

Lindenwood University

Digital Commons@Lindenwood University

Mary Easton Sibley Papers

George and Mary Easton Sibley Papers

10-6-1837

Letter to Mary Sibley from Joseph Easton, October 6, 1837

Joseph George Easton
Yale College

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.lindenwood.edu/mary>



Part of the [United States History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Easton, Joseph George, "Letter to Mary Sibley from Joseph Easton, October 6, 1837" (1837). *Mary Easton Sibley Papers*. 17.

<https://digitalcommons.lindenwood.edu/mary/17>

This Correspondence is brought to you for free and open access by the George and Mary Easton Sibley Papers at Digital Commons@Lindenwood University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Mary Easton Sibley Papers by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@Lindenwood University. For more information, please contact phuffman@lindenwood.edu.

My dear Sister Mary,

I got your letter of the post office in my return from a visit into the state of New York, which came by due of mail. You know all about my visit, as doubtless you have read the letter I wrote ___ after my return, so I will say nothing about that. I was glad to receive your letter; to hear that mine alluded to in it gave satisfaction. And while I am glad that I give satisfaction to my ___, in whom I have some claim for indulgence towards what faulty I have. I am the more gratified to find that it was perfectly satisfactory to those who have manifested so much interest in my welfare, as those alluded to in yours & particularly to Mr. Russel, who I suppose if any would be less indulged toward any conduct in me, which might merit uprehension [apprehension?]. Not because I think him less my friend, but because there is not that connections existing between him and myself as with the others. It has ever been my desire to give satisfaction to and merit the good will and acceptance ___ with whom I have had any intimate and confidential intercourse; and it affords the greatest qualification that I can now present an instance in which much efforts have not been in vain, in the case of my old master Robert Feam of the firm of Feam & Lawrence formerly of Memphis. There ___ there is not a more ___, kind hearted, good man in world. He's left the firm a shot before I quit Memphis, went to New Orleans and in about two years made a hundred thousand dollars in cash in a commission business; united from business, and entitled himself in Huntsville ___, where he now resides. My friend Will who was a clerk for him in the same time with myself, and of whom you have heard me speak, tells me, he has the nest library in the ___ country and devotes most of his time to that and what good as a man in his situation can do for the community around him. He made profession of religion about the time he ___. Which perhaps is one instance in a thousand cases where a mad has said by his conduct. I have now enough of the God of this World. I will attend to my spiritual welfare. He this writes to Will who is now doing business as a merchant in New York and who is a true friend to me as you may see from his letters among my papers at home. "I wish you to get into or rather resume your correspondence with our friend L. Easton. I shall write to him but may not be able to draw him out fully in all matters regarding himself as I could wish. With you he may feel less delicacy. What is his ___ situation. What his views- is he still determined to persecute the standing for the law. Is that his choice or would he prefer merchandize. In either case would he be willing to come to You who know my estimates of the man will not view my quering as the result of ___ curiosity. Indeed I do not believe that Easton would do me that injustice, but to you as I before observed he would be more free. I do not in any way wish to distract his future causes in life but if he wants and I could lend him a helping hand it would afford me much gratification. At the same time the pleasure could be much enhanced could he consistently with his interests settle himself down in the same village with myself. Like Lawrie Told I imprint all my advantages this way to him who guides my destiny. As you will see in what follows. I answered the ___ of this letter, thus- After speaking of his letter to Wills I go on- "I now write to my dear Sir in answer to the sentiments contained in that letter with regards to myself. I ___ to express that profound gratitude which I feel for the deep interest you taken in my welfare so declared in that letter. It is certainly a great pleasure to know that we have so conducted ourselves in our intercourse with those with whom we have formerly been associated or in any way connected in any of the relating of life, as not only to give satisfaction but to give their friendship and esteem, and it is the more gratifying when we elicit it from those whom we highly esteem and whose favor and influence may be beneficial to us. I have indeed great reason to thank an over ___ providence for "there is a Divinity which shapes our ends". When I look back to the time when I first left my parental

roof an inexperienced youth, to try my fortune among strangers in a wicked & perverse world. That my destiny was so guided as that I have been conducted thus for on my pilgrimage through life in humor to myself and not in disgrace, that I have not at least in some instances tried in vain to merit the esteem of the respected and good. And the greater should be that thankfulness when I reflect upon the ten thousand evil influences that may have led my unwary steps. away from the paths of uprightness and respectability to those profligacy and dishonor. “- I then gave him a statement of all my affairs and future prospects and in regards to settling near him remarked- “It would afford me much happiness could I consistently with the claims resting upon me in regards to a __ mother in advanced age and some younger members of the family, settle myself down near you, and there in your society, spend my life in a little world retired as it were to itself. But all the ties of relationship and what few __ interests I have bind me to the place where they are located.”

Wills told me that he spoke some, the last time he saw him, of taking a trip to Europe and should he conclude to do so, would wish him & myself to go with him. What would you think of my going across the great salt ponds? I don't know but that I shall accept, if he makes the proposition before I get settled.- I am __ the girls were taken away from Steubenville so soon. I think they should have remained there a year longer. They had just fairly begun to __ benefit from their standing [page missing] think Alby has impaired during her stay there [page missing] as much as any person I ever saw. Her [page missing] compositions are sensible as any that could be expected [page missing] any girl with the same advantages she has had. [page missing] no doubt has also impaired: but she would show her improvement in a different way from Alby. You would perceive it in being with her more than from the composition. She is of such a restless disposition that she cannot do her best in that way.- I hope you will give them good advice, as to reading reflection __ and make them unite me long and labored compositioning. This I am sure would be a course of great improvement to them.- I like not the ground on which Meathias' match was refused for reasons too numerous to be put down here. Especially when the happiness of the poor girl was so much dependent upon it as it seems it was.- I think the objection ought to have been __, provided all __ rights.- What species of cheater are good folks about to exercise in this way in that connection, which of all others should be made with the best faith:- If they prohibit a girl to marry one whom she sincerely loves and make her marry one she does not love. I think I should risk the influence which she could exact on an ingenuous young man sooner than thus trifle with her happiness.—

There is one hint which I wish to convey to you __. That must not go to the ears of many, to none perhaps except yours and maj. S. I am becoming deeply obliged to Mr. Russell, he has a daughter the rest you know. Under certain circumstances this objection might be __ but he might want my gratitude to go further than my intention. But perhaps I __ the man. If so, I do it inadvertently.

I would not thus give any __ an opportunity to call me a vain fool. Nevertheless such a sting might happen.

If you intend __ to work a trip to the East I wish you would come in by next full __. I urge __. Come in to the exhibition of the college which takes place almost the middle of August. My love to all until soon.

Ever your affectionate brother

J. G. Easton