

1-15-1860

Letter from Wilbur F. Armstrong to Thomas S. Armstrong

Wilbur F. Armstrong

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Taylorsville Jan. 15. 1860

Dear Brother

Since last I saw you I have been having tall times. After leaving you that evening I started in about two hours for Faneville arrived at 6 P.M. went to the Fane House staid all night next morning started for Duncans Falls got on a wagon and rode the whole distance. Since I came here I have been enjoying myself very well. Last Tuesday one week ago I went to the schoolhouse and found it locked and about twenty young men inside. I went quietly away and got a pair of skates and went skating. froze my heels so that I have hardly been able to walk since. The next day the thing was repeated and the next day I went to the school-house determined to get in or "bust a clever". I told in all the Stenorian tones of anger to open the door in three minutes which upon consultation among themselves and in fear of my vengeance they concluded to do. I am getting along very well now though I came down on them with the severest rigor they concluded it was of no use to try that game with me. Last Tuesday evening I was at a party had a first rate time music and playing got home at one A.M.

I am at present engaged in
reading Byron I have just finished
"Marino Faliero" which is a dramatic
piece of Venice in which Marino
is Doge and thought his power too
much curtailed by the Senate and
united in a conspiracy with the
people to murder all of the patrician
order and give the people more
freedom but was discovered and
all the leaders with the Doge were
decapitated. I have also read the
famous "Prisoner of Chillon" which is
a "noble effort of a noble mind"
and "Parisina" which is another
relating to ~~Venice~~ Ferrara. Under the
reign of Nicholas third his young wife
and bastard son who the story says
was a "brave and valiant youth" were
discovered in "mysterious love" and by
order of the King beheaded which is
clothed in about the strongest language
I ever read especially the speech of the
son to the father. also another called
the "Waltz" which is ~~essentially~~ in the extreme
And several miscellaneous pieces which
none but Byron could write
This is a cold day the river has been
frozen over ever since I came here till
the late thaw when it all went out
with a rush carrying ferry boats skiffs
geese and every thing that came in
its way ~~now~~ next Saturday I am invited

to a party over the river
well I must quit for want
of a good pen Yours as ever
W. H. Armstrong
D. H. V

January 15, 1860

Taylorsville

January 15, 1860

Dear Brother (TSA) [see letter dated 2/5/60 to JGA from TSA]

Since last I saw you I have been having tall times. After leaving you that evening, I started in about two hours for Zanesville, arrived 6 P.M., went to the Zane House, staid all night; next morning started for Duncan's Falls, got on a wagon and rode the whole distance. Since I came here, I have been enjoying myself very well. Last Tuesday, a week ago, I went to the schoolhouse and found it locked with about twenty young imps inside. I went quietly away and got a pair of skates and went skating. Froze my heels so that I have been hardly able to walk since. The next day the thing was repeated and the next day I went to the school house determined to get in or "bust a lever."

I told in Stentorian terms of anger to open the door in three minutes which upon consultation among themselves and in fear of my vengeance they concluded to do. I am getting along very well now though I came down on them with the severest vigor. They concluded it was of no use to try that game with me.

Last Tuesday evening I was at a party, had a first rate time, music and playing. Got home at one A.M. I am at present engaged in reading Byron. Have just finished "Marino Taliro" which is a dramatic piece of Venice in which Mariano is Doge (?) and thought his power too much curtailed by the Senate and united in a conspiracy with the people to murder all of the patrician order and give the people more freedom but was discovered and all the leaders with the Doge were decapitated. I have also read the famed "Prisoner of Chillon" which is a "noble effort of a noble mind" and "Parisin" which is another relating to Tirara under the reign of Nicholas Third; his young wife and bastard son who the story says was a "brave and valient youth were discovered in incestuous love" and by order of the king beheaded which is clothed in about the strangest language I ever read especially the speech of the son to the father. Also another called the "Waltz" which is _____ in the extreme. And several miscellaneous pieces which none but Byron could write.

This is a cold day. The river has been frozen ever since I came here till the late thaw when it all went out with a rush carrying ferry boats, skiffs, geese and everything that came in its way. Next Saturday I am invited to a party over the river. Well I must quit for the want of a good pen.

Yours as ever.

W.F. Armstrong