

Mount Pleasant July the 13 1850

My Dear Child

I left Fayetteville on the 4 day of July and arrived at your Uncles on the 11th instant about 10 o'clock at night after a fatiguing journey of 7 days. No natural accident happened to us on our way except we were caught out in a Thunder storm the Saturday after we left. We were in a dark woods surrounded by very heavy timber the distance of 4 or 5 miles from any houses. We all got in the carriage and fastened down the curtains and drove to the most open spot we could find in the woods, and remained stationary until it was over. I was very much frightened indeed. The lightning was very severe and the rain poured down in torrents. Martha had left Fayetteville the day before I left in company with Mary Jordan and Mr Benton. They came on by stage as Mr. Benton could not obtain two carriages in Huntsville (to which place he went to hire them). I wrote you a short letter from Fayetteville the day before I left stating to you the arrangement we were compelled to make that is one part coming by stage, and the rest by carriage conveyance. Martha came by the way of Holly Springs and reached here on the 7 day of the month. I got here the 11th. Mr. Jordan lives in a beautiful place. The farm he lives on is Mary's.

She has a fine parlor furnished in style. She has a splendid piano and plays elegantly. She is a girl of fine mind and most amiable disposition. She is a beautiful form with refined and graceful manners. She treats me with the most respectful deference. Everything about the house has been delivered up to my management. Mr. Jordan is the same man he was 20 years ago in point of disposition and manners, but looks quite different. He is more fleshy and looks in fine health with the exception of his eye which looks badly. I have seen today some of Eliza's old servants. They came today (which is the Sabbath) to see me from the lower place. Mr. Jordan has two overseers – one on his farm about a mile from here, and another on Mary's. The girls had two fine Beaus from Town on yesterday. They staid all day. Mary played and they all sung for the Gentlemen. Mr. Jordan seems to enjoy the society of the Girls very much. He says he must help me to marry them off. It took a fine sum of money to bring us out. Mr. Benton paid 4 Dollars a day for the carriage which brought us out, our expenses were all together upwards of a hundred and 50 Dollars. Martha's expenses and ours together with Mr. Benton's expenses must amount to \$200. But this is nothing to a man of his wealth. You must write me a pretty neat letter. I want to let your Uncle see it. Eliza has written him some letters which he

praises very much. I told him you wrote a better hand than Eliza. John starts to school in a few days. Mr. Jordan treats my Children (particularly Martha who you know was named for him) with the most affectionate kindness. Martha says if you write to her you must be sure to back your letter to Martha Jordan. Monday Morning – I had just written thus far last evening when a Gentleman in a splendid Buggy drove up. He proved to be a merchant from Holly Springs. He has just left. I shall be troubled with Marys I guess. Write soon tell Mr. Caldwell to write soon. Write me a long letter I have trusted him just as long as I can. Farewell may God bless you both my child and keep the sweet little Boy for me. Write to Eliza as often as possible. I pity her lonely situation very much and would have sent one of the girls to stay with her had she been in her own house. My love to Mr. Caldwell. Farewell my child. LD Greer

Excuse this badly written letter. I am in great haste we will have company again today. My pen and paper is both bad. Mary Jordan sends her love to you both. You must write soon as you receive this.

The girls send their love to you and yours.

Mrs. Mary D. Caldwell
Jacksonville
Alabama

Mail