



Horatio P. Van Cleve and
family papers.

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Dear Horatio

Was gratified to learn you of the
I had and by it to learn that you and all were
spending your long summer. That something had seemed
to change your feelings towards your mother
within a few days I then had a letter from her
telling her illness from Mexico. I feel for her
suffering. and as a mother has a great sympathy
of as they unexpected occurs to her. She is indebted
to her dear last father. I had hoped that it would
have promoted your maternal interest for you to have
remained with her

We are going along as usual all in our
usual health. I have not been any well myself
for the past few weeks but now feel better

Elegant has been spending a fine week with
us she has a fine healthy sweet little girl
Charles is going to a select school at the
Yellow Springs. a most excellent school situation
for him. Mamma is as well as a young
married woman could be expected. her children
all healthy and well conditioned

Dickerson has been building a fine large
house... not yet quite finished. too expensive
for hard times I fear

I have paid your Taxes in Henry County
Taxes in 1842 \$7.40 in 1843 \$9.80 and \$17.20
The Taxes of this year must be paid in the fall

Have you ever made a settlement with
your Father's estate. I named the subject to
John who does not appear to have any knowledge
of it. but I suppose you have heard of them must
be a considerable balance due you

I shall always be gratified to hear from
you and know that you are doing
what you perfectly and all that regards
your interests and welfare. Remember us affectionately
to your wife. and the children and all

Very sincerely and affectionately yours

W. H. T. Vandusen

Dayton 19 Aug 1844

H. G. T. Vandusen

Among an one of our papers the
 political excellent as being very great Amicable
association with of chief Rice Mr Polk. we
 hope to have a Wm. Leggett who has failed
 by us in order to be able to through Mr Clay
 in the H. States Senate. we can't believe
 but that your State will do the same
 as a return your Wm Leggett. your
 State ^{can} ~~can't~~ we don't believe even go for Polk with
 his free Trade of Free. The friends of the North
 without being blinded by party prejudice ^{can't} go to sustain
 the South Carolina policy

23-

Mr H. S. Van Cleve

Brown & Brown

Mr. Shepard



Chas

May 1844

Wm. Leggett

Cincinnati July 26th 1843.

Dear Mr Van Cleve

As it is now vacation and I have plenty of time I have concluded not to wait for an answer to the letters we sent by Ellen but to write another one. We received a letter from Malcolm a few days since; he is very well and sends his love to all. If you does not not know yet that yourself and family have left Cincinnati he did not when he wrote; I am in hopes poor Malcolm will be able to return sooner than 1844 but do not expect he will be; Mother feels very badly about him and says he is wearing out his days for naught and will have nothing when he returns she regrets he did not remain with Colonel Long if he had he would be doing well now; if you wish to write him any letters direct them to Ft. M. Leafe Upper Missouri. I suppose Ellen will be with you by the time you receive this letter. How do you get on with farming? do you not prefer to keep school? We have sent all the school books by Ellen which we thought would be serviceable; tell little Anna to hurry and get big enough to study that book sent her and also to take good care of her doll aunt Belle sent her I hope she and Mary Daviss will be pleased with their presents Tell Malcolm to take care of his grey suit that grandma sent him and see how long he can keep them Our family is rather small now but do not expect it will be so long some are going into the country Ma has a colored man to do the cooking for the summer who does very well. Mother is very anxious indeed to know whether Ellen arrived safely and begs that you will write as soon as she arrives. We send love to all. Tell Anna & Malcolm I will always love them. I must now write to Ellen

Remember me
Isabella Clarke

Dear sister Ellen

I am so afraid you will feel home sick. I have no rest because the last time I saw you you had your handkerchief up to your eyes crying but you need ^{not} feel badly for if you wish she will let you come home again but if I was you I would stay for me will think so much more of you when you ^{do} come, and you will be so grown we will not know you. I know you are not such a baby as to want to come home as soon as you get there. I went down to the landing at about 6 o'clock and saw you start but could not distinguish you among the other passengers. Did you forget to take your night gown and cap off the boat with you, she was afraid you would. Did you remember to take all your things off? I don't you stay long at Louis and see Peyton.

