

not but if I hav'it she
must take the "will for the
deed." Will write to her any
way in a few days.

How did the contest
between Lacon and Gordon
terminate?

It seems rather strange
that everytime I write any
of you a letter the same
day some of you will write
me, have you noticed it?

Hope you all are well.
Give my regards to Johnnie
and rest.

Love to all from your
Affectionate Grandson,

Clinton.

United States Land Office,

Montgomery Ala

May 6, 1887.

C. A. Wood. Esq.

Sir:

There are certain public lands in Ala. that are shown on the Coal or Mineral list. These lands are not on the market. There are certain other lands in the State that can be bought for cash ^{at 1.25 per acre} & also homesteaded. & certain other lands that can only be homesteaded. When application is made for any of these lands then we examine them.

Congress did not pass such a law as you refer to.

Respect

Register & Receiver

May 17. 1887
Rome La

My beloved Ma.

I received your letter several days ago & was delighted to hear from you. I am much improved in my health by taking Warner's safe cure - it is a patent medicine & I would not have any faith in it but I have seen its wonderful cures & improvements in my family (Mr & Laura & myself). Mr is quite feeble is out but very far from being well. Julia is suffering with her eyes she will write to you they are better this evening. The rest are as usual Celeste went on a Boat excursion Thursday

and has gone out to Mr. ~~W. H. H.~~ her on scarcely anything
to stay till Monday. Her before she would go then
Teacher says she needs rest for a fortnight. Laura has
My little pet Virgin has been moved to Eastonville she
quite feeble with Diarrhea I gave did not like Brunswick
her a powder on yesterday. She is devoted to the Smiths
She is much improved. I hope they have gone then to
will be well tomorrow. Mr. Fisher lives & rented their farm
gave Rick 2 days. He has not out. They ^{from} are Building a
Missed but one week from Jesu College then that
work in some years. he is will be very nice for the
spending it at Mr. Freeman's children. I ~~aimed~~ ^{aimed} to take them
fishing. They just returned but it will be much better
this evening. Lila is invited to have them with their pa-
to a party at Dr. Givens Mr's rents. They are very smart
He always had a great admirer & no trouble whatever. Katie
born for our family & never Ruby lives there too: her hus-
neglects us. Rose is back from band has studied Law down
Florida & says she would be admitted to the bar since

she married. Maj Smith does
not let any one eat any
idle bread around him
he has no dead heads I
think it is a good idea

The Tool's are another example
of industry. B. V. T. is in the cotton
business one is practicing law
one medicine it was their
Mother who died I will send
you the obituary (by one of the
Boys) I did not know any of
the girls were dead he said
they buried her by his Father
& Sister Did I tell you Licero
Smith was dead? I hope Julia
was able to borrow the money &
give security for the payment
of her house I would gladly
help her if I could but I
think a brighter day will dawn

Rome July 8th 87

My Dear Grandson -

I have intended writing to you ever since I received your letter, but have been prevented, owing to various causes beyond my control. Dick has been very sick for five weeks; and is still unable to move, although his fever has left him - he requires the attention of some one all the while. Gra is completely exhausted from constant nursing - he pre-

Spring her to any one else -
she says she will write
as soon as she is better -
The other members of the
family are all well -

I must thank you
many times for your
kind invitation to visit
you nothing would afford
me more pleasure than
to be with you all again
and, hope that it will be
convenient for me to come
some time during the summer
our - No excuse this short
note but it is impossible
for me to write more
this evening - Hope you
are all well - All send -

Love to all - With a great
deal for your self,

Affectionately
Julia -

Rome En July 21/87

Dear Julia - I rec'd
letter from Mr W J King
your Attorney stating
that your property in
Augusta was ~~about~~ or
had been seized upon
for Taxes which amt to
300 ff & suggesting that
the property located as
it is is unprofitable & it
should be sold & the
money arising from the
sale be reinvested in
some good securities
interest-bearing & non-
taxable, I write him
to consult you & whatever
you prefer, will be
agreeable to me -
I sympathise with you

