

5-26-1860

Letter from Wilbur F. Armstrong to Jacob G. Armstrong

Wilbur F. Armstrong

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 Lebanon
S. W. T. S. School

May 26. 1860

Dear Brother:—

I rec'd your much valued epistolam
last Thursday, and now proceed
to answer although the Town clock
has just struck twelve and you
might possibly think it a late hour to
commence a letter, however I must
improve my time because the days
are evil. The first thing in
order is the terrible tornado
which passed over here on Monday
it exceeded all I ever beheld
I was in the Academy when
it burst upon us in its terrible
sublimity—the solid walls of the
building seemed to groan and quiver

it was truly terrible to witness,
the branches of trees flying in the air
strong board fences reeling over ~~boards~~
^{though they} ~~were~~ rotten. the roofs of houses
being carried away. and general
desolation seemed to pervade all nature
The roof of Tom Cowin's residence
which was ^{blown off and} ~~was~~ carried some dis-
tance, and some houses were nearly
blown down, chimneys were blown
off and windows blown in.

The "Eureka" was decapitated
and "Eupesycha" also.

Old Tom Carnan was here
a few days ago he stayed only
one night and started for

Washington. We had a
ratification meeting here last
week and I came home to
my room with black hands
and rather a ~~in~~ ~~very~~ forlorn
condition from throwing balls
of livid fire!

In my latin class we
are to the third declension
and in algebra I am in
equations in Stoddard's
and Henkle's algebra

I got a letter from home
last week and with it the
"Spous". Thy are all well and
have some sheep washed
and the corn planted
How soon are you going home
and what is the prospect for
attending the Normal Institute
in the "City of Cedars"

I would like to have you
come you could make
it pay first-rate but then
I suppose you ~~will~~ have
to go home and harvest
and there is no use
of me saying anything about
it you could attend for

\$15. it would cost \$8.00 here
and back, \$3.50 for tuition and
about \$5.00 for board, so that
you could go for \$16.50 which
is more than I imagined
Jacob. said in his letter. He
would let me have money to
attend here a year more if he
could spare it. if he could I would
be under lasting obligations for next term
I could commence *Cæsar of Virgil*
and *Alford's* and *Henkle's* higher
algebra which is far ahead of
Davies's *Bourdon's* and again
the end of the year I could
be through *Kenophon's* *Anabasis*
which would be a great deal
to a boy of my cloth.

If I stay I expect to finish
all those studies. for the last
week I have had sore eyes and
could not study any after night -
and it is quite an inconvenience
Hurra for Lincoln and Hamlin!!

Well I must close
with immediately
W. A. Lincoln



Mr. Thos. I. Armstrong
Delaware, Ohio.

Care of Washington Hull Esq.

P. M. of the adjoining
is not at Delaware
Please send this to
Newark



May 26, 1860

Addressed to: Mr. Thos S. Armstrong

Delaware, Ohio

Lebanon

S.W.S.N. School

May 26, 1860

Dear Brother

I rec'd your much valued epistolam last Thursday and now proceed to answer although the town clock has just struck twelve and you might possibly think it is a late hour to commence a letter. However, I must improve my time because the days are evil. The first thing in order is the terrible tornado which passed over here on Monday. It exceeded all I ever beheld. I was in the Academy when it burst upon us in its terrible sublimity, the solid walls of the building seemed to groan and quiver. It was truly terrible to witness. The branches of the trees flying in the air, strong board fences reeling over us though they were ever rotten, the roofs of houses being carried away, and general desolation seemed to pervade all nature. The roof of Tom Corwin's residence which was time was blown off and carried some distance and some houses were nearly blown down. Chimneys were blown off and windows blown in. The Eureka was decapitated and the Eupesycha also.

Old Tom Carnain was here a few days ago, he stayed only one night and he started for Washington. We had a ratification meeting here last week and I came home to my room with black hands and rather a forlorn condition from throwing balls of livid fire.

In my Latin class we are to the third declension and in algebra I am in equations in Stoddard's and Henkle's algebra. I got a letter from home and with it the "Spous." They are all well and have some sheep washed and the corn planted. How soon are you going home and what is the prospect for attending the Normal Institute in the "City of Cedars."

I would like to have you come. You could make it pay first rate but then I suppose you will have to go home and harvest and there is no use of me saying anything about it. You could attend for \$15. It would cost \$8.00 here and back \$3.50 for tuition and about \$3.00 for board. So you could go for \$16.50 which is more than I imagined. Jacob said in his letter he would let me have some money to attend here a year more if he could spare it. If he could I would be under lasting obligations for next term. I could commence Cesar and Virgil and Stoddard and Henkle's higher algebra which is far ahead of Daves's Bourdon's and again end of the year I could be through Xenophon's Anabasis which would be a great deal to a boy of my cloth.

If I stay I expect to finish all these studies. For the last week I have had sore eyes and could not study any after night and it is quite an inconvenience.

HURRA FOR LINCOLN AND HAMLIN!!

Well I must close. Write immediately.

WF Armstrong