

Accession no. M1981-1010
Bruce Collection
Box 5, Folder 135

[letter to Mary Bruce from Henry Bruce Jr.]

Bancroft House

N. York [New York] Sept. 28/64 [September 28, 1864].

My Dear Wife

Your good + very satisfactory letter of the 25th Inst. [Instant] reached me by this Evenings mail. I have read + reread it several times, each time with great pleasure. God bless you how I would kiss you for it, if I only could do so now.

I am very sorry to learn you have been so sick, hope you have fully recoverd [recovered], I am ~~also~~ delighted to know that my darling Pauly [Pauline] + her sweet little May, is with you. I hope you will keep them until I can come home, which I have no thought of risking until after the Ellection [Election] if then,

In regard to sending the children to school your [you] are more competent and better prepared [prepared] to judge

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of this than I can at this distance I know how important it is for them not to loose [lose] another hour. but at the same time, the Expence [Expense] is a serious matter now-- I have made nothing for a long time cant [can't] tell when I ever will be able to do so-- fate seams [seems] to be against me, and sometimes I almost dispair [despair] -- It looks to me that our future is anything but bright-- I have no confidence that McClelland, will do any better than Lincouln [Lincoln], he is for a restoration of the Union, is pledged to that-- and I cannot concieve [conceive] of a greater absurdity,

I am sorry to heare [hear] I have lost another Negro. God knows what is to become of us.

I am gratifided [gratified] to hear that Henry + Lew calles [calls] to see you

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and I am not too sure, but his suggestion may turn out to be a good one to rent a House & move [move] to Cincinnati [Cincinnati, Ohio], but I still hope matters will not get so bad in Cov. [Covington, Kentucky] that it will be unsafe [unsafe] for you to stay there. if they should. I want you to be governed by the force of circumstances--

I had written [written] Henry before I got your letter to send my Southern money [money] to me by Express-- and thought I would invest a part at least in Gold now its down so low, if he had not done so when you get this, ask John to get him to do so immediately as Gold may + no doubt will go up again before long. I am very glad to know that property is selling in Cov. [Covington, Kentucky] I hope you will make every exertion [?] to sell it to Mrs Withers or

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some one [someone]. property is very dull + low here 8.000\$ "G. B.s" will buy a stylish [stylish] 3 story [story] stone front House with all modern improvement in Brooklyn. which is far less [less] than such Houses could be built in Cov [Covington, Kentucky].

give my kind regards to Mrs Hall and say that when her last letter via Canada reaches me, I will reply, in the mean time would like to have another from her. also thank her for the valuable information she sends me--

you did not say whether Mr Duke was still with you, if so give him my affectionate regards-- kiss each of the children and howdy to the Negroes. and let my [me] hear again soon from you + oblige [oblige] Your Husband