I would gladly aid
you if it was in my
power, unfortunately for
me. From the heavy loss
sustained by Ayer & Meigs
in 1886 from the failure
both in goods & debts, and
business placed in the hands
of a Receiver for the
benefit of our creditors
on 1st July. The business
is being wound up by
the Receiver. If the
assets are judiciously
handled there will
be enough to pay all
but will leave me
without anything.
Virginia will leave her
home & the house occup-
ied by him. If my
health continues good

I feel confident of making
a support - will
write more fully at
some future time.
After my business compli-
cations are adjusted
will see if any thing
can be done.
Will write word to day
& suggest that if he
will raise half or all
the money necessary
to pay the Taxes I will
oblige myself to pay
him half the amt. towards
selling the property & do
what you think best.
Nick has been very sick
with fever & sciatica
for nearly six weeks
we were very apprehensive
for some time that he

would die, but he is
now convalescent, not
yet able to sit up & will
get well if does not relapse.
His Mother is nearly exhaus-
ted from loss of sleep. She
was up every night with
him for four weeks -
Other members of the
family quite well.

Love to all from all

Affectionately
W. F. Ayer

Julia

SEP. 14, 1887

My dear Sister

Ever this
reaches you Mr Wood will
have told you of our
dear Sisters death I write
& tell you all the particulars
as I presumed he was
explicit on Julia's account
Do try to cheer ma & comfort
her it must be a terrible
shock to one so old & feeble
I will direct this letter
to you & should you not
receive Mr Woods before
this, please be very cautious
how you break the dread-
ful news to ma I fear
it will kill her. I never
expect to get over her death
because there was so much
to regret in her life I can't
believe she was ever happy
& it must have been a great

relief to be able to die I
regret her life more than
I do her death because
I think it must be a
happy release I dare
say she died broken-hearted
her trials were more than
she could endure but
it is a great relief to
know that she was not
insane May be God so
intended it to prepare
her for a better world I
believe afflictions are often
sent in mercy & are blessings
in disguise sometimes
I will write again Do let
me hear very soon
Love & kisses to all

ASHLEY C. WOOD,

ATTORNEY AT LAW.

Fayetteville, Ala 30th Sept. 1887.

My dear Julia:

Since the death of our dear Josie our vicinity has been bereft of several of its citizens. On yesterday our neighbor, with whom you were acquainted, Mrs. Bennett was buried. She was afflicted very much as Josie was and she too died rather suddenly. It appears there is an unusual number of deaths occurring of late - indeed the papers are filled with their announcement. They are column monitors to us who are left. I have never felt so sad so gloomy and so lonely in all my life. Mr. Wilkes performed the funeral service at the burial of Mrs. Bennett - he was 46 miles away when Josie was buried and could not reach here. On yesterday he preached from the passage in Revelations, "And there shall be no night there" - and in the glowing de-

ASHLEY C. WOOD,

ATTORNEY AT LAW.

Fayetteville, Ala. 188

scription of Heaven and who we should see there - he paid the most eloquent and beautiful tribute to the life and character of Josie I ever heard from the pulpit. Her closed by saying she could not have been otherwise than she was, having been brought up by a father who was so distinguished in the Ministry, by a Godly Mother and surrounded by sisters, devoted followers of their blessed savior. He added the father and two sisters had preceded her - her aged Mother would soon follow - her sisters very soon and then there would be an unbroken family in heaven.

Josie was always a special favorite of his - he thought a great deal of you Ma and always spoke in the most reverential terms of your father. He requested me to remember him very kindly and affectionately to both you and your Ma.

ASHLEY C. WOOD,

ATTORNEY AT LAW.

Fayetteville, Ala. _____ 188

The family are quite well. Clinton has about recovered his nervous health. Frank had a few chills in the early spring, but is quite well again. Her is large of his age. Walker has never known what it was to be sick. Nellie is in more than usual health.

The cotton crop here is very short - the consequence will be that collections will be short and difficult to make.

The corn crop is a full average.

We yet don't know where Julia is.

Her last letter to me was received on the 7th and answered on that day. My letters to you are also in-

tend for you Ma and Julia, if she is with you. I presume we may as well cease writing, since none of you write to us. Our love to all.

