

If you alter your silk
make it polonaise
you can piece it
and put the trimming
on where it is pieced
and make a sham

skirt. I wish I was

there to help you

fix it -- Write as
often as you can.

Don't let any one

see this letter I am

so nervous I can

scarcely write

so it can be read

All send much

love. Bee says

she will write

soon. Good bye,
Fay Tenn May 5th
1878

I received
your letter nearly two weeks

ago, and would have answered
sooner, but really we have
so much company that I
can't find time to write
during the day, and I can't see
how to write after night -
I was glad to hear from
you, as we all have been
very weary about your health -
I hope a trip to some springs

will restore your health

entirely - Josie says you

need not look for her before

the middle or last of July.

so you can make your arrange

Dear Mary

arrangements to suit yourself, her school will not close until the 20th of June and then it will be several weeks before she can get off. but she says for you to go on and rent your house and attend the springs and when you return let her know and she will go. any time during the Summer will suit her - she is making every arrangement to visit you, and if nothing happens to prevent

will certainly do so - I do wish you would come to see us this Summer I know you would enjoy the trip, and it would greatly improve your health, we are all so anxious to see you, Kate and Josie will go back with you, and then another inducement we offer, you can have the pleasure of hearing

Mr Bryson preach, he has charge of our church the rest of the year, and it is a perfect treat to hear him,

he has improved greatly in the last few years and is now a splendid preacher --

Mr Bright left here yesterday for Washington, he was called home to see his son John who died last Saturday.

Mr Bright did not reach here until Monday night, and Johnie was buried Tuesday morning, they left

him on ice until his Pa got here, he was sick but a short time. The family

are very much distressed, Johnie was thirty three years old -- I received a letter from Aunt this week, she has given out her trip to

Europe, but will visit New
York this month. I suppose
Walter will see her. I wish she
would set him up in business.
I think she might, and then
he could give Willie a clerkship.
Aunt is still pressing
about none of us going to

see her. I suppose Mollie and
Johnie will fall heir to her
property as they are the only
kin that are able to visit
her - Mrs Bagley is well and
looks better than I ever saw
her - Mrs Stonebreaker is still
improving but not able to walk.
she has lost the use of her
limbs almost entirely --
Our kin on the creek are
all well, none of Cousin
Dave Smith's girls have

ever married. Elzira's

daughter Elle is in Columbia

going to school, she will

graduate in June - she

is rather pretty and very smart
her other daughter is living
in Petersburg and doing well.

Elzira looks almost as
young as ever - Kercheval
is still drinking and not
doing much good - Old
Mrs Bayles is still living
and gets about as sprightly
as ever - William Todd
has never returned is still
with his brothers - You wished
to know what was the matter
with Mary Peterson when she
died? She died with stricture
of the bowels caused by
hard work, she suffered
greatly before she died,
but was perfectly resigned
to death - Sarah is living in
Petersburg and doing very well,
we have not seen her since
her Mother's death -

Bee's roses are looking beautifully
now, I wish you could
see them - Our boys are
all going to school but not
learning much, Davie speaks
of writing to you. if so I will
send it just as he writes it.
he is so smart and learns very
fast indeed - Tell Johnie
and Edd that I really think
they might write occasionally
to their old Aunt. Willie really

feels hurt at Edd, he has written
to him so often and he never pays
the least attention to his letters.
I am making up my dress that
Mr C. sent me from Washington

it will make a beautiful dress

I am trimming it with fringe -

How is Sallie Stevenson getting

on? Remember me to her and

all inquiring friends. Love to

Mr C. Johnie and Edd and accept

for yourself the best wishes and love
of your sister Mat