

Letter from M Carley

Alan R. Rogers

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This document contains a letter that has been folded up inside a bible that once belonged to Robert Walker Carley, who was born May 22, 1834, in Ireland and died Aug. 5, 1872, in Seguin, Texas, at the age of 38. At the time of his death, Carley was Rector of St. Andrews Episcopal Church. A summary of Carley's life can be found [here](#).

Although the letter is addressed only to "My Dear Child," I suspect it was sent to Margaret Alice Carley, the daughter of Robert Carley. It is signed, "your loving and affectionate mother," followed by what looks to me like "M Carley." Alice's biological mother had died when she was about two years old, so this letter must be from her step-mother, Fannie Lamont Carley, whom Robert had married on March 14, 1867. Perhaps the "M" stands for "Mother," or maybe it isn't really an "M."

This letter seems to be on the same stationary as the one from Robert Carley, so I suspect it was written at about the same time, in 1868.

Here is my best effort at a transcription:

My Dear Child,

I am really glad to hear your Father found you in such good health and spirits. I trust you take good care of your health its well worth your care, I am so sorry the weather is to rough it [undecipherable] prevents yourself and your Father enjoying the beauties of your neighborhood he was busy climbing some of the mountains before he left us but when it has happened so you can make [missing line] [how?] strait collars on your shirts send me the soiled ones by your father and if you [indecipherable] of repair send them [undecipherable]. Tell the Laundress that these collars require to be very stiff and also well pressed on the inside to prevent their being uncomfortable. I trust your father and yourself will continue in good health and that he will be home safely on Friday, your winter stockings must want mending very badly send them to me I will send them back in a few days the little ones all join me repeatedly to you and their father. Your loving and affectionate mother, M. Carley.

I would welcome corrections or additions to this transcription

Alan R. Rogers
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W. C. Parker your loving and affet. Mother
M. Carter