Yours affectionately,
Ashley C. Wood

Julia's to write Love Rome Ga
from all to all
Kisses from your
January 31st
loving & devoted Child 1888.
My beloved Ma ^{born this S. V. Ayer}

It has been a
long time since I wrote to you
but I have made many attempts
to do so, but failed for various
reasons: I have had several
spells of indisposition this fall
& suffered terribly with my eyes
besides I have not had a cook
since Julia left & no servant
except for a few days, the negro
-es in this section are impress-
-ed that they must be educated
all the younger tribe are go-
ing to school & the old time
darkies are dying off (too
old to work), the middle age
are keeping boarders & doing
enough washing to pay their

house rent & give them a little
good & a few second handed
clothes they wont work & I
dont know what is to become
of them when they live they
are so trifling they nearly
worry me to death, they
steal at least 1/3 of all the
provision I give them to
cook & very few can cook
any thing fit to eat; they
will not do what they con-
tract to do I can scarcely
keep them in the yard
long enough to give 2 meals
a day. I am tempted to leave
Rome but I hear so much
complaint I might not better.
Myself I sometimes think I will
get me a Gas stove & not have
a cook, we can live nicely with-
out one as we buy nearly every
thing prepared. The children

vote for no cook It is not
much trouble to prepare little
things but the cleaning is
what absorbs my time.
I miss Nellie a great deal. She
declares she has not one mo-
ment to spare. Anna helps
me a great deal sewing
but has little time to
clean. Celeste is too busy
with her school duties & I
have it all to do. I have
often felt so glad that Julia
was gone, although I miss
her a great deal but when
she is here no one ever
seems to think that she
ever gets tired & each call
on her as though she was
born to do this work.
We had a pleasant visit from
Mr Wood & Walker I was sorry they
could not spend a week

at least but court opened
& he said he was obliged
to go. Walker promised to come
back during summer. Now
McDonald invited Mr. Byr
to go down & spend a while
with him & go to Florida to
see a friend. His family are
delighted with Quitman's.
Frank Graham's death was very
sad so unexpected & untimely.
It is so strange none of them
die a natural death. I think
it is so fortunate for any
one to die a natural death.
This letter is only to tell you
why I have not written. I
will try to write very soon.
My eyes a better & I feel bet-
ter this evening than I
have for a long time. I
write only a line & tell the

Rome Ga
May 18. 1888.

My beloved Ma

I was de-
lighted to get your letter
for I was really very very
anxious to hear from you
I was not waiting for you
to write. I have had a great
deal to keep me from writing
lately Laura had another
very serious attack & was
critically ill: so I went to
try to help her & cheer her
but I was too feeble to do
any good & was obliged to
come home My health has
been very feeble ever since
I saw you but I feel much
better than I have for
months I do hope I will
continue to improve

I am truly sorry to hear
that your health is feeble
I think you ought to walk
out a little every day &
get all the fresh air that
you can go out & take a
Sun-bath if you cannot
walk much sit right
down in a nice comfort-
able chair where the sun
will shine on you &
warm you it will do
you as much good
sit in it from 9 to 10
o'clock Evening air is
not so bracing. Don't sit
in the room where you
sleep, leave it with
every window open wide
have your beds & bedding
sun-dried til 4 P.M.
expel all the bad air
from your room

3-11
& when you write to C
give my love to him
& tell him to send
me a Photo I will
prize it very highly
When he goes to R. St.
tell him to come by
Rome I would be delight-
ed to see him. I often
think of him & would
write to him but my
eyes are so dreadful I
cant see what I am
writing. Jennie sends
love to you & says she
loves you as much
as ever & thinks of you
very often Her children
are not well at present
she is looking well, her
health is good B. will
come up in two weeks
when his school will close

This school is very flourishing has over three hundred pupils has completely broken up the College in Griffin every body is delighted with Bothwell. He delivered an address before the Teachers association in Athens 1st May which was highly complimented. A gentleman was in Rome not long ago who was with Bothwell last summer when he taught in the normal school. He said he thought that B. was one of the most talented & accomplished gentlemen he ever met: that he would be proud to raise up daughters if they could find such men to marry.

