Accession no. M1981-1010 Bruce Collection Box 5, Folder 127

[letter addressed to "Henry Bruce Esqr. [Esquire] Covington. Kentucky."; postmarked "CARLISLE KY DEC 4": this is the "Code" letter]

Carlisle [Kentucky] December 3rd /63 [December 3, 1863] Thursday morning.

Dear Uncle Henry

Brother Tom's letter which you forwarded, was received last evening. And, as you asked me what he said. I will enclose his letter, though he said nothing about the escaped "Horse Thief". Your <u>your own epithet</u>, but am expecting one to night [tonight], upon the subject, if it contains any thing new, & interesting, will enclose it, to you. I have been grieving ever since I came home, that I did not spend another day in Columbus [Ohio?], & shall not feel satisfied until an "Apple butter" circumstance-- makes me say, "All things are for the

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best," I had a call this morning from the "contraband lady," who has been in trouble and distress, ever since I left home & acknowledged she was wrong-- Found all well at home except Ma, & Uncle George Ma has a cold &. Uncle George suffering with dyspepsia, A revival of religion has been going on, in Carlisle [Kentucky], for some time Mattie Bruce, Ellie Chappell, & Ell, have joined, they are to be baptized this afternoon, The children were quite delighted with the things you & yours sent-- they will never tire with the story of "Blue Beard", they send send much love and many thanks, Ma & Ell send best love to all, Remember me very affectionately to every member of the family. I hope Aunt Nancy, is better by this time

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We shall feel quite anxious, to hear often from her, and Paulines babe too, Tell the children I should like to receive letters from them, and you must write to--

Your devoted ("Union") niece

Lucy--

This is shockingly written. please excuse--