

Lexington 13th March 1844

Miss Henrietta R. Brooking

Dear Miss

According to the course of human events, it appears that I must go to Missouri. I returned on yesterday evening from a visit to Flat Rock, & although I was strongly solicited by some of the Citizens of the place & adjacent County to locate there, yet I cannot quite get my consent to do so. Anticipating all the while as I did a junction with Doctor Greene, who has declined a practice in that place. Therefore (Circumstances attend Cases) I am enough. The place is not very heartsome, although I feel quite assured that I could secure to myself by a sedulous attention to business a lucrative practice. But having some business in the "Law" which demands my attention, & knowing that the practice of my profession in that County will secure to me a liberal share of the same I deem it to my interests to go there. Although I am loth to leave everything that is dearable behind. That object which above all others in Nature is the dearest (yourself) Although there may not be in your heart the remotest particle

of that heavenly principle which lives for me (Now)
yet it can but measurably change my sentiments to-
wards you yet you have a light in my bosom which will
burn brighter & brighter unto the flames of day
It was not from a visionary Caprice or from the im-
pulses of a Moment that induced me to regard you
in the light which you will by reflection be constrained
to believe that I esteem an exquisite beauty animated
disposition & transcendent accomplishments & all
other qualities that so completely fill a fancy's eye & the
golden Cup of my admiration. But oh! how sad the dilemma
that I cannot know by profession that my love is turned
around the tinders of this my heart which knows no deceit
& whose professions are as pure & uncontaminated as the
lympic streams that murmur in silence down its head-
long course & as soft as the placid rays of a midnight
moon & as ardent as the benign influence of a noonday
sun.

Although assured we must part
I leave with thee the purest heart
As communication by this medium is the only method by
which we can hear anything of each other. I treat of
you when you shall have rec^d an epistle from me in
the faith that you will express yourself towards
me fully. Tell me whether or not my efforts are futile
& my intentions towards you abortive.

It would be folly to consult your parents until you
shall have made a reciprocity & a sincere profession
& manifested a conscientious feeling

Hoping that the choicest blessings of heaven
May be gently shrouded around you like the twilight
dews & that never a distracting mentium may arise
to mar the peace or duly thy happiness or that any
depressing passion may steal over thy thoughtful spirit
& for a moment leave thee to be sad & leave the mourn-
ful sigh or shed the burning tear

Farewell

In the last lingering look I take
Of the whom I love & still
And the many narrow soul forsakes
Thine for distant lands to rest
For which I cannot will be
While many latters & Clings to thee
Farewell! Farewell

Farewell to the sad hour of parting
Far away from thee I must go
While down my cheek the burning tears starting
The emblem of Love the symbol of mad
To other Climes; beyond a distant sea
Remember that I surely will return to thee
Farewell! Farewell
Your admirer & lover
Wm. C. Rely

I expect to return to Lexington next fall & take my
degree in the the Spring

Wm. C. Rely

Miss H. R. Brookings

Mad

Colbyville
Clark Co
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