

Bloomington Feb. 21st 1847

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Dear Sam.

Lest you should think yourself forgotten, I fill up an interval by writing to you. Your mother is still in bad - very bad health - chills and fever with regular irregularity sometimes very violent. We have no girl. Poor Liz is our only dependance. She is a heroine. But I am sorry she is so oppressed. We have two boarders Charles West & Oliver Graham good boys enough; but in a month or so they will leave, & then no more of that. - New Years night Dodds had a party the Faculty all at it but myself. I was sick. Williams & Trimble members of the Senior class & leaders of the Philomathean Society organized the society that night as a band of Chivalreets - they blacked themselves &c and cut up capers round Dodds's house, in short the Faculty finding Williams & Trimble to have been in the affair called them to account. They brought the rest - some twenty - to share their fate. The Faculty demanded an apology. It was given such as it was. That of Williams & Trimble was hardly an apology. But the Faculty agreed to accept it with the rest & ordered me to dispose of the case with remarks on the impropriety of such conduct. I did so. Williams & Trimble, offended because the remarks were not postponed till some distant period when they might not be thought of in connexion with said remarks, demanded an honorable dismission. It was not granted. They, aided by Millan & some others of the Law Department, threw the Philomaths into a phrenzy. They passed certain resolutions censuring the Faculty & giving Diplomas to Williams & Trimble who went out ^{of town} with the mob shouting for Green castle!

So the thing ended. But the end is not yet. Of course I will be made the butt, at which shafts from all who for any reason may think it the time to join in, will be aimed. Of course, too, the sectarian opposition will take advantage of it and at the next meeting of the Legislature I expect a scheme for some time in agitation will be pushed into execution if possible to divide the funds of the University among the leading Sects. — There is no telling what the result may be. The students are quiet now: but there is in some of them a bad spirit.

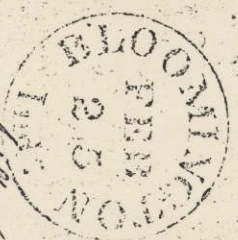
From Map. & Rena I hear almost every week Margaret thinks she can learn nothing, & of course will not learn much. Irene learns well: but has gone to balls: a thing which I do not approve.

From John I hear nothing lately.

The rest join in love to you. You like not your present occupation. I'd rather clean streets like a scavenger than be a dirty pettifoggish puppy such as some of them in our Law School will be if they live.

Be an honest man at any rate: be a Christian and then in the end you will find what in this world you will not find — peace & happiness.

Your afftr father
J. W. F. Jr.



Mr. Saml. J. Wyke

Near Downville

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