

Accession No. M1981-1010
Bruce Collection
Box 2, Folder 54

[letter from Pauline Bruce to her Grandmother Nancy Bruce]

Indiana Furnace Dec 12th 53 [December 12, 1853]

~~Covington Ky Dec~~ 1853

Dear Grand Ma

I have Just taken my pen to write you a few lines, It is a beautiful Sabbath morning; but not such a one as it is in Covington [Kentucky], no indeed for there the little Girls and Boys are going to Sabbath School. and the Streets are crowded with people going to Church- - but here at the Furnace we have to spend the Sabbath very lonesome, there being no church to attend, nor any Sabbath School for the children--which I think is the only objection to the Furnace.

Pa and Cousin Eli have gone down the River on Horse back [Horseback] to look at some land, and will not return until late this evening--but Mr Fitzhugh is Keeping Ma & I company-- Grand Ma we had such a nice trip down the River, on a very nice Boat, (the J. G. Cline) we reached Madison about midnight, so we stayed on board the Boat all night, but could not sleep for our squeeling noisy Pasengers [Passengers] (the Hogs) we pafsed [passed] several pretty Residences, and towns, on the River; and also North Bend, where Harrison is buried and the House he lived in. The next morning we got up before daylight, and eat our breakfast on the Boat in a great hurry & started up to the Depot to take the Cars for Indianapolis we passed through Madison so quick, that I did not get to see much of the City-- ~~but~~ I had a very delightful Ride on the Cars but my not being use to riding on the Cars-- it gave me a very bad headache-- we arrived at Indianapolis about dinner time-- Pa hired an Omnibus to take us to the Capitol House where we eat our dinner in a hurry and took the Cars for Terre Haute [Indiana], we pafsed [passed] through some beautiful Country and saw the beautiful Prairi [Prairie] which extended as far as the eye could see-- we pafsed [passed] plenty of Sweet Gum

trees & Hazell nut [Hazelnut] Bushes-- we arrived at

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Terre Haute [Indiana] about sun down, we and took the Omnibus and went to the Prairi [Prairie] House where Cousin Henry Bruce had a nice fire made for us up stairs-- after we had eaten a very good supper we went to our room and sat there some time talking and then went to bed-- and slept very soundly I do assure [assure] you for we did not sleep any scarcely the night before, after we had eaten our Breakfast the next morning Mr and Mrs Griswold of Terre Haute came to see Ma Mrs Griswold was very Kind, she drove Ma & I all over Terre Haute [Indiana], it is a beautiful place-- and invited me to come and stay with her, while Ma was out at the Furnace but I wanted to come out to see the Furnace so I could not stay-- several Ladies called to see Ma the the prairi [prairie] House-- after we eat our dinner Pa hired a Hack to take us to the Furnace-- we had a very pleasant ride of 14 miles, passed through some beautiful prairi [prairie] Country, but Pa missed the Road and we got lost in the woods-- but we stoped [stopped] at a House and inquired the way an old man put us in the right road but we took the rong [wrong] road again but fortunately we saw some men crofs [cross] the woods (it was moonlight) and asked them the way we did not get to Cousin Eli's until 7 Oclock [O'clock]-- he was surprised to see us-- Ma and I enjoy our Trip very much-- but ma wants to get Home very bad to see the Children-- Pa & Ma both send their best love to you and ~~all the~~ Mifs [Miss] Emma Ma says Kifs [Kiss] Lillie a hundred times for her (and for me too) and tell Nannie & Rettie [Henrietta] to be good Children until she comes Home-- Ma says tell Bettie to take good care of the Children and not let them get hurt, and to take good care of Gilbirt-- also tell Maria to feed the Horse & Brag good-- Grand Ma Ma says dont' [don't] sleep with your room shut up to[too] tight-- Grandma I want to see you all very much-- but I am enjoying myself very much-- here we have plenty of good things to eat-- We all are expecting to see the Iron run

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out to day [today]-- Give my love to all and tell Mifs [Miss] Emma to write to me, and Lucy Ann too-- keep a large portion of love for yourself-- tell Gib I will try and bring him that Present I promised him-- We dont'[don't] know when we will start home; but I expect the last of this week-- No more at present-- you must excuse this badly written [written] letter-- as it was wrote in a great hurry when I get home I can tell you all about my Visit.

Your affectionate Granddaughter [Granddaughter]

Pauline Bruce

P. S. This is Tuesday morning we are all well--

The first Iron run out this morning about daylight amounting too to [two] tuns

[tons]

P. B---- [Pauline Bruce]

[page 4; upside down]

Grandma Pa says tell Mr McGill to write to him immediately and send his letter on a Louisville [Kentucky] Mail Boat