



## Reed and Hyde Families Papers.

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Shapirid my  
want you will find  
some pleasant and  
profitable way out  
of the present unpleasant  
presentness; we will want  
join me in love to you  
wife yourself and  
bath young children;  
your family out to  
Uncle E. H. H. H.  
Mrs. Miss Reed promises  
to send us your letter  
picture. I hope they  
will not return to  
Solit. In haste  
let's it enough  
and "Valentine Mary" also  
and your name & my name

of 17<sup>th</sup> inst. came duly  
to hand and I need hardly  
<sup>say to you</sup> its contents has surprised  
me beyond measure  
I had heard first through  
Mrs. Preston & secondly through  
Mrs. Palmer, that your  
father had lost some  
money in business venture,  
but had no idea of the  
extent. And later Julia  
had spoken of business  
relations not being pleas-  
ant. But all failed to  
convey to me the amount  
of unpleasantness in the situation

It is now several years  
since I retired from active  
business and as the years  
pass I <sup>am</sup> more and more withdrawn  
from association with  
knowledge of business. Now  
my son is a banker and  
has a large acquaintance  
with business men among  
whom are several millions

But he has gone South  
for the purpose of benefiting  
his health which has been  
greatly impaired by illness  
of himself and family. I  
do not know how soon he  
will return. It will depend  
somewhat on his improve-  
ment and that of his wife  
who also needs not change.

He knows a man who  
is in everything which promises  
to make money, is a million

and a large owner of water  
power at Niagara Falls.

And while he might be  
induced to look into this  
matter under ordinary  
circumstances, just now  
there is a scheme on foot  
of mighty proportions right  
at his own door; indeed,  
right under his present  
water power (The Day Coming)  
at Niagara Falls which he  
owns. The plan is to tunnel  
from below the Falls on a  
line of the rivers surface  
thence, several miles up the  
river near its bank. The  
tunnel will be about 30 feet  
in diameter and <sup>will have</sup> a fall of  
some 160 feet at its mouth  
and a perfectly inexhaustible  
supply of river water.  
They mean to make it the  
largest water power in the world.

In it are the Vanderbilts,  
The Standard Oil Magnates  
<sup>and Morgan & Co & other great financiers</sup>  
and others as full of money  
as are these financial  
giants. This I think will  
interest people here of  
a speculative nature for  
the present. I will write  
Henry and if he thinks  
there is any prospect of  
interesting any one  
here capable of taking  
hold of the business with  
capital to carry it through  
he will write you.

I have just put my 78<sup>th</sup> year  
and do not feel that I have  
much business force  
left. Indeed my son needs  
a salary and does most of  
my business which is small  
and scruple, and as interest  
in this state is being cut down  
from time to time it is likely to  
grow less rather than more.

Buffalo Dec 17/91

Dear Friend Louis

Your letter from  
Kimswick came to me this  
morning and I thank you  
for it. Besides the news that  
W Bowen <sup>Sam August</sup> & Lucia were better  
or had recovered somewhat from  
the shock caused by the  
sad news you carried to  
her, it told me more than  
I have ever known of their  
condition financially. I have  
long felt that they were living  
in a poor neighborhood and  
that in this generation it would  
not improve. But I have  
also felt that W Bowen was  
in no condition to change or  
be changed to an other.

Consequently have never  
felt like writing Julia  
my convictions thinking  
she had trouble enough on her  
heart & the time had not come  
to agitate a new one. One  
of the causes for my anxiety  
was Thomas's education.

And until broached by W. Brown  
I had not mentioned this  
subject to them, feeling that  
he was imperatively needed  
at home. I presume the  
condition of the health of his  
parents will compel him  
to leave the school & remain  
at home. But we must  
wait & see what is in store  
for them. What a life of  
anxiety & trouble you good  
Aunt has been called to  
bear! She is a noble woman

and has nobly battled  
with great disappointments  
and terrible afflictions  
and from your letters I am  
lead to fear her always del-  
icate constitution is broken.

But we will hope for the  
best. It seems to me  
I never wanted to be strong  
and vigorous, more than  
now, but this is not the law  
of nature and all old  
fellows must leave to younger  
people the aid our unfor-  
tunate friends need, espe-  
cially, physical aid & counsel.

I am so glad you could  
go to your Aunt in this  
time of her need. It is a  
great help to sick & feeble ones  
to see strong and vigorous  
young men hover about them

and ready to offer such  
help & sympathy as is so sorely  
needed in your Aunt's case.

I thank you for your  
wife's picture. Though less  
matronly than she probably  
looks now, it is the picture  
of not only a beautiful woman,  
but of a most kindly and love-  
able one. Is she in Califor-  
nia for her own health or  
for company for some one  
else? Should be at Pasade-  
na I hope she will see our

grand daughter Mrs C. H. Harding  
whose winter home is at "The  
Raymond" East Pasadena

With joins me in love  
to you & yours, including all  
at & of your Mother's home  
Yours Uncle

E. H. Howard

we would like to see your wife's photograph among  
those of your family on our  
table. That of  
your little boy  
is prominent the  
grandest of all  
the baby photos  
which grace  
our ~~and~~ gallery  
of pictures.  
Very truly,  
Your wife,  
Edith  
Dec 2/91

Your letter  
announcing the sad in-  
telligence of the death  
of your father comes to  
us in due course of  
mail. Although the  
reports we have received  
of late, have all spoken  
of your father's improved  
health, we have not been  
led to feel, that he would  
long be spared to bless  
his family by his love  
and presence, nor your

with the good advice  
his long and rich business  
experience would en-  
able him to give you.

