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Letter from James McDearmon to Aurelia McDearmon, January 5, 1846

James R. McDearmon

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City of Jefferson, Mo. Jany 5th, 1846.

My Dear Daughter,

.....I am much pleased at the satisfaction you express at your situation at School....When I confided you to the Linden Wood School, I felt a strong assurance (the reports of ignorant and prejudiced individuals to the contrary notwithstanding) that I was selecting for you the very best School that the country afforded, and it affords me unfeigned pleasure, thus to see you come forward, a willing witness, and testify so many things in its praise. I regret that it will not be in my power to be present at any of your examinations, except perhaps the last general examination; at that time, if it be possible, I will in [sic] attendance, and hardly any thing in this world could afford me more exquisite delight than to see you acquit yourself with high credit in such an examination and to ~~leave~~ hear from ~~your lips~~ the lips of Miss O. and R. and those of Mrs.Sibley (for I place as high an estimate upon her good opinion as upon that of any woman in the Universe) that you have in all things conducted yourself as a Young lady should. If for any cause I should be prevented from attending the genl. examination, I am still determined to call on the Teachers of the School at Linden Wood, for their ~~estim~~ testimonials not only as to your progress in your Studies, but as to your conduct. I shall do this, not because I entertain fears that you will act amiss, but because of its propriety and its justice. In this way you will get what you deserve and with this you should be content.....

Your Affectionate Father,

Jas. R. McDearmon

A good many mistakes in your last letter, but your excuse is in part accepted, especially as you promise amendment. You Must punctuate, so far at least, as to put a period . at the end Of Your sentences and begin the next sentence with a capita letter—

() Miss Ott and Miss Rossiter were teachers in Linden Wood College. at

() Original letter in the possession of Mrs. T.F. McDearmon, St. Charles, Missouri.

[This digital copy made from a typed transcript. Clearly some of the original document was eliminated from the copy (hence the ellipses) and footnotes were added without square brackets (they appear directly above this note). The crossed-out words are probably errors that occurred in transcription and have no connection to the original document, but because this cannot be proven they have been reproduced as they appear in the typescript. It is believed that "Rossiter" ought to be spelled "Rosseter."]