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Bruce Collection  
Box 6, Folder 179

[letter from Lillie Bruce to her Mother Mary Bruce, 1877; envelope addressed to Mrs Henry Bruce St James Hotel, Kansas City Mo., postmarked Covington Ky., June 15]

June 15th 1877 [June 15, 1877]

My dear Ma,

My box arrived all right last Saturday. And I am delighted with my polonaise it fits me so nicely. Though it might have been made a little longer waisted, I wrote you in my last letter Ma if you could have my Organdy [?] made for me? I would love so much to have it to wear at Retta's [Henrietta's] Wooden Wedding. if you will have it made please do so right away so Mrs Watkins will have it finished in time I want it made Polonaise

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with knife pleatings at the bottom of the underskirt & very lite [light] blue ribbon bows down the front of polonaise tell her to take a great deal of pains and make it just as pretty as she can, have it very long waisted. get Mary Goggins to try it on her waists fit me exactly. Well it is raining again to day [today]. So I am afraid we will be disappointed again in having our picnic tomorrow. I am invited to stay all night with Lon Ford to night [tonight] - she is going to have three other young ladies from Cincinnati also four young gents

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one of them a real "live barron" all the way from Germany. Yesterday Ret [Retta or Henrietta] & I spent the day with cousin Ellen Morgan and I was never as much surprised when reaching her room which is up stairs [upstairs], who should meet me at the door well! I know you will never guess so I will tell you Mattie Bruce yes she met me very friendly and even condescended to kiss me. she staid [stayed] some time "enquired [inquired] about the family and how I liked K.L.T.C." said she had so many to tell her we looked so much alike, when she left I didn't invite her to call for I did not think it was due me to do so, for if she wanted to call on me, she wouldn't wait for an invitation. Last Sunday I met a gentleman by the name of Mr. Doenan, said he was very well acquainted with you Pa, and is

a great friend of Mr Green's who lived in K.C. [Kansas City, Missouri] I think he was a newspaper editor he used to live in K.C. [Kansas City, Missouri] he invited Lon & I to go driving a few days ago.

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Retta [Henrietta] & May are not very well to day [today] - Has Ella Mabrey came yet & the Ellison girls & if so give them my love, also Mrs Dause [sic], I dont [don't] know how to spell her name, is Alice Erving coming up this summer? if she does wont [won't] somebody be jelous [jealous] though? Ma remember me to the "major" & ask me if he is going to get up that "excurshion [excursion] to Sugar Lake" this summer the one he promised two last summer? I think it would be so much fun. Ret [Retta or Henrietta] says she don't intend to let go home

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this summer, so how is that Pa? you said "I must not stay longer than two weeks" - Now Ma please answer this as soon as you have finished reading and let me know about my dress. Ret [Retta or Henrietta] & Mary join me in many kisses to each and all Oh! I want to see you all so bad one month to day [today] since I left my darling Mama & Papa. Please write often to your absent ones

Retta [Henrietta] & Lillie -