

February the 18th 1850
Social Point

My Dear Child

I received your very satisfactory letter some time ago and should have replied sooner, but Kate has been sick again but is now entirely well, and looks better than she has done this winter. After I wrote you last I thought she was entirely well and let her go on a visit to Cane Creek. I thought the ride would be a benefit to her but she took cold and was sick a week before I got her home. She was confined 2 weeks after she got home with something like the pleurisy. She complained a great deal of pain in the breast. The Doctor says she must stay at home and be careful while the weather continues bad. We have had a great deal of bad weather this winter. I have been almost entirely confined to the house. Martha is at home now. She has been 2 weeks at Cousin Alicks. Eliza came down yesterday with her. She intends spending 8 or 10 days with us all. Mr. Huzza has been on a visit to Fayetteville again. He tried all the young men in Town to get some one to come out with him, and at last had to come alone. He came twice a day for several days, the last evening he was here he told me he intended leaving the next morning for Moresville. I therefore sent a letter to Eliza. Shortly after he left, I received a letter from William Southworth informing me that he had understood Mr. Huzza was visiting my house for the purpose of addressing

[at left margin]

Tell Mr. Caldwell that Mr. Dunlap sends his love to him and he is still looking for a letter. He wishes to be remembered to you also.

one of my Daughters, and he felt it his duty to inform me of the manner in which he had spent his time since his arrival in Town, said he had been intoxicated frequently at night, so much so he had to be carried to bed. He said if there was a necessity for it, I was at liberty to use his name as he could prove what he said. The next morning before Huzza left Town, he heard (I can't tell how) that I had received intelligence of his conduct and sent a negro Boy with a letter to Kate requesting an interview that evening. I told the Boy Kate was from home (which was the truth) and I did not know when she would be at home for it was pouring down rain (I thought the fellow was wild). He told William Bagley to see me and know what I had heard. Said he had taken a little spree, but was not in the habit of drinking. Said he wished me to write to Mr. Caldwell and learn his true character. I told William to write to him that I had heard from a reliable source that he was intemperate, that was enough for me. He is coming back in two weeks. Says he is determined to see it out. I intend to talk to him plainly but kindly. I have no fears Kit don't care a straw for him. I do not intend to let him know that Southworth wrote to me, as it might cause a disturbance between them tho he does not look like a rash man.

Mr. Bagley has returned from Texas. He is very much pleased with the Country and intends moving in the fall. I believe I informed you in my last letter that I had received a letter from Mary Jordan. She certainly is a

Girl of fine mind. Her letter was neatly written in a beautiful hand, and well composed. She said she promised herself a great deal of pleasure in view of our trip to Mississippi. Says if any of my Daughters can perform on the Piano they can have so much pleasure in learning duets together. She is quite uneasy about her Father. He has a breaking out on his face which she thinks is cancer. She writes me it has already reached his eye. She requested me to write to her father and urge him to apply to some skilful Physician and try to have it cured. I have done as she requested, but he treats it very lightly but admits it is worse than it has been heretofore. We had Sacramental meeting here last week. John Zevley visited Mr. Dunlap. He is a splendid speaker. He was on his way to Huntsville. He has had a call to preach to that church. I hope by this time you have been confined and are doing well. Tell Mr. Caldwell to write as soon as it is over, so that my mind may be at ease. Do be careful and don't take cold. Some Ladies take pride in being up soon and stirring about, and many have lost their lives by it. It is better to be too careful than too careless. Besides you may lose your health entirely by a want of care at this time, and become (instead of a help) an expense to your Husband. Now Mary I would not caution you so much but I know you to be too careless in regard to self, too inattentive to your own comfort, you were ever so from childhood. Tis this disposition of yours that makes me uneasy about you. You must excuse all mistakes. There has been company here all evening.

[at top]

Mrs. E Bagley has been here this evening and sends her love to you and Mr. C. Will Todd has just left. You know he has been to College for the last 3 years. He is considerably improved. He says I must not go to Mississippi that he intends to build me a neat little house in his yard (when he gets him a house) and take care of me as long as I live but if I will go, he must go with me.

[at bottom]

I have glanced over this letter and am really ashamed to send it. But you must take it with all its imperfections. I have no time to write another. The mail leaves in the morning. I have tried to get the Girls to write to you but cannot, to tell the truth they are scarcely ever at home. I am sick of quiltings parties celebrations &c. When I get to Mississippi I will be farther from Town. There is too much visiting done in Tennessee. Judge Dellahunt will address the Sons of temperance next Friday in Fayetteville. The Division here has increased very much lately. My love to Mr. Caldwell. LD Greer

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We heard from the Californians by Cousin Robert McEwen. They had reached California but had not commenced digging for gold. The Russells and 2 or 3 others were left behind them on account of sickness. By all accounts they have suffered dreadfully. Mr. Marshal was alive and well. May God bless him I pray.

[address]

Mrs Mary D. Caldwell
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Alabama

mail