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The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.



all about it, did you ever read the book? Oh was this wind blown so cold, &
 you are going to have
 a very terrible weather. I hope
 to tell you Mrs. Weston has
 returned, gives up the house
 now. I am sure, they cannot
 keep breaking all to pieces
 & now he says he never
 wants to see anything else
 of whichy old, I hope
 he is serious. I must
 say good night, with
 much love,
 Your devoted
 Mother

Jan 8th 1891

This has been a raw sunny
 day, ending in a cold dripping rain tonight.
 Lewis went home with Willie Robinson & I
 am alone in the chamber before a good fire
 wishing every one was as well off this cold
 night. We have not heard from you this
 week, hope you are not sick. Yesterday a
 letter came from Fash written on the 2nd,
 mailed on the 8th but had not any account
 of work having stopped on the buildings,
 there must have been some mistake in
 what Prof Tracy heard, and even if there
 was any truth in it Fash would not have
 been silent on the subject.

Monday eve had a telegram from Mrs.
 Robinson saying Dr. Leicester thought Aunt
 White would not live until night but

nothing since as I suppose she still
lives, when she dies I think brother Wm
will go on to see something about her
business matters & I hope Mother will come
home with him. I miss her very much.
I am afraid if aunt White leaves Mother
her house as she promised, that Mother
will return to Petersburg to live.
Last Sunday evening to see Narcissa
Mumfries she was up & going about the
house, showed me her beautiful watch.
I thought her Father gave it to her but
asked no questions. Lucy Bacon was here
today & mentioned that she heard Narcissa
was to be married next month, I asked
her what was the gentleman's name, she
said she "could not call it, but it was the
one that sent her the watch" did you
hear anything of it?

You ought to be at home now to enjoy the
riding horses, another has been added to the
list. Mrs. Edgar Collins gave your Father

a nice little mustang for his at the 9th ann,
she is well broken, perfectly gentle, her 6-⁵
little girls rode her, one soon had them
exchanged (even) than Mrs. Bot Collins
bought one from "Mrs. Edgar". I suppose your
Father will call "Mollie" as he calls her. "Rockie"
is the finest riding horse in this country your
Father says, he rode him to Arcola the
other day & he did not mind the trip a
bit.

Dr. Baowden had his square measured off
yesterday & today they moved Mr. Frank
Chapman's body over there, the old Dr. looks
so badly, as if he is not much longer for this
world, but he goes to the plantation almost
every day.

I don't know whether I wrote you that
Kate Shreiner came to look for us, Bobbuck
is here but I do not think he will stay
long, Lewis wants 8 dollars a month for
him & your Father says he isn't worth it.
Shreiner pretended he was going to

Birmingham but is getting around hoping
Mrs Hatch will come around & give him
his price.

Wave wrote this day he arrived, wanted us
to look for his dining pen, thought he must
have dropped it out of his trunk as he could
not find it, he had not long bought it, gave
\$1.50 for it & now must get another, poor fellow
I don't know what will become of him.

I have not heard from sister Sally since
4 oars, thought she would have acknowledged
the receipt of the box I sent.

Now Grand Mother thought it strange that
none of us noticed Alice Sprague at 4 oars,
I suppose she has been made so much of
there that she thinks every one must do
the same. Uncle Wave had a little spell
from cold but is up now, Ely was here
today.

I am reading a book I borrowed from Beebe
"Little Women" it is very interesting & interesting,
I read it some years ago but had forgotten

Thursday
January 14th 1891

I think I have written
to wish you as much
to do it.

Your most acceptable letter reached
me day before yesterday I think it was, the we
had only one letter from you since you left.
I was not away thought you were probably
immensely busy, had no idea tho that you
had turned "tutor," from your wishing so
heartily that the tutor would be well by
Monday, I suppose you did not very much
like the position but experience is a good
teacher & you may have gained something.
Laurie says you ought to be a good detective;
perhaps the boys think you have a talent
for things of the kind as they seem always
to put you on the detective committee, it
must be unpleasant work but shows the
students have confidence in you & of course
it is hard to refuse to act. I hope you may
be able to locate the thief. I think there

must be one in Wave's home, my home for
this way he success his things, has gotten
rid somehow of his drawing pen that he
paid \$2.50 for just before he came home, I
think at the rate he is saving up finances
we will not be able to keep him there
until he graduates, poor fellow he seems
not to be able to avoid such losses.
I am glad to hear of the addition to your
choir.

