



Transcription

Letter to Esther Crowe from John Finley Crowe, December 13, 1814

MSS1_Box1_F3_13

Hanover College, Crowe Family Papers, MSS 1

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TO; i'jrs Esther Crow Lexington Kentucky mail 25 Princeton Deem 13 ^ ISlii My dear Msther, Ify fingers are so stiff, that I can hardly bend a joint in them, and I write in great pain with one of the worst bile ^boilsj I ever had; but I musy try to scribe a few lines to you in ray own defence. I this day rec^ yours of the 2i4^'-*rl Nov.--I sincerely sympsthise with you in your sufferingsâ€” and pray God to sanctify them to youâ€” remember they are the chastenings of your heavenly Fatherâ€” for afflictions do not spring out of the groundâ€” It is therefore our duty to humble ourselves.---to bear the rod & him that hath apointed it. I feel very much alarmed for the situation of our dear little sonâ€” - If it should please the holâ€™™d to make him blind I should have no hesitation in deciding which had sinned he or his parents. But I know that the judge of all the earth will do right-- therefore I feel satisfied that it is fc?r great & wise purposes that he thus afflicts our son; and I bless his name. I feel at present like I could say 0 father thy wall be done-- find I hope that should it be his will to take away

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the sight, or even thr life, of our son he will teach us resignation. My dear I was waiting with much anxiety for your letter, and was low spirited under my afflictions-- and instead of being a consolation, it has added very much to my distress. I am sure I have not deserved so much severity from you. Have I not at all times manifested some little regard at least for you by my actions, as well as by profession? But you charge me with acting diretdly contrary to the profession I make. I have been so unfortunate as to have my motives mistaken, & my sincerity suspected of late, but I was under no apprehension that my Msther would raise her voice against me. I wrote you that I was to get 20 dollars per month for attneding to ray boys, which I believed to be the factâ€” â– that, was what I was giving for my boardâ€” and I thought / that if I boarded myself without interrupting my studies, I should be entitled to the money sent on for that purpose-- and Drsi',lill.er & Alexander both were of the same opinion, & advised me to do as I have done-- But after reflecting on the subject I thought it- would be my duty as an honest man, to let M r Blythe k n o t h e truth of the businessas I was convinced he would hear of my changing situationâ€” and might suspect that I was neglecting ray studies, to engross the money he vias sen

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ding me for that purpose--under such impressions I wrote to Mr Blythe- fully expecting that I should receive the money for my support as usual--- and this is still my belief. If I thought otherwise, I would certainly not labour night and day any longer as I do. But I expect to j;ave at least 120 dollars by my present labours to assist in discharging our

debt, h Blythe if. write to me to stay untill the sitting of the assembly and I intend to do . so, for our session is not out until the day before. And if I should get ms a commission to sit in the Assembly, I think I should act very foolish not to stay until it rises-- It will make me but 10 days later getting home- & I shall get 18 dollars for it which is the milage they allow to members from Kentucky. But as to my staying another session you may make yourself perfectly easy; for if my life and health be spared no human power shall keep me from returning at the end of this session, er at the farthest at the rising of the Assembly, shich will not be more than ten days later. My dear it is but a few days since I wrote to youâ€” I hope you will.no more condemn me unheard but, / believe me to be your loving and affectionate husband ' > 1 , John F. Crow

