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Archives of American Art

Thomas Eakins Letters to Family, circa 1866-1869

Extracted on Apr-23-2024 06:59:30

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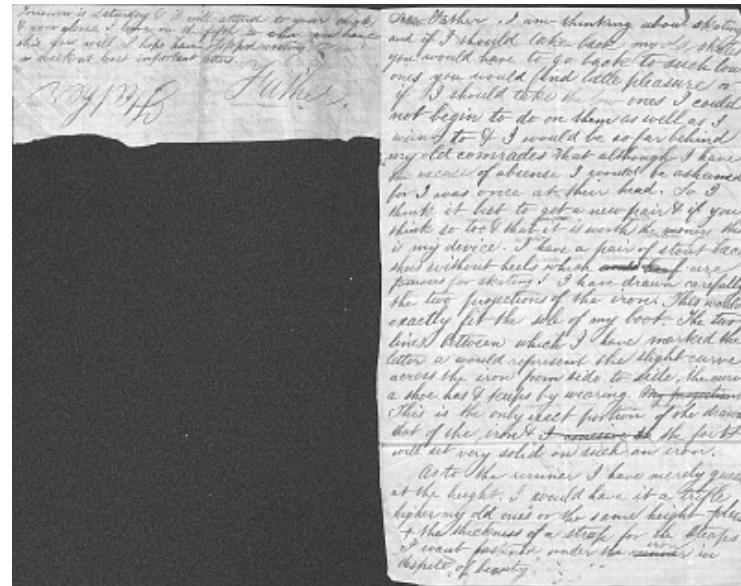
Tomorrow is Saturday & I will attend to your cloak & your gloves. I leave on the fifth so when you have this you will I hope have stopped writing to me a week at least important letters.

Father,
[[upside down]] Father

Dear Father,

I am thinking about skating and if I should take back my old skates you would have to go back to such low ones you would find little pleasure or if I should take the low ones I could not begin to do on them as well as I want to & I would be so far behind my old comrades that although I have the excuse of absense I would be ashamed for I was once at their head. So I think it best to get a new pair & if you think so too & that it is worth the money this is my device. I have a pair of stout lace shoes without heels which ~~[[strikethrough]]~~ would be f ~~[[/strikethrough]]~~ are famous for skating! I have drawn carefully the two projections of the iron. This would exactly fit the sole of my boot. The two lines between which I have marked the letter a would represent the slight curve across the iron from side to side, the curve a shoe has & keeps by wearing. ~~[[strikethrough]]~~ My projections ~~[[/strikethrough]]~~ This is the only exact portion of the drawing that of the iron & ~~[[strikethrough]]~~ I conceive th ~~[[/strikethrough]]~~ the foot will set very solid on such an iron.

As to the runner I have merely guessed at the height. I would have it a trifle higher my old ones or the same height plus + the thickness of a strap for the straps I want fastened under the ~~[[strikethrough]]~~ runner ~~[[/strikethrough]]~~ iron in despite of beauty.



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