Uncle Wm left Saturday evening for Petersburg.
Aunt White died Wednesday (yesterday week).
Mother today captured for your Father & Uncle
Wm to go for her as brother Wm had but a
few hours to give directions at home, pack
his valises & be off, we have heard nothing
from him, I expect they will be home about
Saturday unless the trip makes him sick,
your Father feared it might but he would
go, well he did not for I took cold, had a
fever Saturday night & a severe attack of
chickenpox on my side & could not get up
until late in the day Sunday, the pain

was severe for several days, is gradually coming
away, I must try to take more care of myself
but hardly see how I can.

I inquired of Dad if work on the building
had stopped, send his letter in reply. I wish
you have not had time to give him that
10 page letter yet.

I have not had a line from Aunt Melville
since 4 since, few some of them are sick, have
not heard if she received the boy we fixed
up at 24 years.

Nothing from Reuben since I was there with
Wave & Lizzie, I wrote to him & your Uncle
John both nearly a week ago but no answer
from either.

The weather has been very disagreeable lately
& I think will continue so, the wind was
terrible Tuesday night I was afraid to go to
bed until it began to lull.

Your Father went off this morning to see a
patient, was to return in a little while & have
to shout out out & called, it is now about 1
o'clock & he has not returned, fortunately Lizzie

come for the clothes & I pressed him into
service, so when your Father comes he will
find his work all done.

Luise is much pleased with the little
sweet any sides her whenever he can. William
Robinson came over Saturday & begged your Father
to sell him your gun, he let him have it.
It is nearly dinner time I must close, with
much love ever

Your devoted

Mother.

his head improved very much, his health. Ely is taking entire charge of every thing
as these affairs, he is at
times that they do not
fully appreciate. As I have
received from my letter
attache of note & get no very
little concerning what
I have to do. I have had to
find some & sent help
one may see the horses.
Please express ourselves
very few words to this extent
my intention, it is our
time to fix the table for
dinner as good bye, with
much love
and your devoted Mother,
Oh! I want to ask you, did
any of the deep voice among me
the warm up above the night

yesterday was dark, & dreary, the sun poured down
almost continuously the whole day, your Father
intended going to Island to the consecration of
Dr Jackson but could not brave the bad weather
Capt Taylor was the only person who went from
Gallow, through a note from Mrs Hatch whom
he enjoyed the service very much & there was
a great crowd, some went Tuesday evening to
be ready for Bishop Thompson's sermon that
night, yesterday was the consecration service &
sermon by the Bishop of Va & last night sermon
by Bishop of N.C. The latter urged us all to go
& I think several would have gone but for the
bad weather. We have not heard where the
Assistant Bishop will live. Sunday was such
a disagreeable day that few turned out to

they were all here, in wrapping the room I found a letter, it seems to me I have
written you a letter, I guess a letter, think it
Bartholomew, but maybe
you know
something
about it,
will ask
him when
I see him.
Mrs Robinson, Lucas & myself were
the only ladies, about a dozen gentlemen, Mr
Bolbo dined with us, hurried off to baptize
Mrs Saunders baby on his way back, she lives
in Cedarville, he said they were going to
work to repair the damage done to his church
by the fire. He said Bolling & his wife
were boarding in a family in Greensboro, I
don't understand that, tho' he may be hiring
the house added to, I heard he intended
doing so. We have not heard whether he
received the present your Father sent him, I
think not or he would have written, she must
be a baptist as they were married in the baptist
church, I expect that will be a great source
of trouble to your aunt Sally unless she turns
Methodist.

