was of such [text missing] ted nature that I could have not surpofesd [?] there long. As it was not untill [until] all of the Familey [Family] was gon [gone] to bed before I comenced [commenced] this you must excuse me for beaing [being] short, And also the ill stile [style] in which this has been writen, [written] I arrived here On day before yesterday on my way to meet my Father who has not arrived yet and who I havenot [have not] yet Saw but detained here to day in concequence [consequence] of bad weather, the prospects for making some money on our Hogs is very good at presant, [present] and I hope we shall soon get rid of them, on my Horses I shall not make any money which is altogether oweing to my sicknefs, [sickness] But I thank god that I have over more recoverd my health Your Brother and Familey [Family] is well, I cannot yet set a time when I will be able to get Home but hope it will not be later than in the month of January. The Clock is toling [tolling] the 10th hour. And I must Close. by preying [praying] to the all wise deaty, [deity] to preserve your health and future hapinefs, [happiness] And I remain yours and

Yours Onley [Only]

H. [Henry] Bruce Jr.

Miss M. [Mary] Bruce