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Correspondence, "Loulie" Gayle to [unnamed] Aunt, 1892

Mary Louise (Gayle) Bland

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Normal School,
20 Nov. 1892.

My dear Aunt:-

Your most
welcome letter was received, I was very sorry to hear
Uncle Shepard was worse
but I hope he is much
better now.

Auntie, I am very sorry
you are having such a
time; indeed it should
not be so if I could pre-
vent it. I am sorry mam-
ma did not come when
you wanted her, and
that the children have
been such a trouble to

you. But even while I
 have writing this, I be-
 lieve mamma and
 sister and Br Emmett
 are at home with all of
 you, and you are, for
 the present, having a
 pleasant time. I only,
 am left out. Please write
 to me very soon, and let
 me know if they are
 with you, (of course Br Em-
 met is not, I forgot he ~~was~~ at
 Conf.) and how Uncle Shep-
 ard is. Please do not blame
 mamma too much for
 not coming sooner. I
 suppose it was so much
 more pleasant for her
 to come with them than
 to travel all alone.

It is really nice for

Willie to attend school, but I suppose Mr. Taliaferro doesn't teach him free of charge.

And, now since you have so many troubles of your own, probably it is selfish for me to call upon you to share mine also, but I am not certain that mamma would get my letter if I wrote her, since she may be with you or in Norfolk, and I am not sure where she is.

You will see from the receipt which I send you, that my music bill for this month is 75¢ more than we expected, as Miss Bassie gave me two pie-

ces which cost that amt., and it will probably be this way frequently, so I do not know if it is best for me to continue music or not. I am afraid, all things considered, that it is better for me to stop, yet I don't know, and if I do have to stop, it would have been better for me not to begin, and it is so trifling to be constantly changing. I do want to learn music, and expect to some day, but it seems that it costs too much for me not to be

able to give more time to it than I do. Now, please let me know what all of you think on the subject, and please don't be vexed with me, for I am as anxious to learn as ever.

Now, for the next important topic, I want a cloak and hat; a cloak I must have; possibly, I can manage to get one here; some of the girls have gotten some very pretty ones. A lady down town will order one for me, but even then it will have to be altered, owing to my peculiar size. I can get a light grey or fawn trimmed in black

fur for \$7.00, and by squeezing my purse to its lowest ebb, I may be able to get it: but it may cost something to have it made smaller. If I can get it for the same price I'd rather have my cloak trimmed in white fur as there are beautiful white felt hats down town for \$2.50 or \$3.00. and I have white gloves already, but no money for a hat. If mamma is home you may let her see this letter.

Perhaps you all think me quite commanding, but without jesting, you know I do need these things.

Anyway I feel better

for having written you
about my music, &c.
It is really bad not to have
any one to ^{whom you may} tell your per-
plexities.

Please do let me hear from
Conf. soon as possible.

If sister and mam-
ma are home, give my
best love to them and to
all the rest, and please
some of you write soon,
and don't be angry with
me much for being
such a trouble.

Miss Parrish gets "no better,
fast" so you must pre-
pare yourself to re-
ceive from me, in Feb.
a slip of paper like the
following.

Gayle. Repeat "B"

Good Night to all,
Lovingly
Louise.

P.S. (23 Nov.)

I have gotten my cloak, and
it cost only \$5.00, so you see
I saved \$2.00 on that; and
hence if the money isn't
convenient for mamma
to send, I can do without
it. My cloak is pretty.
With much love,
Louise.