My dear little Ellen you must be a good girl and mind what notes Charlotte told you and do not get angry at the children ~~and~~; tell them a good deal about me. I will now let Mother finish the letter, but I must first tell you not to feel badly about leaving your line at home for. I have hid it and won't let any one wear it, Mary asked me for it two or three times but I won't let her have it, dear little sister do write to me ~~sooner~~ than this would be very acceptable and

Do not forget

Your sister

Belle.

My dear little girls

I trust you are now in safety at your sister's and that you are happy and a very good child. you must write as often as once in two weeks and tell us what you are

doing, and all about the children I hope you are studying hard, and that your sister will learn you many other things, that you may be able to help Mother when you come home. Mary is spending a week in the country with Mrs. Selford. Fanny Shuckey's school closes the last of this month, she has only 4 weeks vacation.

I found ~~some~~ little things which you left when if an opportunity offers I shall send 1 of your new shifts was left, but if you make the one which I put in your trunk, you can do without it. let me know if there is any thing you want and I will send it. My best love to Mr. & Charlotte and the children; also Mrs. Davie's and her little ones. You must remember to pray to God every night; ask him to forgive all that you have done amiss during the day and to forgive, protect; and bless, your dear Mother and all your relations, and kind friends, remember in particular your dear brothers - and pray God to forgive our enemies and turn their hearts.

And now my dearest child commending you to the Almighty protection of your Heavenly Father. I close my letter.

Your affectionate Mother
C. H. Clarke.

It

free

H P Vanclue PM

Vin La Grange

Davies Prairie

Missouri

92

Cincinnati Feb 27th 1843

Dear Mother

I have some pleasure to get
after the return of the news, and when
we all feel so anxious to see Charlotte Seymour. But Mr
Burdock he does not desire to have a daughter, he does
seem to think enough of it, he just writes it in such
a matter of course, kind of way, that we come near not
reading the last part of his letter. - So Charlotte is pretty
as Anna was! you will get a full description of her when you
write. Kate has gone on a visit to her mother, but she
is coming back in two months. We had a
terrible fire here last Saturday, Mr Woods pork
house took fire, and exploded the roof was torn off
and 7 men were killed, but I suppose you will see
an account of this in the public papers. - We have had
a very pleasant winter, the snow was thick enough to
stay on the ground, and I had 4 or five sleigh rides,
which is a great treat for Cincinnati. - I am glad to
hear that Mr Burdocks good opinion of me is increasing,
if he knew more of me I am sure he would be
delighted. Last week I was so careless that I stayed at
home though invited to two parties, and Mr Thomas
king said he would go with me!!! - Major Guyton



20
me

W. H. Vandewer

Daniel Hill

Dear Charlotte

Nov 2nd 45

Mr Vanclue's letter telling us of the birth of your little daughter was rec'd only a few days since, owing to the carelessness of the post-office; direct your letters hereafter to the care of Fox and Lincoln and they will be put in their box, ~~and~~ be delivered immediately.

I am very thankful that you are in a fair way of recovery, and that the little one is well - be very careful of yourself, I hope you will decide to go to Ypsilanti, as I think you will be better there and much more pleasantly situated - you have not told me when you expect Louisa, or how her health was when you last heard from her -

Mr Lincoln has just recovered, and has been able to go to business only the past week, is now very much engaged in making up lost time - Mary is well - Belle completes her course of study this winter, will if her life is spared graduate in April next, she is a most estimable child, so much propriety of conduct, under circumstances in which a less sensible girl would commit follies, I intend if able to visit you next summer that she shall accompany me, and then you can judge for yourself, she looks forward with

much pleasure to the journey and seeing you
all — My house is full, five young couples, one
infant, and two or three young gentlemen, all
very agreeable — I have some amusement telling
the ladies that they must not go out without
asking permission, and that I have much trouble
in managing so many children, only two of them
are past twenty — I have good servants and
my health is now again good, find it prudent
not to expose myself in bad weather, and it is
not necessary that I should — When I look
back upon the path by which I have been led,
I find a most astonishing manifestation of
Almighty guidance, merciful kindness, and love
and am ready to exclaim "what shall I render
unto the Lord for all his mercies?" —

I hope dear Charlotte that your brother may
return in time next summer to go with us
to Michigan, it is a long time to anticipate
but it is pleasant, and your Mother loves to
 dwell upon the bright side of the prospect —

