

Fayetteville December 3d 1849  
Social Point

My Dear Child

I received your letter last night, and now haste to reply. You say, you have received but one letter from home since you left here. You certainly are mistken. I know I have written twice, if not oftener. However you should have had a letter long since, but my family have all been sick (tho not dangerous) indeed they were all sick when Rebecca wrote you (I presume you have received her letter by this time). I told her not to write you that the family were sick, as it might make you uneasy. Mrs. Bagleys family have all been quite sick with scarlett fever. No one would go there for fear of taking the disease, she was like to suffer for aid. Rebecca went there frequently and sat up with the family. She was taken the following week, with the sore throat pain in the head, and was quite sick, all the family were affected in the same way. I was certain they were all taking scarlett fever, I was very much alarmed. But it proved to be nothing but cold. Martha has been very sick, the Docter gave her a large dose of calomel, and she has been badly ?. She is now entirely well, and as to myself I never had better health in my life, or at least for many years.

When I wrote to you last I was undecided in regard to moving to Mississippi, after considering for about 2 months on the subject I come to the conclusion to go provided Mr. Jordan would consent to bring me back in one year provided I did not like the country or that any thing should occur to make me dissatisfied.

[at left margin]

Excuse all mistakes. I am in great haste. I have blotted my paper in my haste. Rebecca says you must answer her letter shortly.

I wrote to him to this effect. I received an answer about a week ago. He informed me that he had waited on me to reply to his letter, until the first of October, and thinking from the manner in which my first letter was written, that there was no probability of my going down, and his Daughter having no female society, he was under the necessity of placing her again in School (she is now in Columbia, Tenn) he has entered her for ten months, he says if I will go down in June or rather July, he will come by this way, with his Daughter on her return, and we can all go down together, he says if I will go, I shall never want for anything while he lives, and he will give my 3 youngest children, a liberal education. He is more than willing to move me this winter, but he is compelled to be absent 3 or 4 months, and I would have to be entirely alone, as I have no acquaintances there. Now if I live I expect to go down next summer or fall. I would rather go in the fall. I am fearful I should run some risk, in going in the heat of summer. Mr. Roseboroughs family are going to move near Memphis next month. I will be about 20 miles from his house, Mrs. Roseborough says she will visit me after, Cousin David Smith expects to move down before long. Cousin Jefferson Greer, has already rented land and will start with his hands this week, if he finds the country will agree with him, after trying it one year he will sell here and buy there. So you see I will have some good friends and relations near me, which will be very pleasant. Mr. Jordan requested me to write to his Daughter, and to request the Girls to write also. I received a letter by last evenings mail from Brother James. It was a kind affectionate letter with many apologies

for his long delay in writing, he informed me that Brother Alfred was alive and well – or at least was the last time he heard from him. He is in California and if he is successful he will be at home Christmas. He further stated that he has no doubt, but I would receive every cent, he owes me with interest. Who knows but I may yet be able to give you and your Old Man a few of the gold dimes to help you along in this world. You must both be economical and try to lay up enough to buy you a home. I was glad to learn that you were going to make calico answer in place of worsted goods this winter. It never makes a woman more respectable to have on a fine dress, but it is always a credit to her, to dress according to her circumstances. A foolish fondness for dress and show have ruined thousands of families. Be brave enough my child to dress (tho you may be in a gay community) according to your husbands circumstances, and you will never have to regret, that you have involved him in difficulties and distress. Now My Dear Child I wish you could lay aside some of your false modesty, and let me know something about your situation, when you expect to be confined, and who you expect to stay with you. Tell Mr. Caldwell he must have you a nurse by all means, to stay with you three or four weeks, cost what it may. Your life may depend on it. You will not attend the examination; I fear you will do it. You ought not to do it. Do write soon. I will endeavor to write every month at least. When I get to Mississippi I will send my Carriage for you, and yours, to come and spend next winter with me. Give my best love to Mr. Caldwell and tell him to take good care of you.

Turn over

The relations are all well. I have been on a visit lately to Cane Creek. Mrs. Ross had been up the week before and you have no idea what a big name she gave your Old Man. She told them he was a man of the finest manners she ever saw, that he had the most intellectual face and more real dignity about him, than any one she had ever known. Don't you think she is a discerning woman? You must make Mr. Caldwell write to Mr. Dunlap. He thinks strange, I am certain of his silence. Tell him he must write a few lines at any rate. Mrs. McConnell died about 6 weeks ago. She was sick only 4 days. Farewell. May God bless you both my children with every earthly blessing. John sends his love. He is gone to school and is learning very well. Kate is also going.

LD Greer

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