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3-19-1867

### March 19, 1867: Letter to Lucinda Lenore Merriss Cornell

Henrietta Bishop  
*Otterbein University*

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no letter has not received no. Boston. Wt.  
Don would have informed me. Brother thinks  
congratulation of the firm, as for me to letter, or think  
with his little son (John Goldsmith) was rich with  
father's family as well. I am with you all.  
I. D. Boatman a great deal of love to you all.  
John Cousin

1867.

Cousin Linda,

Poughkeepsie Mar. 19<sup>th</sup>

(Henrietta Petta Bishop)

Diaries 1-28-67

I am firmly resolved to  
write you this afternoon, (providence permitting)  
whether 'twill be sense or nonsense is yet to  
be proved, but I'll wait no longer for the  
"spirit" of writing to manifest itself in me.

Perhaps I have appeared unthankful in  
not acknowledging the receipt of little Hans's  
pictures, but I did not feel so and I hope  
you know me too well to entertain for an  
instant such a feeling towards me. I am  
very grateful for it, I love the little fellow



as well as though I had known him during my pleasant stay with you all, he is a fine looking boy and I think resembles you very much, he appears as independent as he sits there as some "children of a larger growth".

Alice speaks of him so much I imagine he just fills that space left in the hearts of his grand-ma and Auntie for the loss of little children, How fares the canary and house-plants since the arrival of that little house-plant are they of any consequence now? or can you find time to care for and train them all? I am disappointed that I did not receive pictures of yourself and John, I have one of yours but I know you can better that if you will sit again.

I will send you one of mine, I regret that the position is so stiff, some of my friends think them quite natural, but

I cannot judge of my own picture.

Last evening Theodore came up and gave us a moonlight sleighride. the sleighing was splendid and he tried the speed of his ~~new horse~~ horse and we were not beaten either if he is far past his youthful years. I fear I will get no more sleighrides this spring the snow melts so fast today, 'twas as deep as any that we have had this winter if fell on saturday and sunday. I was home last week while Kate went to Keuburg for a week to her mother-in-law's, work is rushing in now and I may not go again in a long time. I am very eager to get in our new house, 'tis so long till the first of May. I am very busy making chair cushions and tickies we shall have more room there and require more things. Two old maids talk of taking our upper rooms, just imagine what a batch of the old critters for one house. I like house



hoping very much, but the children — well  
I may as well say it — cause us to feel like  
the "old woman who lived in her shoe" when we  
want to train around evenings. I attended a  
masquerade a short time since in the char-  
acter of "Pocahontas." I was a big square in  
earnest. Capt. Smith was very ill and could not  
attend, and my friends would not let me off.

We are promised one when we get moved. I  
am very well but not very fat. I weigh 137  
with cloak and bonnet on, last year this time  
I weighed 146. Do you know what ails  
Belia Westervelt? she has not written me since  
last summer does Thos. Houghton and N. Grinnell  
occupy all her time so that she cannot think  
of absent friends? She treated me awfully. I  
thought she would marry George or I would  
not have been so conscientious about cutting her  
out. A truce to this nonsense. Give my love to  
your mother-in-law Alice and John reserve a large  
share for yourself, give Harry a dozen kisses for me  
and please write me soon. Your cousin Henrietta

Johns Conner

Boughkeepsie Mar. 18 44  
Hannah Petta Bishop  
Diaries 1-28-67

Perhaps I have appeared unthankful in not acknowledging the receipt of little Bang's picture, but I did not feel so and I hope you know me too well to entertain for an instant such a feeling towards me. I am very grateful for it, I love the little fellow