Your grand Mother was in such a hurry to
telegram for some one to go for her that I
thought she would have been well fixed at
home by this time but she has not come, a
letter several days ago from brother Wams said

they would wait until January Gasquet
come, he is one of about White's executors. Mrs.
Wams told us aunt White left her one or two
thousand, left aunt Garity 4000, cousin Jerry
Field 4000, cousin Dotter 2000, Mother a
horse & little Alice the office, it seems that
is a wing of the house aunt White lived in
& can be rented out independently of the house,
he said there were other & smaller legacies, I
suppose those named were told him by Mr
Donan aunt White's lawyer. I would have been
much obliged to the old lady if she had left
your Father one or two thousand, think she
might have done it as he used to live with
them & was such a favorite of her husband.
Jimmy Gasquet will get most of the property,
her daughter Anna is to have a house hold for
her not to exceed 1500 dollars, she had already
given her a house & lot. John has just come
in with a letter from brother Wams, said Jimmy
had come & that they might start now any
day. Your Father shipped Geo Lee's seed last

week, hope he has received them, the harvest
spoke very highly of you & of course it was very
gratifying to us, Only hope Waver & Lewis may
do as well. Waver wrote, one of the boys who went
home again, & was exposed to Diphtheria was
taken sick soon after his return to College &
died in five days, Dr. Barrow advised all the boys
in that boarding house to leave for home, they
did & I hope the disease will not spread, want
help being uneasy about it, have no faith in
Dr. Drake as a physician, if Waver should have it
your Father would leave everything & go to him.
Your letter came in good time, I hope you are
through with some of your work by this time, it
is not pleasant to feel there is so much pressing
upon us at once. Your Uncle John left for
Montgomery Tuesday, Reuben writes that he
has been very busy putting up meat, straightening
up accounts, grading land &c, I suppose
Reuben went with Johnny as I heard Virginia
Campbell had gone there to stay.
I forgot to say that Uncle Waver mentioned

Thursday -
April 9th 1891

My dear Son

So few no letter from you this week, I hope this it is owing to irregularity in the mail & not to your being unable to write from sickness; last week we received no letter from Waver, but in this week's letter he mentioned having written, frequently by letters to, & from Fred, are detained as I think the "vitales" must be in the much agitate.

I had an unusually long letter from Fred yesterday, written Sunday, from what he says he is as busy as ever with his garden & other work, fortunately his tender vegetables were not up as I suppose they had the same cold spell that we had, the white frost here Monday night killed the outer leaves of the fig tree, but I see new ones are out so hope the fig crop will not be injured, we had no

vegetables up to be killed, I reckon Beech's
garden suffered also had tomatoes set out
& all the early vegetables doing nicely even
lettuce beans. I hope this will be the last
of the cold weather. If the planters have to
replant corn & cotton it will be very
expensive as corn & cotton seed are both
high, corn 100 a bushel but still the planters
are putting in cotton, cotton, buying corn &
hay. It is bright today & windy, the roads
are being worked as I hope soon to be able to
spend a day with your grand Mother if
your Father will take me, have only been to
Dr. Barndie's & to Mr. Daines' since you were
here, can't walk to see Mrs. Hatch as I used
to do, it is too long a walk for me now.
Herman Goldie & his sister a young girl,
commenced school this week, Lewis says
she is very bright & writes as beautifully
I said, but it is funny to hear her attempt
to speak English, she is one of recent
importations from Germany. Lewis went to

school in style this morning, took the cart &
jackass, carried my letters to the depot & stopped
at the school house, expect he will ride
Lorise home this evening.

Mrs. Robinson sent me word we would
begin I I again, as Sunday cold & windy as
it was I went over, made a fire & waited
and how, no one but Mrs. Robinson came but
I hope next Sunday they will not serve me
as I suppose Mr. Lee coming out on the
7 o'clock train prevented the Robinsons from
coming, he spends every Sunday there now.
Mrs. Collins heard from Lee in Alexandria,
they were about to visit the pyramids, would
n't you like to take a peep at Lee among
the "antiquities"?