Just this moment rec'd your letter in which you
speak of Mary Isabelle; your sisters are much gratified
by your remembrance, Isabelle will write soon —

I am very thankful that your own and infants
health is good pray God that it may continue so
the family are at present quite well all send
much love and many hopes to the little ones

tell the children that their Uncle is as busied in
law papers that he hardly has time to eat, or sleep, but
speaks often of them with affection; Mary too altho' such
a poor correspondent — talks much of her visit to Flat Rock,
and Belle is counting the weeks that must intervene
before she sees you all — My love to Mr. Duncanson
and don't let the children forget Grandmamma

Your Mother with
much affection

G. A. Clarke

10
CINCINNATI
JAN 4 1854
Mrs Charlotte O Bancklev
care of H. P. Bancklev
Flat Rock
Michigan

I am very thankful that your own and infant's
health is good may God that it may continue. As
the family are at present quite well all send
much love and many prayers to the little ones

Cum gratia. 25th 1845

My dear friend

Ever since Ellen rec^d your wife's
kind letter we have spoken of my writing to you.
At first I put it off until I sh^d be able to see the
Prof^r at Bangor, I learn from Helen the prospect of
obtaining a Pastor for your infant church. I expect-
ed to see them at the February meeting of Pres;
but the morning of the meeting, we had a daughter
born, so that I was hindered from attending.
Since this opportunity has past I have waited,
hoping each day I might find something, upon which
I could base the hope of supplying your necessity.
But after inquiring of some who are ready
to go out as preachers who are not already engaged
in other quarters. There is no young man
who passed through the Seminary here five years
ago; but who will not rec^d a case. He is a
teacher, & has preached some sermons in this
village. I have heard him myself.
He is spoken of as a good young man; diligent
in talent, a public speaker; & a father
in his natural disposition. He expressed an
anxiety to be engaged in the pastoral work, & a
willingness to go anywhere. If you wish it will
see him for you, or his father, with whom he lives.

resides only a few miles from this village. But
as to his strength I will not undertake to judge.
Indeed there are few things so difficult as for
a young preacher, of any promise to finish his
studies without being forced into engagements
for future settlement. The increase of Congre-
gations in our land, is beyond all parallel. They
are growing far faster than any means of supplying
them. With all the efforts of the Education Society
Board, assisted by the members who are able to sup-
port themselves through their course of study, we do
not more than supply one half of the increase,
leaving untouched all the present waste places.
Our Jim Rogers became her watchman, and fear-
ing this has led me to think that some young man whose
heart God touches with Divine Power, if he can
possibly cross into the path by any honorable
means; he has talent enough to repeat & improve
the simple story of the Cross, and give himself
no rest until he is authorized to preach. I have
these views I have urged upon my ^{beloved} son, who
though he is a lawyer, & has a family of three children
& believe it called upon by the Revolution of Duty,
for sake a Liberative practice & prepare to serve
his Master in preaching the Gospel of Christ.

These views have influenced a number of my
lawyers recently to give up their practice & enter
the Seminary for preparation to preach, & I rejoice
to believe these views are becoming the prevailing views

of the Chh. I am sure these must be the prevailing
views before the great day of God Almighty shall come upon
the earth. Men must feel, as did the Apostles
Paul, that as soon as they are converted their business
is to preach the Gospel. & when they begin to feel thus,
then shall your watchmen see eye to eye. They shall
stand to hear each other on the walls that the whole world
shall hear the glad news.

Now, my dear friend, I do not say these things shall be the
rule of your actions. God forbid that I should judge my
friend. I have no question but that your interest in the
great cause is as deep as mine; but I feel it my
own duty, it is worth half for man's duty here. But
one thing, you will bear with me in saying, viz. that if
knows of no Court of Honor, would give me more true pleasure
than to assist in introducing you into the Ministry. Except
it be to perform the duty of his Master.

This pleasure would grow out of the fact that I
am so thoroughly convinced that you are especially adapted
to be a useful & happy Minister. In this opinion
I do not stand alone. Your friends are all of one mind.

Ellen desires a great deal of love should be sent to you
& "cousin Charles". It will always be a great pleasure
to hear from you. It is just as if you were here.
The confinement my wife is another daughter. We have
now living three children, two daughters & one son. We
have buried a son & daughter.