I write this to you because I know that you are glad to hear that B. is doing so well & rising to eminence so fast. The people in Griffin told Jimmie they would receive her with outstretched arms, & one man told her he would throw open his house & she could take possession of every thing was then, that she would need: she need not bring any thing but her children. That expects to move in the fall. Virgie was very much pitted by all the school the Romans club tell her from Celeste a young lady met her on the street & said Virgie you recited beautifully the other night.

on the stage T. said that never drink water
was Celeste byn I was kept in your room
not on the stage. B. says it absorbs all the bad
Celeste recites better with air don't drink it
more grace than any never keep a chamber
little girl has ever heard in your room through
The is preparing now to the day, you breathe
play at a concert & is the foul odor when you
very busy arranging his cant smell it. Do be
drawing for Exhibition regular in eating proper
when commencing food & regular hours for
begins at Shorter College eating see that it is
But it takes the best part always fresh & pure &
of my time to rub up with well cooked You can
this large family. I assure if you will only take
you it is a great care. good care to do as I
What opportunity would say I I would give
you have to get a boy from the world if it was only
Augusta I would like to send my privilege to have
you something I hope you that great pleasure
can read this God bless to stay with you & take
you & take care of you can care of you I spend
prays your devoted child many anxious days

4th
Thinking of you & half
the pleasure of my life
has been destroyed by
being separated from you
so far away I am so
sorry to hear that Sister
Julia has not been well
she must take the advice
I give you but I think
she may be troubled
with her Kidneys if she
will write me her sym-
ptoms I will prescribe
for her. I don't believe
in Calomel only in ex-
treme cases. I have a
simple remedy that acts
on the liver. Julia must
not stay sick. She must
take proper medicine & ex-
ercise & Love to all none
of the family know that. I
am writing Love to all

I am truly sorry to hear never drink water
that your health is feeble. Kept in your room
I think you ought to walk it absorbs all the bad
out a little every day & never keep a chamber
get all the fresh air that in your room through
you can go out & take a the day, you breathe
Sun-bath if you cannot the foul odor when you
walk much sit right can't smell it. Do be
down in a nice comfortable regular in eating proper
able chair where the sun food & regular hours for
will shine on you & eating I see that it is
warm you it will do always fresh & pure &
you as much good well cooked You can
sit in it from 9 to 10 live a long time yet
o'clock Evening air is if you will only take
not so bracing. Don't sit good care to do as I
in the room where you say I would give
sleep, leave it with the world if it was only
every window open wide My privilege to have
have your beds & bedding that great pleasure
sunbathed til 4 P.m. to stay with you & take
expel all the bad air can't of you I spend
from your room many anxious days

on the Stage T. said that & when you write to C
was Celeste Byr I was give my love to him
not on the stage. B. says & tell him to send
Celeste recttes gettin & with me a Photo I will
more grace than any prize if ever highly
little girl has ever heard When he goes to R. St.
She is preparing now to tell him to come by
play at a concert & is Rome I would be deligh
very busy arranging her ted to see him. I often
drawing for Exhibition think of him & would
when Commencement write to him but my
begins at Shorter College eyes are so dreadful I
But it takes the best part cant see what I am
of my time to Rub up with writing. Jennie sends
this large family. I assure love to you & says she
you it is a great care. loves you as much
What opportunity would as ever & thinks of you
you have to get a boy from very often Her children
Augusta I would like to send are not well at present
you something I hope you she is looking well, her
can read this God bless health is good B. will
you & take care of you ever come up in two weeks
prays Your devoted Child when his school will close

3-14
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prays Your devoted Child when his school will close

July 28th - 1888.

My dear Grand-Ma.

Doubt-

less you are surprised that
I have not written you be-
fore - but was taken sick as
soon as I reached Rome;
I arrived home safely after
making Laura a pleasant
visit at Cartersville - I en-
joyed my trip splendidly;
They were not looking for
me, but there were several
of the girls at the train
& a numerous supply of
cucumbers & cucumbers - I found
all well and glad to see
me - Frank left for Kentucky
a few days after my arrival.

he will attend the Cincinnati Exposition. He hopes he will return to Rome next October, but he thinks he can do better in Kentucky. Bothwell will leave Rome in September, he has been elected Superintendent of the school at Griffin Ga it is an old town only 5000 inhabitants but a beautiful place and a splendid salary, good society & many advantages. If he becomes as popular there & as much loved by every one, as he is in Rome. I expect he will make Griffin his permanent home.