I am feeling very nervous & light headed
today so please excuse this scrawl, I had
fever night before last, thought I might have
had a chill in the evening as I was very
cold, had to take quinine & it always makes
me feel worse than a chill would, I don't

think now that it was a regular chill, but
a chilliness from cold I had taken, I worked
on my flower border until I was very warm &
cooled off too suddenly, don't think I will have
a return. There is nothing of interest to write
good bye, with much love

Yours devoted Mother.

we would much prefer it. Your guest Mother & cousin Sam were here
sometimes spending, went
to June with Mrs. Hatch.
Bro. Waver dated here, he
brought up an specimen
that he killed the
night before in an
apple tree, said Kate
took it for dinner, he
Waver & your Mother
had a battle-dinner,
your Mother left young,
directly after breakfast
Sunday & returned
for one that evening
very home by
morning light. The once
= quite a worry, are so I
can't half write you
Miss Baker, with much
love your devoted Mother.

yesterday, I was glad to hear of your
safe arrival, & that you were pleased
with Dr. Athinow, it is as much more
pleasant to work with those who impress
us favorably. I hope you will cultivate
Prof. Wells acquaintance & if possible
get his help in obtaining the scholarship.
I should think you would have to push
matters in order to give your Miss man
an answer, have you heard anything
more from him?

I am glad Mr. Love took you to his
room that night, expect it was more
pleasant than going to the hotel where
you had no acquaintance.

The ladies of the neighborhood, or rather

I forgot to say Mrs. Haines thinks we will have to take back all his things
Mrs. Baker was to pay 4000 a month until the debt was paid. But
the Collins ladies are constantly putting
this morning to have cleaned, & decorate
the "George Richard" house for the ball
tomorrow night. They called on us all
for cake & ice cream, I baked my cake
this morning & it is very nice. I expect
to invite the Hobsons here to eat & get
ready for the ball, Bland Seldens & Miss
Annie Blumens of Tuscaloosa will dress
here & if I see any others from that
neighborhood will ask them. Corn
Father has been every day to see Melville,
she has continued fever, I went down
with him Saturday, stayed until
Sunday evening, she had high fever
Saturday & some bad symptoms so your
Father remained all night too, he
slept on a couch in the room & I sat
up all night that Johnny & Beecie
might get a good rest. We left Me-
better Sunday evening but John was
here yesterday evening & said her

fever rose high that night, your Father
left full directions & did not go down
yesterday but will go this evening. I
would like to go with him & call on
Cornelia Carter's bride, they were expected
home last night. The relations went
to work & fixed up his room nicely.
There was a nice new set of furniture
I don't know who paid for that, George
gave a nice matting & tacked it down,
Beecie sent over a pretty fine cushion
& table cover, John Selden gave some
thing I don't know exactly what, May
Mingo gave a toilette set for the
bathroom, others contributed different
things until the room was nicely
fixed. Cornelia Wm Adams stopped
here Saturday, dined with us, said
"as Carter was so long selecting a wife
he thought he ought to have gotten
one worth some thing", he meant with
some money. We find now that no

no matter how hard Lewis studies he
cant enter the University in the fall,
they will not receive them under 16,
your aunt Melville suggests that we
send him to Prof Warner this fall
with the understanding that he prepare
for the Sophomore class next fall, I
think that would be a good idea &
he would have 1 year less of that
strict military discipline to stand.
We have written to Fred to know what
he thinks about it, maybe it will be
useless to keep Lewis there over a
month. Sister S - thinks L - a nice boy
& Lucy has taken to him right away.
Mrs Harris expects to come soon to
Lancaster & bring Lucy with him
to stay with Elvira she is very fond
of her. Nothing from Fred since
you left, I wonder if you stood any
chance at the Ga election yesterday,
if you could get a place in Auburn

Tuscaloosa, Ala.
July 21/97

Dear Mother:-

I received your letter with Fred and sister Saturday. I also received a short letter from him last week, principally questions. When you wrote you had evidently not gotten my letter as you said nothing of some things that I mentioned. I wrote Fred a long letter Sunday answering many questions etc.

