

*Family history*

Camden, Jan 1, 1871

Dear Willard, The reason for my delay in replying to your last letter which was received in due time is that I have been several weeks at Aunt ? waiting for the cold weather to moderate so that I could go down to Camden and have those pictures, Ellen's and my own, taken for you. Today the thermometer is lower and I concluded to send you a few lines and forward the pictures in my next letter. I think you for those photographs you were so kind as to send also those in anticipation among which I hope to see your own. Were it not for the bright expression in Amanda's eyes she might be thought to look slightly careworn and few mothers of large families do look as well at her age. The girls are pronounced pretty by all their friends and all except Olivia Carroll think they resemble their grandmother and she thinks they look like Amanda and are very beautiful and intends to have them taken on a large card at Hamilton where a good artist of her acquaintance has a gallery. In my opinion their features are very much like the Stout family. Emanuel Stout my great-grandfather was an English gentleman of the higher class as I imagine from the fact that he was a wealthy immigrant, lived in the aristocratic style of the day when our country was an English colony. His children were highly educated and remarkable for their artistic talents. He married my my great grandfather's/ Griffins sister Mary and David Griffin married E. Stout's sister. I have seen all the children, ten in number, except three; most of them were old, as I thought when a child, they came to visit Papa. They looked to me like people of another race, so stately and grand and talked so fluently altogether unlike the people I was accustomed to see around us. They never failed to unclasp that large old Bible, look and talk about the family records in which they seemed deeply interested. I was named for Aunt Elizabeth at her request, as my Mother said, who promised to leave me a fortune, but failed to do so in consequence of a second marriage by which a large portion of her estate was wasted. She had one daughter by her first husband to whose children she gave the remainder, she lived many years as I am now living, paying board in a friend's family. She loved my Father very much as she often said for his mother's sake. Aunt Sarah Cowgill lived, also Uncle G. Stout to be over ninety, There is still one daughter Annie living in Philadelphia. Most of their descendants are still wealthy. Uncle Jacob Stout died worth \$600,000. His son Henry a highly educated man said to be the best lawyer at the Baltimore ? became dissipated and at his death about one year ago his debts amounted

to one hundred thousand dollars. There was three children, Henry, Mary, and Sarah. The two latter live in Doven, both widows, and as Mrs. Mearium from whom I get occasional letters tells me are very wealthy, and of course quite old. Mary, I know, is my senior. After the death of my Mother and my marriage we ceased to have much intercourse. There were highe minded, and I beside possess ing enough of that quality was sensitive and never sought their notice. I speak only of the two girls of Uncle Stout. Their father was Papa's first cousin and half uncle. He seems to stand high in his native state, being a senator, governor and judge for life. You ask about Olivia P? she is a good firl of delicate constitution, not beautiful though good looking, well educated in the useful branches and intelligent, but not egoistic. She was engaged to marry a Mr. McGuiness one year since, a young man of good standing living in Richmond, Ohio who sickened and died with hasty consumption about the time the marriage was to take place. Mc, their eldest son is in Kansas, Rees and Frank at home. The steamship US ? in which Corwin is a mid? has sailed, ordered to Lisbon. He visited his brothers in Kansas whom he had not seen for fourteen years. He left his class album at home containing the pictures of the professors, officers, and graduates of his class, cost 30 dollars, is very large and nicely make up. They expect to return in one year for examination and promotion. Having ~~it~~ wirtten more than I felt like writing at the beginning, I will stop for the present. Give my best love to all your family.

Yours as ever,

Elizabeth Rees