

Letter written by WR Graham to his  
father, SL Graham.

Golden Spring, Va. Aug 28, 1885

Dear Pap,

Your letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> just came to hand today. We have been anxiously looking for you and mother all week, and I hope you will both certainly come next week. Did you receive the registered letter I sent you containing witness claims last week? Politics are getting pretty lively here. You have doubtless heard by this time that J.J. Childress is the nominee for the legislature. I do not think he was as available as some others would have been, but nevertheless he is going to make it lively for Tom Ratliff in this County. Some people think that Childress will carry the County by a small majority. Tom Ratliff will not get as large a vote in the County as I thought he would. He will have to use a good deal of money if

I understand Knox will go over to Ratliff. I think Uncle Allen will get a majority in the County unless the Ratio. Good is with money. It is thought that the Ratio will make some good money at North Carolina.

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he gets much of a majority. That he and Jo. Gillespie will spend a large amt here I have not the least doubt. Joseph Lowery would not agree to be a candidate. Will McNiel & myself tried to get Will Ayers to make the race but he declined to do so. John Lipps was probably the most available man in the 3 Counties, but I understand he was not before the Convention. Childress has fair prospects of being elected, but I understand the Republicans are getting up various charges against him, (which are doubtless false) to "plough" him under, but whether or not they will succeed remains to be seen. Wise spoke last Saturday at Grundy, but without results, as there were only about 50 or 60 people to hear him - mostly of their own party. Jo. Gillespie & Uncle Jo. were there. I think they have a "bail" at Grundy. I have bought 5 or 6 heifers which I want to take to Tazewell before long. I hope Thomas & Co will buy our walnut timber, but it is doubtful about them coming to look at it. As mother will be home in a few days, I will not write to her. Come home soon.

Affectionately, W. R. Graham

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