Have you heard from him about my staying here all summer yet? I am going to see Prof. Verner about

that Sophomore business
in a few days I go by there
every day, but am going
to let Uncle Hassie to go
with me some day soon.
Mr. Little, he will be Prof.
Vernere vice president
soon, says that I can go
to him, one session and
enter the Sophomore class at
the University the next session
but I will find out more
definitely from the Prof.
I expect Joe's Lances
will ride around in his
double buggy now, more
than ever, since his
success at the tourna-
ment. You said that some

of the people waited in the
wood for dinner, didn't they
know they were not going
to have a barbecue?

How is Ben getting on with
his work, have you heard
from him lately? Have you
or man yet?

Johnny and Richard Little
left home this morning
for Lansville, through the
country.

J. Willie Simmerville was
here Sunday evening and
told me to come out to the
asylum any evening and
he would show me all
around.

We went to church Sun-
day, heard Mr. Prattman,
and he again called for
the boys to meet at 4 o'clock

Thursday for choir prac-
tice. He is going the church
a real overhauling.

I think I will go Thursday
evening to hear them, don't
know whether I will join
or not. Aunt Melville says
she will write in a few
days.

We have just finished
dinner and while we were
eating a terrible wind-
storm passed, but did not
last long.

It is time I am at
my lessons.

Your loving Son,
Lewis.

After this time, I hope nothing is the matter. I was as regular as you
 are & writes a nice letter too. Your Mother was called to eat dinner with
 my father last night. I was
 left the only person in the
 house, did not sleep a
 wink, while he was gone
 so I am very sleepy to
 night. The mother
 and I thought had
 been sure, if you
 will answer it at
 once. With much
 love & devoted
 Mother.

August 24th 1891

Your letter of yesterday
 reached us this morning, we are very
 glad to hear you will get the place,
 think it will be much better for you
 than teaching the you may not
 realize as much money from it. I
 see Sam Lee remembers you to with a
 wish to help you, it is certainly very
 kind of him but I expect he too
 will think the Fairbank place the
 best for you, when ready for some
 other position Dr. A. Thomson's recommen-
 dations will be a great help no doubt.
 Now tell us exactly what a scholarship
 is, we have some idea but would like to
 know exactly. You are right to look in
 time for a boarding house before the

boys crowd in, won't come one takes
Mrs Lazarus' house & keeps boarders?
I wonder if you are having the same
cool spell that we are, yesterday a fire
would have been comfortable. Mrs Hagan
was so cold that we sat in the
parlor with all the windows down,
he did not get warmed up until he
had taken two cups of coffee for
dinner, he has been at the plantation
since last Wednesday, we were rather
surprised to see him yesterday, the
weather was so threatening but he had
a top buggy & Lewis drove, today he
expected to go to Johnny's, Lucy's head
foiled her, she could not come. Since
being in that neighborhood he says
it would not do for them to come
back, the place & people have changed
so much he thinks they would not be
satisfied, I am sure they would not.
I believe I wrote to you while Mary

was with me or rather your Father
wrote, Reuben came Thursday for her
brought Bessie & Dory, they spent the
day, R - looks sun burnt & badly.
Mary & myself made some white ties
I will send you one, & one she took to
pieces, washed, & made over for you.
I worked one with red for Reuben, if
you would like one of the same sort let
me know.

Your Father has I think decided to
send Lewis to Greeneboro, the College
opens on the 22nd so he will leave
about 2 weeks at home. Mr Johnson
will take his place at the store on the
1st & Waver will have two weeks at
home. The ice cream supper netted
\$31.00, hardly a start for a fence.
Mrs Gordon was taken sick this morning
after the supper, would not leave a
Dr until yesterday when your Father was
sent for, she was quite sick, better

today. Sema Hatch has been quite sick at Mrs Joe Collins, was visiting Grace, her Mother is there now, hopes to take her home in a day or two. This weather will make sickness.

We sent the suit to be dyed, expect to have it back in a few days, we can send it by Waver if you are out coming home, he says he would like to have the buttons took off.

Mrs Bowden & Mrs Whelan were here this evening, in a little while Mrs Smith & baby, Mrs Lee & Miss Mary Ella drove up, after they left we drove to Gallin to take a bucket of butter. Jackson's head was hurt in some way & he has a large swelling all around his head - just back of his ears, it has opened at the same old place & is running, we think he was hurt one day when loaned to a man to hunt up some hay.

