



## Letter to James Moreland of Cincinnati, Ohio from Mary Johnson of Worthington, Ohio, 3/21/1847

Subject: Parents disapprove of relationship, Mary reacts to something he wrote about her parents and ends relationship, requests return of her letters

[Handwritten, script]

Worthington, Mar. 21, 1847

It has been a long time since these words, Mr. Moreland have been penned by my hand—though contrary to your expectations, I have ever been free to write or not as my will dictated.

My parents have never forbidden me writing you - tho they have advised. They knew I was under a decided influence & desired me to consider before acting. Civel [*sic*] is the influence of whatever nature, that will prompt one to act contrary to parental dictates.

Last fall I decided to write to you - state to you how matters stood, & propose to drop the matter entirely - to return our letters - may on your part - & convenience & if possible let the past be forgotten. I was fixed in the determination but delayed writing untill finely [*sic*] abandoned the idea. The perusal of your letters revived many pleasant thoughts & associations & they returned to their old resting place.

But a change has come o'er the "spirit of my dream." A change wrought by your own hands. The missive accompanying my minature was a dire one. Think you Mr. Moreland such abuses & reproaches cast upon my parents - & from one who once was the idol of my affections would or should pass unheeded? Of what could you have thought heart & feelings of this daughter the only child—were constituted not to feel & tremble under the accusations [*sic*] cast upon them in that epistle? - & then considering the source. But the deed is done the affect is realized & now I have to desire of you to return all of mine you have in your possession. True you can not heal the breach—my hearts affections—never again can I feel the happy consciousness of heart & affection intertwined [*sic*] Yet a dear lesson is learned - one that can never be forgotten & I trust hereafter I will rely upon those who are at the same time interested and disinterested - or at least, who would rejoice in my happiness instead of ruin - & that conscience may be my guide I will ever listen to her dictates.

Your letters & tokens are in waiting for your direction - I desire mine to be returned to me by mail immediately.



Trusting my wishes will be complied with - & a sincere desire for your  
happiness & usefulness

I remain, Sir

Mary Johnson

J.M. Moreland

[address]

J.M. Moreland

Cincinnati, O