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Mr. Wm B Woods  
Newark Ohio



Worthington Nov 16<sup>th</sup> 1847

Dear Brother

Yours of the 11<sup>th</sup> inst came to hand yesterday and I <sup>see</sup> find you have found three misspelled words in my last letter. I will try agreeable to your request to have all the words in this letter rightly spelled.

I am happy to hear that you have been admitted to ~~the~~ the bar and that you have gone into business with Mr King.

I have got through the first book of Geometry and reviewed it once. I am very much pleased with the study and find it gets easier as I go along.

I still continue to pay a great deal of attention to my spelling and reading and have no fears but what I can pass an examination unless it is in the spelling. I wish you would ask general Arwen how much the candidate has to write and if the sentences are generally very hard.

I have been so busy for the last eight or ten days & in writing compositions and with my lessons that I have not had time to keep my journal. I think that if I should take some subject and write on it that it would be of more benefit to me than keeping a journal as it would not be so much of a repetition.

My last composition was on the Power of Habit I will give you a copy of it

It would be difficult for any one who has never examined this subject to form anything like a correct idea of the influence of habit, and particularly bad habits on weakminded people.

It is a truth that a great many pursue a course, at which their minds would revolt were it not that habit (in their estimation) had stripped it of all its disgusting properties

We often see those who will admit that the habits into which they have fallen are injurious, and that the example they set is calculated to lead others astray. But if you ask them why they do not reform they would say, "O I have been in the habit so long that it would be impossible for me to break off"

Such is the influence of habit upon us that we are incompetent or at least unwilling to rid ourselves of our troublesome ally.

There are very few in the world who have <sup>not</sup> fallen into some habits, and I am sorry to say that the greater part of mankind have chosen those habits which are least creditable and such as are calculated to injure their health and corrupt their morals.

But what is most surprising is that the habit of using Tobacco has the greatest

number of votaries; for of all practices it is the most disgusting and filthy. Only think of filling your mouth with a weed, which to the beginner acts as a powerful emetic, of staining your clothes, the floors, and of leaving your mark on every thing that comes in your way.

And upon the whole I have come to the conclusion that the individual who will follow habits which he knows to be injurious merely because he has practiced them for a long time, can have very little respect for the community in which he lives. By C R W

We are going to have a dancing school here this winter, and all the young men are very anxious to have me attend there will be nine lessons and they will come on Friday nights. I do not know ~~whether~~ whether to go or not. I am a little afraid that it would interfere with my studies, so I will leave it to you and if you think that it would be advisable for me to attend I will do so, once in a while at any rate.

Give my love to all our family and believe me to be Truly your Brother

Chas R Woods

P.S. The enclosed is the certificate from Mr. Nash.