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Florence, Alabama,

August, 18, 1884.

My Dear Dr. Moss:—

Not having seen you to talk with you while you were in Birmingham, I wish to express my great satisfaction and thanks for your kind reply to my letter some time since. I had settled down to the study of Mathematics, when the opportunity came for this collecting tour in this region.

We stopped at Cave City, getting some blind fish from Mammoth Cave, Nashville, Franklin, Columbia, and Pulaski, the last four being County Seats in Tenn. I was

much pleased with Southern Tenn,
it being much more prosperous
than I had supposed. Northern
Alabama is partially swampy,
and rendered very poor by the
production of cotton.

We have been quite successful
in our fishing, getting several
very interesting species.

Florence seems to be a fairly
healthful place, though situated
on the Tennessee River. The people
here are entirely Confederate in
feeling, but say they are more
warmly disposed to Indiana than
any other Northern State. This
is probably due to their commu-
nication by water with Indiana.
Their products go by steamer
to Louisville or Cincinnati &
excursions not unfrequently

go from here to Evansville &
vice versa..

We shall endeavor to make
a thorough search for fishes
here during this week, then go to
Muntsville, Ala. for a few days,

I have a cousin and a young
friend near Pendleton, both of whom
expect to enter the Freshman
Class this year. I am sure they
will both make strong students.

Very cordially,
Joseph Swain.

P.S. I suppose Professor Jordan
is on his way to Iowa. Word
came from him yesterday that
he would start in a few
days.

J. S.