Fred is a long way behind with his

half to Waver, send him pigs every morning. I enclose Lewis's last letter
 you may like to read it. William Wells came in yesterday for a
 pot. He worked & sold
 the single, double, & cent
 dresses nicely. today is
 in the garden fixing a
 place to plant turnips,
 it is as cloudy & you
 rain will stop him.
 Mrs. Whelan is with
 her Mother. I called to
 see her. Your Father is
 not feeling well today,
 made his supper on
 tea, coffee & figs. I was
 & as paying for it. My
 paper is full so good
 bye with much love
 to you devoted
 Father.
 Do you keep well?
 1891

I enjoyed your letter received
 yesterday, the greatest pleasure I have
 now is getting letters from my children.
 I have such a quiet, lonely time, ~~no~~
 one in the house but myself, until
 8 or 9 o'clock at night, your Father
 has been going to see Melville & Chastine
 every evening & staying out until that
 time. He will not go this evening as
 he found them both better yesterday.
 Melville had a relapse, after I was
 there, must have been excited in
 some way for her fever was very
 high. I expect they will be more careful
 now & keep them more quiet.

We are having a good deal of rain,
 heavier rains come little distance off,

yesterday there were storms all around.
Wave was to have gone ^{last night} to Mrs Robinson's
to practice with the girls but the
weather was too threatening. The Robinsons
are trying to get up a concert for the
benefit of our church, I suppose they
want Wave in a chorus, I did not
know he could sing. Mrs R - told him
at S S he must be sure to go over.
We had a poor turn out Sunday
only 6 scholars, we all went to the
Baptist church when S S was over.
After dinner Wave & my self went
to Mother's, found some Jane & herself
all alone, bro Wave purchased a
red road cart the day before & was
trying it, drove in town & stayed all
day, we sat there some time then
drove down to Gallows thinking it
nearly time for the train, they had
no time piece & it was too cloudy
to see the sun so instead of reaching

the Station just in time we were on
home too soon, Florence Neil was with
Mrs Hatch so we concluded to go
to see her, I sent there & Wave went
back for the mail, while he waited
a cloud gathered rapidly & we had
to drive hard, reaching home just in
time to avoid a hard rain. Florence
has a sweet looking baby but she is
very small. I think I wrote you that
Mrs Stewart went on to Washington
to nurse Mrs North, she thinks he
cant last much longer. She writes
Mrs North's house is elegant & that
the silver & glass is enough to dazzle
one's eyes, but all that brings "Fanny"
no peace at the fact, nor the old
lady either, she is so deaf that they
have to write to her instead of
talking.

Fred has written nothing of the
Worcester University - Did he mention

the failure of Moses' Bank in
Montgomery & that he had 500
dollars deposited there? I am so sorry,
fear he will lose every cent of it, I
think that is about all he has saved
unless he has some little on interest
in Texas, he had, at one time.

I wish the young man who expects
to be accountant in botany & has no
taste for it, would turn the place
over to you, & take the place you hope
to get in Miss. Your Father says send
him Dr Brown's address. Have you
heard whether Mr Ross will continue
at Auburn.

John feeds for us while Waver is at
the store so your Father has no
trouble that way.

I wish you had some figs, there
are so few here to eat them. Dr B-
sent me a splendid watermelon
which we enjoyed yesterday, I sent

so much better. I am sorry that your father has not been down since.
 I have been to have him at (Harrisburg) today & suppose
 it is
 very early off, as
 being very early
 your father's going,
 we are having
 some animals
 down, cotton is
 shedding. I must
 write to find this
 evening as good
 bye. With much
 love & your devoted
 Mother
 I am afraid this is a
 very last letter
 I have been
 so often interrupted.
 1891

