

Cily Va

May 3<sup>rd</sup> 1896,

Wm R. Graham, Esq.,

My Dear Sir,

Your kind letter in answer to the one I sent you Dear deceased father was duly received, and read many times, I truly sympathize with you, and your dear mother in your bereavement, So we are all passing away one by one, and ere long we too will go hence to that bourne from whence no traveler ever returns, I had an intimate acquaintance with your father, Commencing with

Letter written to WR Graham from a friend, ES Counts, on the passing of WR's father, SL Graham.

? Va

May 5, 1896

Wm R. Graham, Esq,

My dear Sir,

Your kind letter in answer to the one I sent your dear deceased father was duly received and read many times. I truly sympathize with you and your dear mother in your bereavement. So we are all passing away one by one and (before?) long we too will go hence to that bourne from whence no traveler ever returns.

I had an intimate acquaintance with your father, commencing with our first meeting at Grundy, just after the close of the Civil War.



(2)

Our first meeting at Grand,  
just after the close of the  
Civil War, and our fri-  
endship was strengthened  
and cemented as months  
and years rolled on,  
Your father in <sup>my</sup> estima-  
tion was one of nature's  
noblemen; He was imbued  
with an innate principle  
not common with men  
of the legal profession,  
his sympathy and char-  
ity towards the poor was  
made manifest in all  
his legal transactions  
in Buchanan Co. as far  
as came to my observation.  
Yet he died like one  
of the Princes and fell  
like one of the children  
of men."

And our friendship was  
strengthened and cemented as  
months and years rolled on. Your  
father in my estimation was one of  
nature's nobleness; He was imbued  
with an innate principle not common  
with men of the legal profession. His  
sympathy and charity towards the  
poor was made manifest in all his  
legal transactions in Buchanan  
County - as far as came to my  
observation. Yet he died like one of  
the "Princes and fell like one of the  
children of men".



(3)

I have known him to  
aid poor men in their  
trouble and not charge  
them one cent for it,  
He was greatly missed when  
he left Buchanan,  
Peace be to his ashes, and  
peace be to his friends he  
left behind, To some  
of them I doubt not  
his memory is as green  
as Cashmere's Vale;  
I am not very well at  
this writing - have not been  
as well as common for several  
weeks. I am 68 years old,  
my wife's health is as good  
as usual She is 64 years  
old and the mother of  
13 children 11 yet living,  
Give my best respects to  
your Wife and Mother,

I have known him to aid poor men in  
their trouble and not charge them one  
cent for it. He was greatly missed  
when he left Buchanan. Peace be to  
his ashes and peace be to his friends  
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Cashmere's Vale"

I am not very well at this writing - have  
not been as well as common for  
several weeks. I am 68 years old, my  
wife's health is as good as usual. She  
is 64 years old and the mother of 13  
children, 11 yet living.



And reserve a large portion for yourself, kiss your sweet little babe for your poor old friend for I do love little children; If you ever have an opportunity call on us, would be glad to receive a letter from you at any time.

Respectfully  
Your friend and  
Well Wisher,  
E.S. Counts,

P.S. if I ever have the opportunity I will call on or visit you, E.S.C.

Give my best respects to your wife and mother and reserve a large portion for yourself. Kiss your sweet little babe for your poor old friend for I do love little children. If you ever have an opportunity call on us; would be glad to receive a letter from you at any time.

Respectfully  
Your friend and well wishes,  
E.S. Counts

PS If I ever have the opportunity I will call on or visit you. E.S.C.