It will always be a pleasure to hear from you or to serve you
in any way. My respects to your wife.
Yours affectionately, J. M. B. S.

Oranberry
Feb 25

25

M. Horatio C. Van Buren

Bismarck

Michigan

Received
1875

Peach Orchard April 18th

Dear Charlotte

I rec^d your very welcome letter last Sunday morning; by Mr. Mellen, and Ellen, who arrived on the Steam-bat from Cincinnati, where they had been for a few days, Ellen went down to the Dentists — left them all well, Mary is expecting to be confined in July; Mary was very happy to hear the pleasant news contained in your letter —

I trust my dear child that my prayer for you will indeed be answered, and that the meridian, and decline of your life, may be more happy, than the early part of it. I trust that Mr. Bancroft will be prospered in a ~~profession~~^{profession} which he is so well calculated to fill, and that your present income will make you comfortable, the older children will feel, and look happier, 'tis hard for young people in their state of life, ^{the} feeling that they are cramped for means, to appear as their more fortunate friends, still I have often thought these little trials are for their good, altho in case of my own children I strive to shield them from them — I feel daily and hourly the numberless mercies of our God, in the great prosperity of my dear children, my restored health, your bright prospect, the hope of seeing Malcolm this summer, all, every, each one of these blessings, call for renewed thankfulness to the Great Giver of every good and perfect gift

I hope that Mr Vanclève's duties may send him in this direction this summer, he would be delighted to see what has been done; indeed it seems like magic to us, when we consider that 'tis only three years, since the first timber was cut down for building, in this now thriving Village — we all hope that the day is not distant when you ^{too} can make a visit to Peach Orchard, perhaps when Malcolm comes, we will see, if you cannot bring all the children, Grandmother will stay with them, while you run away for a while, and breathe free from care, and draw fresh strength, and renew your health, for coming duties — I hope that the next letter from Ann Arbor will tell us that you are safe, and comfortable, shall look for it with impatience — I am happy to hear that Mrs H Vanclève has a son, give my love to her ~~and~~ ^{to} all my friends — Ellen and Bill send much love and good wishes, would write to day but have ^{other} letters to answer, and the Coal Boat (by which we send down these letters) will start too soon — I mentioned some time since ~~of~~ Ellen's engagement to young Foster, it is broken off, with good feelings on both sides, I am glad of it; but cannot tell the reasons until I see you, and we can have a long talk of that, and many, many, other things — Bill's little son was christened, Malcolm last winter, I don't know if I mentioned it before, he is a fine child; now nine months old, all the family are well, and send love to all — Has Mr Vanclève got his Land Warrant? I rec'd

mine some time since, and have strong expectations of getting my pension, in which event shall be able to leave a silver cup, to each of my grandchildren, even should they be more numerous than at present — while I write, Mary Susan, is throwing the things out of my wardrobe on the floor, while Malcolm is putting them into his mouth, especially all the small buttons, and other articles ^{which} he is likely to choke him, it is just after breakfast, and his little nurse is getting her, and has set him ^{down} in grandmother's room the while — Give my best love to all the children, with prayers for your safety — I remain —

Your Mother,

With affection —

C. F. Clarke

I think Malcolm will come down this summer, unless such strong inducements are held out to him, that he may consider it his duty to remain, possibly he may come down with a party of Indians, should he be so fortunate, it would be much to his advantage to come — shall write for fear of disappointment —

Peach Orchard Augth 24th

Dear Charlotte,

[1842 -
1855?]

Your letter to me and the one to ell.
Ellen came to us two days since; we were in a
measure prepared for the intelligence which they
contained, as Mr. ell. has never had any confidence in
Sam. Since his explanation of the dissolving of
the Partnership; as a business man he felt sure
that something must be wrong - but he will write
and tell you all - Ellen knows all; as we thought
best that she should - it has been a real disappointment
but will tend I trust to elevate her character,
and purify her heart - she rec'd the news without
a tear, and, only that she looked paler, could
you see what she suffered - to know the worst
is rather a relief, after so many months of painful
suspense - I hope that Sam will not come here,
and, were it not for his poor mother, should wish
that he might never return, but for her sake, may
the Lord have mercy upon him, and bring him to
repentance and amendment of life - towards Ellen,
he has so far abused her confidence, and love, that
I do not think he can ever be to her, any other than
a stranger - We have a young Lady with us from
Cincinnati as principal of our School, Mr.
Johnson is her assistant, there are from 80 to 90

