

Accession no. M1981-1010
Bruce Collection
Box 6, Folder 150

[letter, written in pencil, from Mary Bruce to her daughter Nannie Bruce Alexander; date unknown, could be 1870]

My darling Nannie

As I feel so anxious to hear from you, thought I would write you a few lines this morning and ascertain from yourself what can be the cause of your long silence. Just think about it – darling not a single line have you written me since you left home although you promised to write to me soon after your arrival at the Hot Springs.

How is dear little Lynie? I trust he is nearing well by this time Lynden said in the letter to your Papa that he was much better. You can never know precious what a trial [trial] it was to me to stay away from you when darling little Lynie was so ill, and

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I would have gone to you my dear when the dispatch came had it not been for the extreme illness of your Linter. I believed at the time that you would have advised me to remain with her if you had known her situation. but we thought best we thought best not to let you know because of little Lynie's illness. Which we dare not let Henrietta know at the time as she could not bare the least excitement. When I told her (several days afterward) about receiving the dispatch. "She said ma if you had gone I would have had another one of those sinking spells "which we so much dreaded. for I feared [feared] she would never recover from another She was so helpless as her infant, and several times she has been so low that you couldn't perceive she had any

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pulse at all. neither could you tell that she was breathing. as soon as she would be able to speak. she would ask "if we were all there and if you had come yet." One night the Doct [Doctor] never left her at all. he seemed to [too] anxious about her – but thanks be to Almighty God, who art the author and giver of all mercies, that she is now in a fair way to recover. She can walk across the hall in to [into] my room. We bought her down last Wednesday in a big

chair. The baby is growing finely and is very sweet and pretty. You would laugh to hear Richard talking to her. We have several

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[text at top of next page is cut off] Mrs. Hughes, have gone to Canadada [Canada?] to spend the Winter. Mary and her Father are going to stay

Mrs Addie Braadas from Covington [Kentucky] called on us a few days ago she is visiting Mrs Doe nan.

Nannie I heard through a lady from St Louis [Missouri] that Octavia was at home and that she was married, is it so? Some gentleman called about an hour ago and [?] your Papa the children out for a drive Remember me kindly to Lyn, how is his health now? I Did he receive much benefit from his stay at the ~~warm~~ Hot Springs Your Sisters join me in much love hoping to see you soon & with kind remembrance to all I remain

Your devoted Mother

[written in pencil; author unknown "this letter is written by my Mother at the time my baby was born"]