

Transcription

Letter from John Finley Crowe to Esther Crowe, January 30, 1815

MSS1_Box1_F4_2

Hanover College, Crowe Family Papers, MSS 1

Page 1

To; Mrs Lsther Crow /mail 25 Lexington, Kentucky Castle Howard Jan 30th, 1815 My dear Esther, I have just learnt how to act, in order to hear from you oftener that you see seem naturally disposed to write— so that you need not be surprised if i should frequently get offended, and write in a scolding- ill natured manner; for I cannot rest without hearing:from you; and I fear you feel so independent since you have been favoured with the society of vour loquacious &It;L musical little jintleman that it is rather an act of condescension for you to attend to a dry & formal correspondence, with a fretful, phlegraatical, hypo-condriatical student, of the gloomy and forbiding science of Theology— But my dear I will cut as many flourishes I can, and if I should be so fortunate as to catch your attention, and obtain your approbation I shall esteem myself happ & richly rewarded for all my profound thinking and mental exertion— but if such flights of all

Page 2

that is flowery, eloquent, & sublime should prove of no avail I must pursue that course that will constrain you to act or write in your own defence. I rec^your favour of the 7~n instant two days since, for which I thank you; for it gave me the nost heart felt pleasure to hear that you & your infant son were enjoying uninterruptedly the choicest blessings of a. bountiful & kind Providence. 0 my Esther let us strive that our love and gratitude may bear some small proportion to the mercies and benefits received. The Lord has done great things for us whereof v;e should be glad, He has prolonged our livespreserved our health- raised up kind friends where we had no reason to expect them, and above all made known to us the riches of his grace, whereby we may be made wise unto salvation. What motives to love, what ground for thankfulness! But 0 my love while we rejoice in the uninvited goodness ox providence, let it be with trembling; lest they should prove a snare- lest we should "be full & forget God"t and thus turn his blessings into a curse.

Page 3

You wish me to write to our friends in Belle view. I have writen to the most of them since I came to this place & have rec^ but one letter, which was from Robert-- so that I think the correspondence must drop. Py d ear I have good news to tell you— Our blessed Lord is manifesting his power to qave by making bare his arm for the salvation of some of the most thoughtless, vain,and profligate young men. There is considerable revival at this time in the Colege-- thirty or forty of the students have been humbled to the dust & constrained to sue for mercy of which number five or six. are rejoicing in the love of Jesus & the hopes of immortal glory. It is only about two weeks since the work

MSS1_Box1_F4_2 2

commenced and it seems to be still progressing-- the whole of the students (about 130 in number) are uncommonly serious. We trust this is only the prelude of a more extensive & more glorious work. I wrote you some time since by IP Brackenridge, but I presume this will reach you before it does. Remember' me affectionately to Mrand MrsBlack---- give iry love to your dear boyâ€" remembe me at the throne of grace, and believe me to remain, my dear your affectionate and devoted husband John F. Crow Note Castle Howard is the name of Col Beaties Seat

Page 4

Since writing the above f. learn that there are 10-12 students hopefully converted. I P.S. You see, Ey dear that I have writen in a much better humor than I wrote in beforel pray the Lord to give us both a spirit of meekness humility & love so that we may be enabled to adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour Be encouraged my love- if our lives are spared vs shall soon meet again — Our session will be out? inthree months and a half— so that if I do not stay for the GenrB Assembly I shall be home toward the last of May— if I do it will be near ten days later of this I will give you notice— - Let us confide in the L o r! and all shall go well— My love adieu adieu

