6-11-1865

Letter from Mary Armstrong to Thomas S. Armstrong

Mary Armstrong

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Gratiot Licking County, Ohio
June 11th 1865

My Dear Brother,

I just received your long expected and very welcome letter Friday morning. Father also received one last evening. We wonder that you were silent so long, but your letter explains. We are all in usual health. I am having a very pleasant time this summer. My school is pleasant, the scholars quite agreeable and I think I have at last succeeded in throwing off that fear of public opinion and as you say "fearful looking for of judgment," that has been the bane of my life since I have been engaged in this profession. I now feel that independence of action, thought and feeling which I believe is necessary for one to have who is
engaged in a profession, such as, teaching, printing, or the shooting
ideas of Young America. May school closes in two weeks. Do not know what
I shall do then. Should like to attend school some place this fall.
... Father says, in reference to your remaining in the service, that he
does not want you to go into the regular service. Can you resign?
If so, he advises you to remain until
the regt be mustered out and then
resign and come home. I do
not think you need apprehend
any injury to your reputation from
Ships and Co. We are comfortable here
and as for public opinion, it is de-
cidedly in favor of ourselves.
In the event of that suit there was
nothing that implicated character.
The decision was rested on the
ground that Chathers was the principal
instrument in making the money,
that it was through his man-
agement that the greater part of
the money was made and his election
should have the benefit of his services.
The court was satisfied that the sales
made by Chathers to you were made
in good faith. This judgment of
$250 was given against you as his
wages. So you see things failed to
establish an make out a case of
fraud. The lawyers think it is a
strange decision and there will
be no difficulty in reversing it.
Father thinks, for gentlemen
that are making between 6 & 8
thousand a year, it is a small mat-
er to be fretting about. I have been
this explicit in writing about the
suit because from the tone of
your last letters we thought you did
not understand the nature of the
decisions. Please do not write about
and save our things
selling the farm as you have done.
It hurts Father's feelings and
Martha is not possessed of all the
sagacity and prudence of the "wise man" and is still insisting on his going west. We are getting along very well, try to look over her short-comings and faults, and make the best of a bad bargain. You can send those photographs back to any address I will take care of them for you. I here send you the names of the Office who have sent Photos also include A Hyndier's letter. I can read this one.

I have been making some improvement in French. Mr. Tucker sends his respects and says for you to resign and come home. Thinks you have been in the Army long enough. Is George Mace with you? Are the articles are that boys in a good state of preservation? We would like to see you and if you could only be at home I could study under you and that would be pleasant to you. Then going away to school. Abraham are well. Mathilda was here and spent last week with the folks at home. Write very soon and be assured you occupy a very large place in our affections. With much love from Mother and the rest of us I am your devoted sister, Mary E. Armstrong.
June 11, 1865

Gratiot Licking County Ohio

June 11th 1865

My Dear Brother,

I received your long expected and very welcome letter Friday morning. Father also received one last evening. We wondered that you were silent so long, but your letter explains. We are all in usual health.

I am having a very pleasant time this summer. My school is pleasant, the scholars quite agreeable and think I have at last succeeded in throwing off that fear of public opinion and as you say "fearful looking for of judgment" that has been the bane of my life since I have been engaged in this profession. I now feel that independence of action, thought, and feeling which I believe is necessary for one to have who is engaged in a profession such as presiding over the shooting ideas of Young Americans. My school closes in two weeks. Do not know what I shall do then. Should like to attend school some place this fall.

Father says, in reference to your remaining in the service, that he does not want you to go into the regular service. Can you resign? If so, he advises you to remain until the Regt is mustered out and then resign and come home. I do not think you need apprehend any injury to your reputation from Ships and Co.

We are comfortable here and as for public opinion, it is decidedly in favor of ourselves. In the result of that suit, there was nothing that implicated character. The decision was rendered on the ground that Father was the principal instrument in making the money. Or that it was through his management that the greater part of the money was made and his creditors should have the benefit of his services. The court was satisfied that the sales made by father were made in good faith. This judgment of $25.00 was given against you as his wages. So you see they failed to establish or make out a case of fraud. The lawyers think it is a strange decision and there will be no difficulty in reversing it.

Father thinks for gentlemen that are making between 6 & 7 thousand a year, it is a small matter to be fretting about. I have been thus explicit in writing about the suit because from the tone of your last letters we thought you did not understand the nature of the decision.

Please don't write about selling the farm and some other things as you have done to Jacob. It hurts father's feelings and Martha is not possessed of all the sagacity and prudence of the "wise man" and is still insisting on his going west.

We are getting along very well, try to look over her shortcomings and faults and make the best of a bad bargain.
You can send those photographs back to my address. I will take care of them for you. I herein send you the names of the officers who have sent photos. Also enclose Lt Muenier's letter. I can read this one. I have been making some improvement in french.

Mr. Tucker sends his respects and says for you to resign and come home; thinks you have been in the army long enough. Is George & Mac with you? Were the articles in that box in a good state of preservation? We would like to see you and if you could only be at home, I could study under you and that would be pleasanter than going away to school. Abrams are well. Matilda was here and spent last week with the folks at home.

Write very soon and be assured you occupy a very large place in our affections. With much love from Mother & the rest of us, I am your devoted sister.

Mary E. Armstrong