

Sep. 2nd 1893

Dear Friend:

Your letter relating the sad affair of Bruce Hoffman was received a few days ago. It is certainly a sad thing to see a young boy hurled into eternity in so short a time. I suppose Dr. Hoffman and Susie took it very hard. Susie seemed to be very fond of her brother. What will Dave Roseman do without Bruce. I do not remember any boy by the name of Glanton. Suppose he has moved to Athens since we left.

We received our church letter some

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time ago. Our pastor has been absent for the last three weeks so we have not put it in this church yet, but will do so to-morrow.

I see from your paper that Mrs. Major is not improving any. I am sorry to hear she is sick, but suppose it is only a slight attack. How is Mr. Major getting on? When does he leave Athens for his school in Arkansas? Perhaps he will meet some of Mattie Greer's most ardent admirers while in that state. Tom turned green with jealousy when I told him about Mattie Greer & Charlie. He says

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it was bad enough when Charlie
overcame him in a fight, but
when it comes to robbing him of
his girl it is simply unbearable.
It was very cruel of you to break
my heart by telling me how my
devoted lover had forgotten me
so soon. Yet I do not blame him
for who can resist the charms
of the lovely Matthe Gruev?
Did Mr. Clements succeed in
making his school co-educational?
Father suggested that idea the
last year we were there but Dr.
Westmoreland would not hear to
it. I think it would be a good
thing for some of the boys. Both
sexes study a great deal better.

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when they go to the same school. I know Jess and Bessie will have a fine time if they go to the Male College. If they succeed in making it co-educational I should think it would injure Mr. Hawkins' prospects for next year.

I saw the account of the Nashville and Decatur banks failing. Had I been in Mr. Davis' place I do not think I would have put my money in any bank again after losing it once, especially when the banks all over the United States are in such a critical condition. Bessie had a letter from

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brother last Thursday. He has a school in Kenton Tenn. He taught there the year before he went to Athens and was elected the following year, but gave it up to assist father at A. The people all like him very much there. He says the prospects for a full school are very good. Says he is certainly going to marry this year and next year get him a female school. But we have heard that kind of talk before and know how much to believe. I do not believe he will ever marry.

The Primitive Baptists held their annual association here

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last week. There was such a large crowd of Baptists that no church in town could hold them, so they had to hold their meetings in the woods about a mile from town. There are a great many Primitive Baptist in this part of Virginia and they constitute a large majority of the patronage of this school. Tom was thoroughly disgusted with the doctrinal sermon he heard last Sunday. He says if they believe in anything he was unable to find it out. All of us went out Sunday. It was a regular picnic. What would Cithurians say if they were told that mother

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actually went to a picnic, has returned all his calls, and goes to Church and Prayer meeting every Sunday & Thursday.

I have not seen any of Mr. Smith's "goose bar" yet, but do not doubt but that there is plenty of it in Virginia.

I received your letter from Chicago all night but failed to mention it in my last letter. You will please excuse the omission. Also received your letter in answer to my last one.

Our school begins on the thirteenth of Sep. which is next Wednesday week. I have been out of school so long that I dread

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to start again. Still it will be much ^{more} pleasant when it does begin, as I can get acquainted with the girls so much better. I hope father will have a full boarding department. He has just returned from ~~advising~~ and is very much pleased with the prospects of the school. The town patronage has always been very large. It would be even larger than it is, if it were not for another female school at the other end of town which takes some, though very few from this school.

Some man came up to father the other day and told him

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that he (father) was a regular "luster". Would Dr. Westmoreland believe that?

Rob & Tom will leave for Richmond College the Monday following the opening of this school. They say that they are going to have a fine time with the boarders the little time they are here, but I will be surprised if they go anywhere near them. They both have a girl and they stand out on the front porch ~~and~~ every morning and watch for them to pass. They are delighted with the idea of going off to school. It is probable that they will not come

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home Christmas as they only give a day or two, at Richmond College, but if you can make us a visit at that time we shall be very glad to entertain you.

I had no trouble in obtaining father's permission for me to write to you. He said he had no objections to a friendly correspondence and gave his consent very cheerfully, but with the condition that he should read your letters at any time he should call for them.

I suppose I had better bring this to a close, as you will get tired reading it. When you write tell me all

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about the opening of Mr.
Clum's school as I want
to know how many ~~sch~~ board
ers he ~~got~~ will get.

Give my love to all the girls.
With kindest regards to yourself
and family I am

Your true friend
Conelia Binford