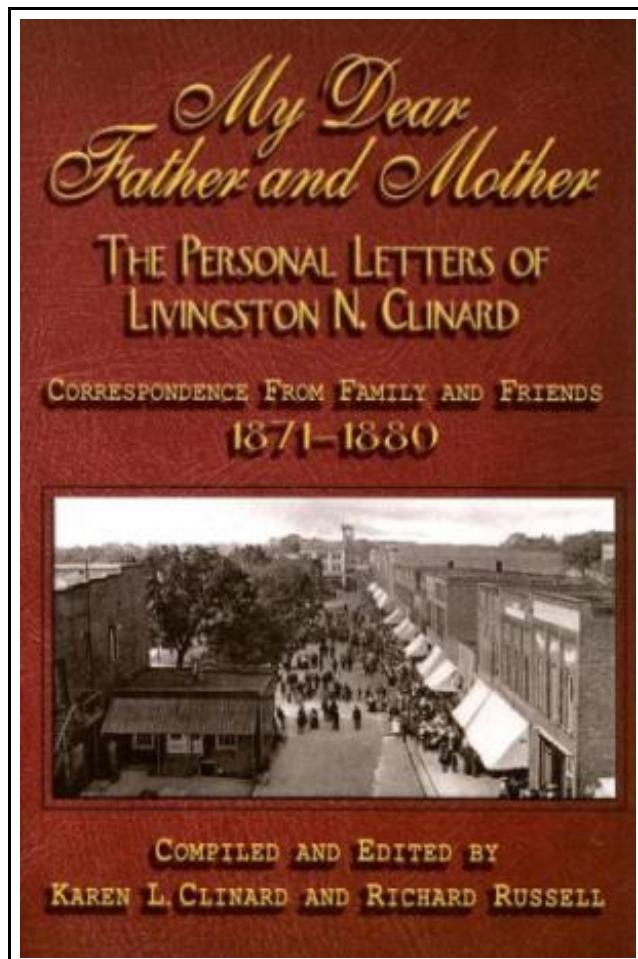


My Dear Father and Mother: The Personal Letters of Livingston N. Clinard



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MY DEAR FATHER AND MOTHER: THE PERSONAL LETTERS OF LIVINGSTON N. CLINARD

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Reminiscing Books, 2007. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Reminiscing Books 2007 New/ ReviewTime Travel with Clinard's Letters: Ever wonder what life was like more than 100 years ago Wonder no more. My Dear Father and Mother is a collection of Clinard family letters written from 1871 to 1880. The correspondence, compiled by Karen L. Clinard and Richard Russell, will soon appear in form from Reminiscing Books of Asheville. A copy, which will be placed in the Rhodes Room of the Catawba County Library in Newton, should be on every local historian's shelf. The is based on the L. N. Clinard Papers, letters written to Livingston Clinard, a merchant of Salem, N.C., which are now on file at the state archives in Raleigh. The transports readers to Victorian America, when a letter was a welcome gift, much anticipated and thoughtfully relished. True to history, most of the original spelling and grammar was retained by the Clinard compilers, who no doubt had a mammoth undertaking, organizing and transcribing these handwritten gems. Naturally, this is organized in the epistolary fashion, a technique used by the likes of Vladimir Nabokov, C.S. Lewis and Lee Smith, among others. This is not to say that every letter is a literary landmark or that they impart major news or juicy gossip. Like today's email, they record everyday events, family matters, the mundane which can make for tedious reading such as . . . Mother, I had corn soup & stewed tomatoes for dinner . . . , or . . . Tell Ed I am very much obliged to him for the nice collar button he sent me. . . . A great bulk of the letters were authored by Frank Clinard, Livingston's son, who left the Moravian enclave at Salem to become a store clerk in Hickory,...

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