

**Frances Owens**  
**to**  
**Samuel Robert Owens**

**January 26, 1942**

**Hunter Library MS 16.05-1-3-003**

**Transcribed and Edited by Kelsey Woodburn**  
**For ENGL 618: Research Methods in English**  
**Instructor and General Editor: Dr. Brian Gastle**  
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## Introduction to the Series

This transcription and its attendant annotations, explanatory material, and bibliography were prepared by students in ENGL 618: Research Methods in English, the required gateway class for the MA in English at Western Carolina University. The learning outcomes for this class include the following:

1. Conduct appropriate, effective, and ethical scholarship
  - a. Effectively find and use advanced research tools (handbooks, databases, guides, bibliographies, etc.) appropriate to a subject.
    - Students will be able to use a wide variety of such tools and evaluate those tools.
  - b. Find appropriate advanced research (print and electronic scholarship) and apply that research to specific disciplinary questions or issues.
    - Students will be able to find a variety of scholarship, evaluate both the appropriateness and rigor of that scholarship, and incorporate that scholarship correctly and effectively.
  - c. Develop accurate bibliographies and reference citations.
    - Students will be able to annotate, abstract, and cite materials following standard MLA format.
2. Understand the process by which the texts we use are made available.
  - Students will be able to conduct basic editorial work and evaluate the editorial work of others.

All work is presented as submitted by the students. While these students take great care with their transcriptions and annotations, errors are always possible. As these students learn throughout this class, good scholarship requires checking of sources and corroboration by authoritative sources.

It is hoped that the transcription and annotation of WCU Special Collections materials will be useful to the institution, students, scholars, and other patrons and users of WCU's Special Collections materials.

## **Introduction**

This letter was sent January 26, 1942 from Frances Elivra Owens to her son, Samuel Robert Owens. The letter was sent back to her by the Navy, because there were serious attacks happening during this time in the Philippines. Frances Owens has not heard from Samuel for 5 months. She talks about her other son, Frank, who had been with Samuel in Manila for a few days months ago. Frances also talks about her other son Floyd, who she mentions is actually sick and has been going to Duke Hospital for treatment, because he has an ulcerated stomach.

This letter has been transcribed as accurately as possible. No spelling errors have been corrected, if a spelling error affected the reading of the letter it was made into an annotation. The names in the letter were annotated to give the reader context about the person and their relation to Samuel Roberts.

Webster N.C. Jan. 26 1942

My Dearest Son Sonnie Boy \_\_\_\_

it has been 5 months since I have had a letter from you, if you get this Please write To me. I was so happy to get The wire that you was all right that is all the news I had had from you in so long. Only Frank<sup>1</sup> wrote me he had been with you 4 days in manila<sup>2</sup> – and he had such a grand time with you, I have had several letters from Frank. he was all right. The last I heard from him, Floyd<sup>3</sup> has been sick again, and has been to Duke Hospital for examination. He is on a diet and may have to have ? for an ulserated stomach. But he is on a diet at Present and that may help him. They have said their home here at web<sup>4</sup>. and paid on the bording house where they live we are getting on a bout as usual – and am hoping you are well and all right to, do be good and remember I am all ways praying for you and all the Boys for your safety And success and victory to come soon. Please write to me soon as you get this I love you so much Mother<sup>5</sup> Dad<sup>6</sup> and Nell<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Frank Jurdan Owens. Born August 25 1908, to Steven John Owens and Frances Elvira Owens. Older brother of Samuel Robert Owens. Died March 17, 1978.

<sup>2</sup> Manila, Philippines. The capital of the Philippines. Samuel Robert Owens was stationed here for some time during World War II.

<sup>3</sup> John Floyd Owens. Born, April 28, 1905 to Steven John Owens and Frances Elvira Owens. Older brother to Samuel Robert Owens. Married to Love Bumgarner Kilpatrick, father of James Floyd Owens. Died November 27, 1944.

<sup>4</sup> Webster, North Carolina.

<sup>5</sup> Frances Elvira Owens. Born March 28, 1879. Married to Steven John Owens. Mother of Samuel Robert Owens. Died January 7, 1965.

<sup>6</sup> Steven John Owens. Born January 17, 1875. Married to Frances Elvira Owens. Father of Samuel Robert Owens. Died March 24, 1964.

<sup>7</sup> Nell Frances Edwards. Born January 28, 1921 to Steven John Owens and Frances Elvira Owens. Younger sister of to Samuel Robert Owens. Died January 1, 2000.

#### Works Cited

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