

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

Golden Spg, Va. Sept 6th, 1885

Dear Pop,

Mother, Sam and Ollie arrived safe day before yesterday, and I assure you there was great rejoicing, but we were very much disappointed about you not coming too. Mother's trip has improved her health wonderfully. I think she looks better now than for two years. I hope you will be able to come & see us before the Lynchburg Court. Nothing of interest has transpired since I wrote you last.

I think the republicans at Grundy are doing all they can against Uncle Sam Graham. Beavers & Hibbitts conspicuously so. Don't know whether Tom Ratliff is fighting him much or not, but he doubtless will do so. He told me about 3 weeks ago that he was going to "run his own race". I hear of a great many democrats who will vote for Ratliff, but will vote the rest of the ticket Democratic.

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You should exercise very great discretion in appointing your Clerk, for on this will depend in a great measure the successful administration of the duties of your office. Of course he should be of unimpeachable integrity, and I think that, should you appoint a married man to the position, it should be one whose family has no ultra aristocratic proclivities, as they might outlive his income, which is too often done nowadays by those who hold offices of trust.

I hope you will get entirely relieved of your summer complaint when the weather gets a little cooler. Be careful about your diet, & take good care of yourself.

Sam will start back to-morrow. I think Dave Davis, Dave Charles, & Harrison McClannahan want you to pay them. I have not got any money at all, or I would pay them for you } affectionately
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Affectionately,
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