

Accession No. M1981-1010
Bruce Collection
Box 6, Folder 188

[Letter from JG Hickman to Henry Bruce Jr., 1878]

Maysville Ky [Kentucky] Aug 31st 1878 [August 31, 1878]

Mr. Bruce,

Some days ago I wrote you in reply to your letter about my poor young cousin and I take it for granted, that you received my answer.

Within the last day or two, I received a letter from Henry C. Bruce asking me, in Retta's [Henrietta's] behalf, to send a statement of Dick's business in my hands and in relation to all his business here.

I have taken about the first opportunity to do this and enclose a paper, which shows substantially all the knowledge I have. It is a copy of a paper, which, I expect, you found among Dick's papers - to which I have added an explanation of what became of certain and of the claims left with me.

On yesterday I asked John Lashbrooke for any information he could give me; but he told me, that there was no part of Dick's business, beyond what was in my hands. Dick left his "tin box" about which Henry Bruce inquires, in my hands. It contained the notes from which I receipted and I left it, where he kept it, in Bank of Maysville [Kentucky] & it is there still.

There is also quite a bundle of old papers in it - but they are old deeds - insurance policies. receipts, +c - and are of no value longer.

The statement which I send, will not

[page 2]

enable you to make absolutely accurate calculations as to the notes, which I collected, +c, for I have not stated dates +c; but, if they are needed, I can furnish them. I have written under the impression, that what is important now is for Retta [Henrietta] to know what is left here, which she may hope to realize and the paper shows that.

It is unfortunate, that some of the notes are payable to Dick's mother, as she has so Adues [?]; but, I suppose, the parties will give no trouble about that, as the notes will be surrendered, when they are paid.

I am afraid that Retta [Henrietta] was hurt at not meeting any of us at Covington. My little Boy was suffering most severely from a hurt and I could not leave him and I send this as my apology to her for not meeting her, on her sorrowful trip; it I send my sincere wishes for her happiness and welfare and for the happiness of her little girl.

Dick ought to have done better and the case is all the worse - because he was capable of doing so much better; but there may be comfort and contentment in store for Retta [Henrietta] and her child, though is nothing but grief and apprehension now.

Write to me without reserve, if I can do anything to assist in the trouble, which has befallen you all. My regards to all. Very truly

J G Hickman