

[TO: MRS. ELIAS CARR, SPARTA, N.C.]

Worfolk Co.

Jan 13 79.

My dear Father,

Your kind and much appreciated letter of girth duly read. I shall try and profit by the good advice contained therein. It seems strange to me that I can not economize, inasmuch as I do not indulge in the frivolous amusements, in which so many young men pass such delightful hours. I make a rule & try to follow it, as near as possible, viz to read an hour or two

every night. In this way I pass away many other wise, unpleasant evenings. I am young yet and I feel confident that a great deal can be accomplished in my studies. I know that I am naturally of an unhappy disposition, & when left alone, and nothing to do, I brood over imaginary troubles. The only remedy for this is work, & it is to my interest that I should be wholly occupied.

Mother's letter was read a day or two ago. We do not take the Gazette at the office, consequently her letter was brought

ed with news, and much appreciated. One of the most unprovoked & brutal assaults occurred in the Hotel this morning that I have ever heard of. The particulars as follows. A wealthy and retired capitalist, who had for some years past been spending his Winters in N. & his Summers at The Springs made the assault. The victim was a middle aged man, a dentist by profession, who in the absence of the old man, took board at the Hotel, & was assigned the seat which had been previously occupied by

The old gentleman, who seems to have been of a very irate^d & sour disposition. On his return he ordered the doctor to vacate the seat, in a rude and ungentlemanly manner. Such an imperious order he could not well obey, and so retained the seat. It so happened that they did not expect until this morning, when the old gentleman without saying one word struck him over the head with a battle inflicting a wound in the head & stunning him.

An Englishman from
my Hingland viewed
the Band. He was just
from his native coun-
try, & the ideas which
he had formed of Amer-
ica, I fear did not
prove erroneous. The young
man eat no breakfast,
but the following conver-
sation took place with
a young man of Non-
folk. (Englishman) My
good friend, such things
are not common in
this country, to be sure.
(Young man of Nonfolk)
Sir, we go armed to the
teeth in this country, &
such scenes as that are of
every day occurrence.
Why! he was only limber-

ing up his muscles then.

Why, er, that man
will "brain" another at
dinner. Erh Eug. on
Seaboard Road.

Raph Battle will be down
tonight. I learn has
shipped us some cotton.

With best love to
all I remain your
aff.

Son.

Wish that I could be
home to cheer Mother
up.