Accession no. M1981-1010 Bruce Collection Box 5, Folder 142

[letter by Henrietta Bruce (Green) to Mr. Wilson]

Dec 26th 1867. [December 26, 1867]

Mr Wilson

Hon [Honorable] Sir--

The Bird which you so kindly sent reached me just in time to be numbered among, and as one of my holiday gifts-- and truly it is by no means appreciated as the least nor most valueless, no na [?] but on the contrary, I cannot estimate its true value to me. Yes I prize it so highly as to honor him with the name of the gratest [greatest] and warmest of "Old Dominion" sons who is none other than our noble Gen R. E Lee [General Robert E. Lee]. How can I tender my thanks to you for such

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an acceptable present. indeed I have not language at my command sufficiently expressive to picture my grattitude [gratitude]. I shall certainly make a great pet of him but shall endevor [endeavor] not to kill him with kindness for that would truly be a sad catastripe [catastrophe].

How different is Christmas here comparred [compared] to the pleasures of a Southern Christmas with its gaities [gaieties] merriments stuffed stockings music and dancing. Ma as usual made a good old Christmas Egg nog, and with many calls and the giving and receiving of present the day past away very pleasantly.

Thanking you you again for your kindness and with many kind regards to your family and wishing you all a merry and a happy New Year

I am with great respect

Henrietta Bruce