

LAW OFFICES OF
HENRY & GRAHAM,
TAZEWELL, VIRGINIA.

July 2nd 1906

W. R. Graham Esq
Hamilton, Virginia

Dear Will,

Sam has gone back to you, reminding me that I had not answered your last letter to me relating to him. If I had thought best to write before he left, I positively have had no time to do so for ever since I received the letter I have been worked up to my full capacity - no moment left except to eat and sleep.

I could make ~~no~~ suggestions and know of none to make.

Sam is in no wise different from the modern boy, as you know, reared as he has been, with no chance whatever for me to teach.

Letter written to W.R. Graham (Will) from his cousin Samuel Cecil (S.C.) Graham. Sam in this letter would appear to be S.C.'s son Sam who was born in 1886 and would be 20 at this writing.

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him the kind of work he must fit himself for. It is a terrific struggle for such a boy to reconcile himself to the fact that he must begin at the bottom - and the bottom of manual labor, you know, is a bottom slowly to be built on. There is one thing I want to devoutly beg you to do and that is to inspire him with all the courage and resolution possible - make him as ambitious as his material will bear. There is just as much future for him as there was for you or me.

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That you will do your best to teach him manhood the honorable profession of honorable labor; but, of all, I repeat encourage him, and if you are like me, such an effort always makes me feel good myself. My family are, or have been, up to this time wholly dependent on me for everything, and had this not been the case, had I not had this to bear, as well as to do my best to ~~travel~~ travel over all their serious physical afflictions, I would have been better off and could have now helped Sam, but I am now past 60 years old, and you may know I can begin to count that, if healthy,

I did not want him to stay around here and I have an abiding faith that you will do your best to teach him manhood, the honorable profession of honorable labor; but of all, I repeat encourage him, and if you are like me, such an effort always makes me feel good myself. My family are, or have been, up to this time wholly dependent on me for everything, and had this not been the case, had I not had this to bear, as well as to do my best to (?) all their serious physical afflictions, I would have been better off and could have now helped Sam, but I am now past 60 years old, and you may know I (?) to count that, if healthy, my working days are limited.

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My main object now, if
they will give me some
respite, is to so invest
what little I have, so as
if any thing should hap-
pen I could at least live
and not depend on them.
Sam should remember
that a man is no more
born master of the science
of agriculture than he is
a lawyer, and that he
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in that, the education,
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It might be that some
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My main object now, if they will give me some respite, is to so invest what little I have so as if anything should happen I could at least live and not depend on them! Sam should remember that a man is no more born master of the science of agriculture than he is a lawyer, and that he must get his education in that experience, and if I felt able to buy a farm and stock it for him, I doubt his present ability to succeed. He must learn what it takes to succeed.

himself up to a foreman
on a farm, where agri-
culture strictly is engaged
in. Please help me think
about this, for manual
labor, or out-door labor
of some kind he must
I think, on account of his
eyes, follow.

If your better judgment
might suggest, you will
know whether your neigh-
borhood or near about you
a farm might be purchased,
whereon he could have an
independent apprenticeship.
I would be glad for
any suggestions.

We are all well and
all send regards to you

Yours Truly
S. C. Graham

It might be that somewhere he could
work himself up to a foreman on a
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