Papilio? she is a pleasant person and we are
very glad to have her in the family —
I wrote to Mr. T. ten days since, to enquire
about Sam, trust that he will tell me
freely all he knows — am very thankful that
he is so much prospered in his laudable
exertions — Mr. Miss Spencer will be with Ellen,
I have concluded to go to Cincinnati in about two
weeks with Mr. Mellen (who expects to be there from
4 to 6 weeks) and, (if Mary is able to go to Willsburg,
I have written to ask her) in that event I shall see
you some time next month — I am very anxious
to talk with you of many things — my best love
to all the children — I am much engaged
doing various things, previous to my leaving, and
should hardly have taken time to write this,
were it not to relieve your anxiety, with
regard to Ellen — am glad that all things are
prospering with you, my love to Mr. V. when you
write — write Ellen as often as possible, your
letters will do her good — I think that your answer
to this had better be directed to Cincinnati,
shall let you know, as soon as I get Marys answer,
what day I shall be there — good bye for the
present, and May Heaven prosper you and yours —
prayer ever — your affect. mother

C. A. Clarke

Each Orchard
Dec 28

Parcel 3

Mrs H. P. Van Cleve

Care of H. P. Van Cleve

Ann Arbor
Michigan

shall write again as soon as I hear
from Willie — Ellen heard from Murt
and wrote him, just before starting
for Cincinnati —

Good bye my dear child,
Your Mother with
Affection
C. C. Clark

[Co. 1842 - 1855]

Pack Orchard Dec 27th

Dear Charlotte,

I recd your letter of the 9th
only last evening, altho I had heard of
you once through Mary, I am very anxious
for you just at this time, and pray God
to sustain you — Poor Mr Miller is again
afflicted; perhaps Mary has written, just a
week ago tomorrow we got letters from
Cincinnati, that Willie was very ill, and
advising his father to hasten down, I felt
that I must go too; but upon reflection
determined to send Ellen as she would
be so much better able to nurse him, and
I could remain here and overlook the
little ones; in an hour after we got the
bad news they were on their way, I do
not expect to hear how the dear child
is, or if still alive before the first,
and you may imagine what a painful
state of anxiety I am in with regard
to him, he was too ill to be removed
to Mary's and Mr Lincoln wrote that
she visited him twice a day, and
that Mrs Brooks was very kind, and

attentions - his disease is inflammation upon
the lungs - his cough is very severe, and
alarming, you know we have always
feared for Willie, but he has seemed so
well for the last few years that his father
had begun to build great hopes upon
him - we can only pray (if it is the
will of God) that his father may be
opened this second great bereavement
or if he is taken from him that he may
be able to submit as becomes a Christian
man - poor man, your heart would have
bled for him had you seen him when the
news came, he trembled and sunk back
in his chair, was unable to speak for
some minutes he then rose up saying
I fear that my afflictions are greater than
I can bear - it was raining when they
started, and with his nervous thought
for others, he gave directions how the best
should be arranged for Ellen's comfort,
that she might not take cold, it was
5 o'clock in the evening, and they were
going as far as Louisa that night -
that was Friday and they would reach Cincinnati
early on Sunday morning -

the children and myself spent Christmas
day at Mrs Snow's, and I prepared a
Christmas tree for the little folks and
am trying to have them pass the time
as happily as possible, perhaps Willie may
rejoice I will hope so - You do not
know how delighted I am that Mr
Banclere is pleased with Chicago, I
felt sure that he would be and that
it was just the place for him - Our dear
friends there are so sweet and kind,
as you say the "beauty of Holiness" shines
out in all their actions - I deem Mrs Wood-
bridge's mother, is one of the most heavenly
minded women I ever met, I never
shall forget her, - hope apt to see your
Aunt Mary Ann in this world, have much
to say to her that cannot be written - what
a blessing are her charming children,
I never met such a family, when you
write, give my best love, and good wishes
if it is possible some of us shall visit
Chicago next Spring - if all is well
you will most likely remove there I
hope so, as you could not but be happy
with such surroundings - my love to
Mr Banclere and the dear children

[1842-1857]



Mrs. H. P. Van-Cleve
Ann Arbor
Michigan

My Dear Sister,

I have been putting off from day to day returning my thanks, for your delightful bandage, which was a great comfort to me, when Mrs. Chapman's letter had come to overwhelm me with obligations and to heap coals of fire on my head, to such a degree that I shall be obliged to resort to some hair restorative shortly - The little hood and cushion are beautiful and a surprise just in time for her christening.

