

118
New York May 2. 1822.

Sir

Soon after receiving yours of the 22^d January last, business called me from home for some weeks which was the cause of my not writing you before, and complying with your request in giving you an account of the children of the late William Mott. On my return home Robert informed me he had written you & given you a short history of his two sisters & himself - and I will also give you the outlines of what I know of them - There are three of the children - Mary, Robert. & Matilda - Mary is about twenty two years of age - she is a mantuamaker & lives with her grand mother - a fine looking girl but quite small - very industrious & conducts herself with the greatest propriety - Her behaviour has the approbation of all her acquaintance - Matilda is about 14 years old - a very good girl - & very expert at needle work - she has lived with her grand mother and Mary the most of the time since Mrs Read died, which was about the time Mr Read returned from England - They hire two rooms at a small

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of the time since Mrs Read died, which was
about the time Mr Read returned from
England. They hire two rooms at a small
rent & I believe make out to live decently -
Robert is 16 years old - a tall good looking youth.

He has lived with me ever since he was about
3 years old - & I feel much attached to him I have
ever treated him as my own child - for which he
appears to be very grateful. He has been in the
office of Horace Holders my Nephew, an Attorney
at Law about five Years, but boarded with me.
He has got a good English Education in all its
branches. but his hand writing, which is not
very good - He writes uncommonly fast & a
great deal, but does not improve - My in-
-tention was to have had ^{him} completed the Study
of the Law, but our Country is crowded with
Lawyers, & the Legislature of this State has lately
passed an Act reducing Lawyers fees about one
half - and Robert says he does not wish to
follow any business, where success depends
so much on the misfortunes of others. He
is very anxious to learn a trade & will
go on Monday next to a Cabinet maker
on trial. I expect he will soon be sick
of it - as he never did a days labor in his
life - if it should not suit him I shall put
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life - if it should not suit him I shall put
him to painting, ornamenting & gilding
which is light work & a very good business
in this Country. I have the satisfaction
to say that I believe Robert to be very honest.
He has had many opportunities to show

his Dishonesty if he had any such disposition. He has
been entrusted with large Sums of money & otherwise
has been sufficiently proved to be trust worthy.

The terms of an apprentice are much harder than formerly -
as there are not so many mechanics who want boys as
they are boys to supply them. All that is found the
apprentice by the master now is board & lodging. The
parents or friends of an apprentice must cloath him.
if Robert continues at Cabinet making. I must cloath
him until he attains 21 years. He has cost me consid-
erable money to help him on thus far. & he has never
earned me a Shilling. My situation is not very
affluent. & he has no Relations in this Country able
to assist him. If he has any with you
feel able & willing to contribute a
trifle for his assistance, it would be an
act of Charity, which I presume would be
remembered with deep & lasting gratitude.
but if not, I shall endeavour to help him through
his apprenticeship & trust to his repaying me if
he ever should be able. & I should need it.

July 18th - The above is a copy of a letter I sent you
at the above date, which I have been informed
I believe was lost. I have nothing new to add
but that Robert has made a trial with a Cabinet
maker & finds it too hard for him. I intend to have
him instructed in the painting & gilding business.

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him instructed in the painting & gilding business -
If any of his English friends should think proper
to contribute any thing for him I will send it to
any of their acquaintances, here, I will aid in
having it applied according to your directions - I
hope Robert will in few years be able to be the protector
& friend of his sisters - ~~your~~ or Asa Hallett

Mr. Holman of
New York May
1822

Letters of my Bro.
Am Mott, his
children, & their
friends Wm

Mr Julius Mott -

Wm Mott Mott & Co

Ball made

for the London
Capt Baudler }
London

has to
one

Al8 From Asa Holden to Mr. Julius Mott, Messrs Mott, Mott and Co, Pall Mall, London, pr. Ship London, Capt Caudler, New York, May 2, 1822.

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Robert is 16 years old, a tall good looking youth. He had lived with me ever since he was about 3 years old and I feel much attached to him. I have ever treated him as my own child for which he appears to be very grateful. He has been in the office of Horace Holden, my nephew, an Attorney at Law about five years, but boarded with me. He has got a good English Education in all its branches, but his handwriting, which is not very good. He writes uncommonly fast and a great deal, but does not improve. My intention was to have had him completed the study of the Law, but our country is crowded with Lawyers, and the Legislature of this State has lately passed an Act reducing Lawyers' fees about one half--and Robert says he does not wish to follow any business where success depends so much on the misfortunes of others. He is very anxious to learn a trade and will go on Monday next to a cabinet maker on trial. I expect he will soon be sick of it as he never did a days labor in his life. If it should not suit him, I shall put him to painting, ornamenting and gilding, which is light work and very good business in this Country. I have the satisfaction to say that I believe Robert to be very honest. He has had many opportunities to shew his dishonesty if he had any such disposition. He has been entrusted with large sums of money and otherwise has been sufficiently proved to be trustworthy.

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He has cost me considerable money to help him on this far. And he has never earned me a shilling. My situation is not very affluent and he has no relations in this Country able to assist him. If he has any with you (who) feel able and

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