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PATRICK MATHEWS (1783-1870) LETTER TO THOMAS MATTHEWS, 1856

The letter is a photoprint of an original letter dated 21 July 1856 from Patrick Mathews of Lynchburg to his nephew, Thomas Matthews. In the letter, Patrick Mathews offers financial help (\$1,200) to Thomas Matthews to provide assistance to his family, providing \$700 for brothers and sisters (\$100 each) and \$500 for daughters “being all girls therefore having no help to farm.” It is hoped that Thomas will “spend a part of it in making your house more comfortable.” It is presumed that Patrick Mathews was the uncle of Thomas Matthews.

PATRICK MATHEWS (1783-1870)

Patrick Mathews was born 6 July 1783 in County Antrim, Ireland. He immigrated to America around 1800 and settled in Baltimore where he became a citizen in 1805. He served in the War of 1812. He moved to Lynchburg, Va., around 1816 where he became a prosperous local merchant. He died 26 June 1870 in Lynchburg and was buried in the Presbyterian Cemetery.