

Fayetteville February 2d 1854
Thursday 9 o'clock at night

My Dear Mary

I have waited with great anxiety for weeks past to receive a letter from you, or Mr Caldwell but have been disappointed today. I have been thinking a great deal about you, I fear you are sick and not able to write. I heard from you through Mrs Yowell a few weeks ago, she said your health was very bad. I hope Mr Caldwell will write to me immediately and let me know how you are if you are dangerous I must go and see you. I wrote to Mrs. Wyly near 2 months ago, but have received no answer as yet, perhaps she has not received my letter. My family are all well except Rebecca, she has been suffering for a week or two with pain in her eye. It proceeds I presume from cold. She dismissed her school about 3 weeks ago (the weather was so very cold) and will not take up again until March. Rebecca has had several very profitable offers made her recently, one at Spring Hill (as assistant Teacher) and the other at Lewisburge. I do not know what she will do she has not decided. Kate's health is much better than it has been since I came from Mississippi. John is going to school in Fayetteville and is studying hard. Mr. Southworth told me a few days ago that as soon as John was capable of doing business, he would get him into business with Hugh Douglas of Nashville. I intent to send him this year to school. Next year he must do something for himself

I received a letter from your Aunt Martha Preston a few days ago. She had just returned from Philadelphia, where she has been for several months under the Physicians, she had a polypus taken off her womb. She said it was not a painful operation by any means, her health was improving rapidly, she is coming to see me soon. She inquired very affectionably for you and Eliza and she regretted that you were not in reach of such physicians as she had been under. She thinks southern Physicians know nothing about diseases of the womb, they have been tending on her for 20 years, and knew nothing about her situation. I was sent for this morning quite early to Mrs Bagley's. Mary Old had a fine Daughter about 1 o'clock. William Todd is not at home, he is in the South with a drove of mules. I received a letter from Martha a few days ago. She was at Eliza's she said Mr Garrett would bring her home this month, we are looking for her every day. Eliza's health was very good. Rebecca received a long and affectionate letter from Mary Stout a short time ago. She had moved back to the farm and "she was so lonely without her Dear Cousin Beck" she wrote that Mr Dean a rich widower (with one child) was anxious to come and see Rebecca (that is if he thought he could succeed) and he had requested her to ascertain what Rebecca thought of it. "Oh she is so anxious for her to accept the offer and live near her" (as their farms join). Mr Dean is a Brother to Dr Dean who married Eliza McKizack your Father's cousin. We formed his acquaintance whilst in Mississippi. He is much of a gentleman and quite good looking

I have not completed my room yet it is all done but the chimney, the weather is so cold I cannot get that done until spring. We use it as a dining room, it is quite an addition to my house. I bought a little trundle bed yesterday for Walter and Johnny to sleep in, when they come to see Grandma. Mr Caldwell must try and bring you and the children to see me this summer, I hope he will be able to do so. Mrs Bagley send much love to you and Mr C and says she hopes to see you this summer. Remember me affectionately to Mr Caldwell and tell him to write to me if you are not able, and let me know your situation. Kiss the little boys for me and don't let them forget that they have a Grandma in Tennessee. I wish I was near you to help you to sew for your Old Man and little boys, I could do so much towards helping you. Do be careful of yourself and don't do more than you are able to do. Farewell my Dear Child may God bless you and yours, and restore you to health is the prayer of your Mother LD Greer

R & Kate send their love it is now 6 o'clock at night. I can scarcely see to write excuse all mistakes. I have written in great haste. John is sitting nearby studying his lesson he says when he gets time he will write you a long letter. LD Greer

PS Aunt Polly Blackmon died the 8th day of last month in Arkansas. She made her will and settled all her business then told her children she was going to die.

and died with great calmness and composure. She was one of the excelent of the earth. I loved her as I did my mother. When I hear more of the particulars of her death I will write to you. It is supposed she grieved very much about Rebecca's death.

Mrs. Mary. D. Caldwell
Jacksonville
Alabama

Give my love to Maj Wyly and his wife

Mr Caldwell must write as soon as possible farewell