He will have an Exposition here next

October every body is busily engaged preparing for it. Rome is destined to become a large City some day, it is increasing rapidly. I can't enumerate the improvements since I left last year.

We are expecting Cousin Laura Watts from Canada to visit us next week, she has been south 5 months I hope you have been well since I left.

Please hand the enclosed amount to Aunt Julia & thank her many times for her kindness in sending it to me.

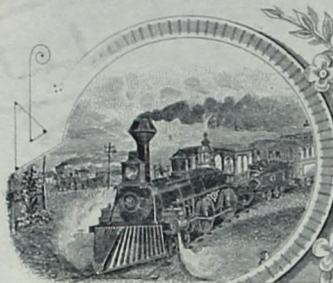
I found out through Filmore Johnson that Aunt Margaret left her



property to Cousin Willie
Oliver & no provisions, she
can dispose of it as she
likes. As you did not
have any written agree-
ment with her it is too
late to do any thing now.
I would not worry about
it - Do let us hear from
you - Excuse bad writing
I am so nervous I can
scarcely write -

Love to Aunt Julia &
Julia - Accept love from
all for you - self -
Believe me very sincere-
ly

Your affectionate
Grand-daughter
Julia -



H. A. PATTILLO,
GENERAL BR. AND TICKET AGENT.

Branded by Printing Co.

Office Of

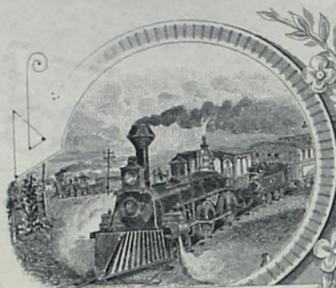
Rome Railroad Company,

RIVERSIDE ROUTE.

Rome, Ga. Sept. 6 1888

My Dear Mrs Brooke

It is my painful duty to announce to you the death on Tuesday the 4th instant; at 10 minutes to 9 a m of our dear child Nellie - She was taken with Diarrhoea some five weeks since, which in a few days assumed a Typhoid type. - All that the best Physicians could do aided by the unremitted nursing



H.A. PATILLO,
GENERAL BK. AND TICKET AGENT.

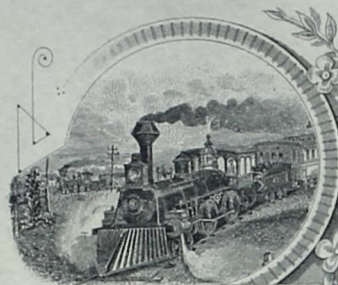
Office Of

Rome Railroad Company,

RIVERSIDE ROUTE.

2 Rome, Ga. 188

ing of her Mother & Sisters, the funeral
could not be arrested. She
bore her sickness with great
fortitude - Her mind was clear
bright to the last - Her death
was the most-triumphant
exhibition of the religion
of Christ - I ever witnessed -
She was calm & resigned
& talked to the family & the
Pastor as if she was inspired.
God grant that her words
may sink deep into the
hearts of us all - Her remains



H. A. PATTILLO.
GENERAL BK. AND TICKET AGENT.

RIVERSIDE ROUTE.

Office Of

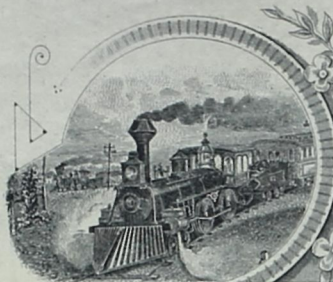
Rome Railroad Company,

Rome, Ga.

188

3

was laid away in our
Cemetery yesterday, wife
and paper announcing
her death & an account
of funeral - Gurn is almost
exhausted not having had
an undisturbed night's rest
in five weeks - wife try &
go to go out in the country for
a few days - I should have
stated that all the family
were present except Frank
who was in Cincinnati -
Mother told me to bid you all



Office Of

Rome Railroad Company,

RIVERSIDE ROUTE.

H. A. PATILLO,
GENERAL BR. AND TICKET AGENT.

Brading Printing Co.

Rome, Ga.

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family, & say that the
separation would be only
for a short time - Excuse
this hastily written letter
I am so overwhelmed with
grief at our loss that I am
in no condition to write
God bless & keep you, Love
to all - Affectionately
W. F. Ayer