The demands of his busi-  
ness and mine, have  
served to keep us compar-  
ative strangers, & yet, I  
have always had great  
respect for him as a man  
of good business qualities,  
of excellent moral character  
and the best of husbands  
and fathers. We have  
greatly regretted that  
we could not see more  
of your family & be more  
intimate with them.

While I was in business  
my position in the  
firms with which I was  
connected, demanded  
my continued efforts &  
constant attention. Then  
my health, never strong,  
early began to fail &  
for many years I was  
a confirmed invalid. The  
same was largely true  
with your father so far as  
his business relations were  
concerned. And so, we  
have seen less & known less  
of each other than would  
have been mutually enjoyed.  
You will as a family &  
individually know his

departure and a sad  
void will be felt in the  
home he has so long blessed  
with his love & companion-  
ship. His absence will  
leave a sad place in  
all your hearts, and doubly  
so, in that of the devoted wife  
and mother. Our hearts  
go out to you in tender  
loving sympathy.  
We are glad that Fanny  
and the baby can be  
in the home the present  
winter. They will be  
a comfort to your mother  
which she will greatly ap-  
preciate. With love & sympathy to yourself  
family & friends. We are  
leave pretty well

BUFFALO, N. Y.

Oct 17 1894

James Hyde

Dear Nephew  
Your good  
mother has been with us  
a week & we have had a  
a pleasant visit with her  
and besides we have through  
her made the acquaintance  
of her family of nice children  
more fully than we had  
ever known them before.  
Among many delightful  
things she has told us of  
them are some not so pleas-  
ant and among these is one  
concerning you of which  
I am going to write you  
I am what your mother  
tells me I think you are  
ill much as I was sometime

years since. I was born  
with a weak digestion  
and a very delicate mucous  
membrane. Consequently  
have suffered much with  
sick head ache, nose bleed,  
constipation, bilious cholera  
and many other troubles arising  
from indigestion and  
other troubles akin to it

Generally people suffering  
with sick head ache in their  
youth "out grow" the ten-  
dency to it at 50 or 55, not  
so with me. But on the  
contrary mine increased  
in frequency & severity until  
I was seventy & more when  
it became a weekly, and  
not unfrequently a semi  
weekly visitor and increasing  
very much in severity until  
I hardly recovered from one attack

before an other one appeared and increasing in severity until I had during the last few years of my suffering I was unconscious several times from 8 to 12 hours at a time.

And during all these periods of suffering I was afflicted with a terribly sore mouth hardly recovering from one attack before another would appear. and during the last two or more years of my suffering I hardly had a good, natural & healthy movement of my bowels.

Either too constipated or scaction was my condition. I was not ignorant of the danger this condition led to and was constantly fighting it. I had many physicians in Maryland

My home physician when I was in bed would hurry me up

and patch me <sup>up</sup> & send me  
from home; he seemed to have  
great faith in the benefits of  
travel, and he kept me &  
my good wife on the move.

This gave us an opportunity  
of visiting Europe & our own  
Country and it was about all  
it did do for my health  
so far as removing the cause  
of my suffering was concerned.

After many years of increasing  
illness my physician became  
ill & soon too ill to see his  
patients and when I was taken  
with another head ache, convulsions  
and unconsciousness my ~~own~~  
family physician was called  
~~in~~. He was a bright young  
fellow and had made diets  
a study. He gave me the  
usual remedies to relieve the  
pressure upon my brain  
mustard on back of my neck

and on<sup>5</sup> my stomach,  
my feet in hot mustard water,  
then other remedies brought  
me to myself again in a few  
hours and I had a fair nights  
sleep. Well we have had  
quite a sail together on this  
Ocean of trouble and I need  
not take you further on its  
troubled waters. In the morning  
the Dr called to see me and after  
"looking me over" (I was then 73 years  
old,) told me he thought he could  
help me. I told him with tears  
in my eyes "he was just the man  
I had been searching for more  
than 20 years". Well, he took me  
in hand and the result seemed to  
me & my friends miraculous!

In 30 days my bowels became  
as regular & their discharges as  
healthy as when I was a boy.  
Ball player my sick head  
aches were gone and within



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Write him fully ~~your~~  
your condition or  
as fully as you can  
mentioning heart, lungs,  
kidneys & your general  
system and especially  
the condition of stomach  
& bowels and send your  
communication to me  
& I will consult him  
& he will tell me whether  
he can proceed for you  
without seeing you or  
not. He will also when he <sup>gets</sup> ~~knows~~  
your letter advise me  
whether it will be wise  
for you to take the trouble  
to come to see him. This is certain  
your health is more important than  
any thing beside, both to your family  
& yourself and if all your relations

is the one important matter  
of your life. A specialist  
who knows his business is  
the man to employ for special  
diseases. But perhaps your  
mother is unnecessarily anx-  
ious. It would not be strange  
if she were so with  
our best love in which wife  
joins me for your self wife  
and babies. Your Uncle,  
E. H. Howard

Dr H. R. Hopkins is the full name