

Huntsville, April 20, 1848

Dear Sister,

Through the kindness of Mr. Willis I received your letter on yesterday, which gave me great pleasure, and was truly glad that you thought of breaking the long silence which has been existing between us since your departure from this place. I can answer for myself, that it was not negligence or my waiting, for you to write, but I have been so much engaged that I have not had time to answer more than one or two letters that I received after you left. Therefore I do not think you ought to accuse me of waiting for you to write first. I certainly would have written ere this had it not have been that I had not a moment leisure – but as I am somewhat released I will for the future be more punctual and will at present endeavor to give you slight history of what is going on in this city. The new goods having created such an excitement there is little else thought of or even talked about: They are more beautiful this season than I have ever known them to have been here! Tho' the style and fashions are pretty much the same – in fact I have seen nothing new in the way of dresses – gathered points and large capes of the same or a thin cape of some description will be worn as last summer. This is the nearest I can come as to the latest fashions. Your friend Mr. Nance has just returned from the east with a splendid assortment of goods; I presented your compliments as you requested. He made many inquiries concerning you, how you were getting along, when you expected to come up: -- and a great many other questions: you know his failing. A cousin of yours, Miss Julia Greer, her brother, Mr. Petit and his wife staid all night with last week they were on their way to Mooresville. I did not see them as I was sick at the time they were here. They said all your folks were well. We had a little wedding at the Caldwell house some weeks since. Mary Jane Robinson married a Mr. Walker of Belfonte. I expect Brother remembers her; she went to school with me. It was a runaway match and was nicely managed.

I expect you have thought I intended keeping your money and handkerchiefs. Those you got from me. You left them lying on the table. Having no opportunity of sending them to you I hemmed them and marked them for myself thinking I would get you more and send them by the first one passing. I would send them by Mr. Willis but they have some better at the same price at Scrugg's. As I have not time to get them this morning and you are not suffering I will have them hemmed and ready to send the next opportunity. The cream you wished me to get is entirely out of date. I tried to procure at several places. The tonic I send you is thought by a great many to be of more advantage to hair than the cream. You will see the directions for using it on the bottle. Use it properly and I think you will like it much better. As Mr. Willis is ready to start I have not time to say much more. Mother says she is all the time thinking of you and Brother and that you must certainly come up as soon as you can. She says you must write often and if paper and ink are scarce she will send you a supply. We want to see you very much. Miss Grotman and several others requested me when I wrote to remember them to you. You must excuse this miserable scroll for I have been hurried nearly to death. I well know you and brother will laugh at it. I will do better in the next. The whole generation send their love to you. When I say you I mean both you and brother. Write soon and often and receive the love and affection of your sister Lucy.

Cousin Louise Bryant
And aunt might about 11 o'clock
There remains some time
Write us

Mrs. J.H. Caldwell
Jacksonville
Ala

Favor of Mr. Willis