The babies are all well and I somewhat expect to bring the youngest up your way this fall, and return with Ellen Clarke. Ma wishes to go this fall to Hubbard's and we may return by your way - The news from Sandy is all of the pleasantest, my say the little Belle

is the most beautiful baby that ever was
seen, and mother's health and spirits are
much better - Aunt Jane is staying
with me for a short time, having been
turned out of doors by her affectionate daughter
she is looking for a position as house-keeper
in a confidential way however -

Miss Appleton
opens her school in a week, her house
is beautifully furnished and I think her
prospects are fair. I know you must often
think about the two Malcolm's in their
pilgrimage, and feel uneasy about the
unsettled state of the country. I shall
feel relieved when I hear they are at
the Blackfeet - Maria is to be married
next Sunday, I am of course desolated -
have not yet found a French woman and
shall be obliged I fear to take a
German girl for a while. I have
had some thoughts of writing to
Mort to find me some one just arrived

on the emigrant ships who had lived in
service in France, but have not yet
concluded whether I could quite take her
liberty or whether he would be a good
judge of a cook by her appearance only -
If any thing should happen to take
me to New-York, I know I could get
a French woman there that would make
the Boodle two die of envy - Mort will
have a magnificent time now as newspaper
critic when Beecher is in New York, Oh
how I would delight to be there now, she
is the person in the world I most long
to see - How is Mr. Fancher coming on
with his capital? and you and Maria with your
house-keeping - Give my love to all the little
folks with many thanks for the pin cushion
which I shall finger and pat on my
tortured cushion and believe me as ever

Your affectionate sister
Mary

Aug 26

[ca. 1852-1855]

Sep 16th "Cincinnati"

My Dear Sister,

Mr. Lincoln received yesterday a short note from Maleson dated 25 July, Brown wing, 150 miles above St. Paul. The note was on business but he said your Maleson was well and desired us to write him to you, he himself was in better health than when he left St. Paul, where he had the Dysentery. He says he is more & more inclined to leave the Indian country and begs to be remembered to us all. This is the amount of his business note which I would send you but that I am expecting Ma every day and wish to keep it for her - I have been very ill since my confinement an illness brought on by a nervous attack but am now

recovering though so weak yet that I scarcely
know myself - I hope to go with Ma to
Munithaga if she still desires it, and on
my way home we shall probably stop in
the winter when you can spare Ellen
I shall claim her promised visit. Give my
love to her and to all her children - As Mr. Bunker
returned to New-Orleans I have two letters
from you, one addressed to Ma and one
to Ellen which I am anxiously waiting
for Ma to come and open - She should
have been here last week. All my
little girls are well I have replaced
Marie with another French woman who though
not yet a first-rate cook promises to be a
treasure of fidelity & economy - Marie is comfort-
ably settled on 9th Street not far from us
and would come in case of company -

Mrs. William Anderson whom you may remember
dying last winter is dead - What dreadful
tragedy is met at Norfolk hard to realize for
us so far away still we thought of it
haunts me -

Miss Appleton's school opens very well
Mrs. Long is quite a brilliant woman, rather
pretty, talks a little more than Miss A -
John Anna her music teacher is married
to a lawyer named ~~Smith~~ she always
inquires kindly for Anna - Mr. Colville
also - Give my compliments to all my New-Orleans
acquaintance - Elizabeth has not yet
known her new love but expects soon to
do so and thereby to astonish the natives
mean-time she writes with me in
compliments to Aunt Charlotte and says
she is a good deal prettier than Ellen
and has a sweet dimple in her chin -
With love to all

Your affectionate sister
Mary -