

Springfield, Ills.

June 12, 1868

Dear Willie,

I suppose you have come to the conclusion before this reaches you that we have forgotten you but such is not the case. We should have written you sooner but we had reasons for not writing you until we could find out something to your advantage in regard to your Father's Estate. I have every reason to believe that if we manage the case right that you may yet come out successful so far as I am concerned I shall endeavor to do all in my power for you that I can in order to prevent those that are nothing but a lot of thieves and trying to get possession of what justly belongs to you. Now I have taken the pains to push myself in regards to all this matter and if we can be of any service to you we shall employ a lawyer for you right away, and have the case put through if you do not commence an action soon for damages you will find it will be too late as the Cather family of Tuiney, Ills. are helping themselves to lots of goods from the store every time they have an opportunity and I am sorry to say such is the case and since W. R. has made himself so busy about other peoples affairs and has said things about our family which he had no right to say. I am determined to make a witness in this case. I have been to Missouri and know all about his affairs so far as his property is concerned and all I want is to hear from you once more and then I shall let you know how to proceed. He has just been up to Tuiney and brought along a lot of goods for the Cathers, and it does make me so mad to see him act so when he certainly knows better. I wrote you a long letter last February and made a mistake in directing my letter to the Post Office at Buckhannen C.H. Va. Buckhannen County, consequently my letter was lost, for which I was very sorry as I had stated before some things concerning this affair and expected to hear from you immediately but as no answer came I was surprised that you did not write me until I found out better. You must promise me one thing if you desire to obtain this property you must not say anything about the case to any one except you Husband or Mother and Aunt Virginia. Now if you will let me hear from you as soon as you receive this letter I then will tell you how you may proceed and if you think best not to do anything let me know immediately. Please write to me care Dr. James Griffith, Box 4, Springfield, Sangamon County, Illinois. Excuse the paper and a short letter until I hear from you. I am very anxious to hear from you as I think a great deal of my niece. This leaves myself and husband and Villa quite well. Do not fail to write soon and let me know all about what your attentions are.

Your affectionate Aunt

Rachel Harlan

Uncle Thos. J. Harlan of New New York has a son 2 months old.

We do not expect to remain here long so hurry up your cares. We leave 15 July.