

Accession No. M1981-1010
Bruce Collection
Box 3, Folder 83

[Letter from George to Henry Bruce, Jr., June 1857; letter addressed to "H. Bruce [Henry Bruce] Esqr [Esquire] Covington Ky."; postmarked "CARLISLE KY JUN 9"]

Carlisle Ky. [Kentucky] June 8th 1857 [June 8, 1857]

H. Bruce [Henry Bruce] Esqr [Esquire]

Covington Ky} [Kentucky]

Dear Bro. [Brother]

As I did not take time to call as I passed on my way home, I thought I would not let a day pass without writing to you after I arrived at home, but I have been disappointed, for I have been compelled to let several days pass-- I returned last Thursday, and having been absent about 3 weeks longer than I expected, you may imagine that I was in somewhat of a hurry when I passed through your town-- I arrived in Cin. [Cincinnati] 1/2 past 1 Oclk [O'clock] that morning--

I promised to let you know if I saw any thing that was worth buying out west-- Well. the best thing I saw, I think, is 40 acres of timber land-- I did not examine it particularly, but from the best information I had, it is the best timber in that country

I did not want it all, therefore did not go into it to examine it-- I saw the agent of the owner who said he was not authorized to sell less than the whole-- I have written to the owner, to know if he will sell it in lots to suit purchasers, or what will be his best terms to sell the whole-- The price asked by the agent was \$50 per acre

I thought if I could get some one [someone] else who would take part of it, I would like to have 5 or 10 acres of it

This land is about 3 1/2 miles from where I am having a section of land improved-- I have contracted for a house to be built on it by the middle of July-- Done some farming and have 2, and perhaps 4 plows at work, breaking sod-- There is not an acre of the section that is not as rich as the richest acre in Bourbon-- If you wish to speculate in Illinois land, I may be able to make such an arrangement with the man that has the 40 acres timber to sell as you might think would be safe for you to go in for part of it-- Let me hear what you think about it-- If I had not already as much as I can manage, I would go in for the whole at a venture--

I contracted for the building of a house on my section of the land near Tolono [Illinois], have some fence put up, but not much

My other lands, I will not do anything with this season If you want part of what I have, say so, and I will consider the matter and might let you in for a slice-- Lands on the Rail Road or near, are still advancing, and a limited amount of improvement, puts them in great demand at once

What is the state of our Bank? Have you got organized? And when will it go into operation?

How is the Bridge progressing?

I have not been to Fleming since my return but will go down soon-- All are well as usual there we hear--

Mrs Lewis Summers is dead, also Cousin Maria Johnson, and Uncle Porters George, Also Mitchel Patton-- Lucinda Gallagher was married the day after her stepfather was buried, to a gentleman from Bloomington Ill. [Illinois]

Rice Campbell of this county died lately-- John Holliday that married Sallie Morgan is going to keep the Blue lick house

this Summer-- They move there next Saturday--

Mr Chappell & Lucy not returned yet-- Look for them Wednesday or thursday-- All getting along very well without them, but anxious for their return-- Prospect fine for a wheat crop if the weather should not be too wet-- Corn backward though is beginning to take a pretty start-- Oat crop fine-- Let me hear from you soon-- Suppose you take a trip out to Illinois with me in Augt [August] or 1st Sept. [September] I will be going out about then to put in a wheat crop-- I think it will do to buy land near the Rail Roads and have them broken up and fenced, and then sell them for a profit or have them cultivated and the product will make a good interest--

I have nothing to do but attend to something of that sort if I had any one to help me pay the expenses-- It may not be as big a thing as to have bought land a few years ago, [one word of text obscured by sealing wax] it certainly is a safe and sure thing--

Have you got a Banking house to suit you? I see you have not the corner of the Oddfellows hall fitted up yet--

Affectionately Your Bro [Brother]

G. S. Bruce [George S. Bruce]