

Accession No. M1981-1010
Bruce Collection
Box 1, Folder 18

[letter addressed "Mrs Nancy Bruce" "Politeness of Mr H. Bruce"]

Sparta [Georgia] Decr 28th 1837 [December 28, 1837]

Dear Sister Bruce

I am truly rejoiced to hear by Mr H. [Henry] Bruce that you are better satisfy'd [satisfied] than when you first arrived at your distine,d [destined] place of abode--I hope still to hear that you are more and more rejoice,d [rejoiced] in the mariages [marriages] and society your daughters--Oh that you may be blessed at home with your Husband and two remaining Children--may it please the allwise to give them true genuine religion, which is worth every Other thing that can be given us in this life tell the Old Man Mr G. [George] Bruce I hope that he can before this say that the Lord has been good and mercifull [merciful] and that he, Can say, that he will, try to serve him the balance [balance] of his life with a willing heart--Oh! that we may meet with assisting grace in every time of need--I feel that we the few professors that are in sparta [Georgia] needs assistance from on high and the prayers of all of our absent Brothers and sisters--for I think I never in all my life seen a place so much alter,d [altered] since I knew it as Sparta [Georgia] no preacher is to do here but one of the very first and him not long we had Brothers George Pierce and George Carter last year but do not know who we shall have next year as we have not yet hear from conference next sunday week is our first appointment at the Sparta Church--we have a baptist Church and the presbeterians [presbyterians] Preaches in the Acadamy [Academy]

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and the universalist in the Court House

I can hardly tell you anything about Sparta [Georgia] more than there has been a great change in the inhabants [inhabitants] some deaths some moved away and others taking their places. Mrs John Scott over the branch has died and Miss S. Temple has taken her place (That

is) on the lot Mr Alfriend is no more Mr Watkins has also left us for a better world I have no doubt [doubt] and last Sunday Mrs Duke Hamilton died after a very severe and lengthy illness I did not call on the Old Lady as the walk was so long and knowing I could do her no good--Brother Fraley, Brothers Holsey & Perry are all going to move to the Alabama also Doctr [Doctor] Ingram is going out--Major Crafford has sold out to Joseph Simmons and he has or is building beyond the female Academy--but this is all nothing as Mr Bruce can tell you all about Sparta [Georgia] better than I can as I go out but seldom--Jane presents her respects and good wishes to you all but particularly Lucian as I do not know her name she will excuse me--My love to all the girls and tell them if there is any people in the world that I wish to rise, none more than them--and Mary I hope her & her Henry, may live together like me and my Joseph did- with one exception, that is that her Husband may not leave her as mine did--to mourn his loss to the end of my days I say all this to Mary because

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the Old Gentleman Mr Bruce told me how happy they lived together--I think Cousins will live happy,er [happier] together--than strangers--their dispositions are apt to be more alike--the Old Gentleman does speak very highly of all the girls maring and seems pleased to see now that you and his Brother are becoming [becoming] more reconciled to the place now Sister Bruce I must tell you that Ben Joe as he was and is Call,d [Called] now, has been gone two years and has returned as affectionate as ever--but his health not good and has a laborious Occupation to follow [follow] that of a physian [physician]--[text missing] what is labour it is good for us--I have scuffled here a long time and if I can only arrived at that happy place at last all will be well with me then Oh! Sister Bruce pray for me that I may live to be able to say with one of Old--as for me and my house we will serve the Lord--not that I crave to live far from it--but crave to know that my Children was serving the liveng [living] God--Oh! may it be yours & my happy lot to meet all our familys where parting is no more Oh! what a happy meeting that will be--give my love to all the Girls and the little boy and tell him I hope he is as good a boy to Mother as he was when I

saw him--God bless you all--give my respects to Mr Henry Bruces, famly if I should not see the Old Gentleman before he leaves he will have my prayers for his safe return to his home J. [?]

Thorp

[vertically along the left margin of page 3]

Sister Bruce do write me soon and let me know all about the familys god bless you all good bye--

J.T. remember me to beck.