

Burlington 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb. 22, 1836

2/22/36  
#41

(W)  
Dear Brother;

Mr. Hardung received a letter from you some time since, in which you express a doubt that you will not be able to attend our examination, which commences on next Monday (the 29<sup>th</sup> inst.) If you can possibly <sup>leave</sup> Oxford, and your various and important duties there, but for three days, which would allow you to spend one day with us, ~~we~~ we would consider ourselves under many obligations to you. The examination will ~~last~~ continue during Monday Tuesday and Wednesday; for we feel it impossible to examine all the classes in less time. Tuesday and Wednesday will be devoted to the languages and Mathematics, together with Nat. Philos. & Chemistry. We are particularly anxious to have you here during the two last days. We intend upon the last day to make a bold push for an apparatus, and by think there is little doubt, but we will be successful. This would be reduced to an absolute certainty if you could only make it convenient to come, and make a few remarks upon the subject. Every one is enquiring if we expect you here, and express their disappointment in no measured terms, when I inform them that it is doubtful. I think that our examination would be interesting, even to you, and if you were here, it would be interesting to every one else.

115-2AE

(first page)

to: W.H. McGuffey - Oxford, O.

from: Alexander McGuffey -  
Burlington, Ky.

February 22, 1836

(41)

I regret that we have been obliged to relinquish the compilation, which you were kind enough to entrust to us, particularly, at so late a period. We still hoped, however, to be able to attend to it, until a short time before Mr. Harding wrote. But finding that we were becoming daily more occupied by our school, we were forced to give it up. We each have two recitations to hear, after night, for want of sufficient time during the day. After they are done, we have lessons to prepare, ~~and~~ which occupy us until midnight, besides about 80 compositions to write each during the week. — If we can only erect our school into an academy of sufficient importance to enable us to exclude a-b-c pupils, we will then be enabled to discharge our duties as teachers with more ease. But so long as we are obliged to admit them, we will be <sup>compelled</sup> ~~obliged~~ to devote to them a large portion of the time, which we would wish to spend with the higher classes. We are compelled to attend to them closely from the fact, that from their progress, our ability and fidelity as teachers is estimated, every one being a judge whether a child learned to read rapidly, while but the fewest number are competent to judge of their proficiency in other branches.

We had completed the first book, before we became so engaged. If it will be of any service to you, I will send it to you, if you cannot come to our

examinations.

Harding wishes to be remembered to you, He  
and I, have been talking about making a tour  
eastward, next month, but have ~~not~~ <sup>yet</sup> decided,  
certainly. If we should, I shall only regret, that  
the vacation at M.U. does not fall upon the  
same month with ours, so that we could travel  
with you. It could not fail to be interesting,  
and improving, much more so, than if we make  
the trip alone.

Please to present my love to Sister, and  
his Mary and Laurette, for me.

I remain  
Your brother  
A.H.

Prof. W.H. McGuffey.

Burlington K  
Feb/22

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Prof. Wm H. McGuffey  
Wford  
Ohio.