I am behind on my letter
 writing this week, hope you have not
 felt uneasy on account of it. I had some
 extra work on housekeeping & some sewing
 that I was compelled to do, each day some
 thing unexpected would come up.
 Today I have been picking & putting up
 peaches, we bought some very nice ones
 from a negro over the creek; I put up
 5 qts yesterday & the same number
 today, Monday, put up 7 qts, it was
 really a treat to have them to work
 with, so many nice dishes for winter
 desserts; of course I will divide with
 Fred if he keeps home.
 We read with pleasure your long letter,
 & certainly wish there was some way of
 finding out about the matters we are

is much interested in, it is strange they are so quiet about Prof Newman's election, no notice of it has come out in the papers. I earnestly hope Col. K will get a place, if by that means you could get the school on chips. I don't see why Fred should sit get Prof. K's place, he thinks Mr. Ross & the other Newmans would be in his way, we do not. Your Father will go to Selma tomorrow to see if he can influence Judge Haralson for Fred, we think his president of the board of trustees, Gov. Slay said some time ^{ago} he would help Fred in any way he could, so now I hope he will. Uncle John thinks he can influence one or two. I would be so glad to have you both there. I - could keep house & take Waver & yourself as boarders. I suppose by this time you have heard from Mr. Rivers.

I am sorry to say Reuben has nothing in view for another year, I wish he could

get a place right now, from some remarks your Uncle John made I think he would be willing for Reuben to leave ~~right~~ now, you know John is thus doing nothing & I suppose your Uncle thinks he could make John take Reuben's place & earn his wages. We thought Reuben was engaged for the year but Johnny said something the other day about his year being out in August & that he would like to see him get a good place.

Your Father had a note from Lewis's teacher, he says Lewis is getting on well, had read one book of Cicero & reviewed the Latin Grammar. I suppose he has commenced Greek by this time.

Mrs. Dr. Ross gives a Progressive Circle party tomorrow night, for a wonder your Father, Waver, & myself are invited. I suppose we will go, tho' I am not a Circle player, had

rather look on them remain here
alone, expect to have a dull time.
Mrs Jimmy Bowden & her 4 children
Mrs Whelan & her two, & 2 of Mrs
Gaskers children are all at Dr Bowden's
including Johnny Holman the family
numbers 16. I called there yesterday,
Miss Stollenweck & two young men from
Greensboro were spending the day &
night, these scarce times I don't see
how Mrs Bowden can get up dinner
for them, I tried to help her out by
sending some okra & a few tomatoes,
they have not either & are so fond
of gumbos.

The shooting clubs met in Mr Hatels
parlour had a shooting match, & a
barbecue in the woods, your Father
was there a short time but could
tell me nothing, except that there
was some good shooting done. He
expected to meet Uncle John there
& hear from the children, they were

expected him last Tuesday & this morning before but he did not
come. I am ashamed to send you such a letter please excuse
it. With much love
Yours devoted
Martin

Aug 12th 1891

My dear Son

It is now 3 o'clock, I
have just finished filling my
20th qt jar of fruit, yesterday & today
work, feel terribly hot but must
try to answer your letter received
last night. I need hardly say I
was glad to get it, but sorry ~~for~~ to
know you were disappointed about
the Miss place, however I hope it
may be for the best in the end,
know you ~~will~~ think so if you could
get C. L. M's place & may be you
can. I had wrote a hurried note
saying Col M - would take the
place in S. C. be there by Jan
so now we will do what we can
for him. Maybe I wrote you that

your Father had been to Salem to see Judge Harwood on Fred's behalf, Willie Nelson wrote to some influential friend for him. Fred's idea is not to apply himself, but to be suggested by friends. I will send you a copy of Gen Lee's last recommendation of him. Your Father will send copies to several influential persons.

I should think you would have a hot time collecting this week, did you have to wade the four miles out to the mill? I have heard 'Wave' speak of the place. He is still at the store 'Johnny' says not a word of when he will return to work, is still at Dr Browder's.

The young men give a dance at the old Johnson house tonight, Wave came up last night to say he would want a way to go, it

must have been gotten up in a hurry.

The Euchre party passed off very pleasantly, there were 36 persons including the family, the ~~two~~ Poole ladies, Mrs Hootch, Mrs Dan Ross "Charley" & myself did not play. Chicken salad & seed tea, ice cream & cake was served at the card tables & the few not playing were asked into the dining room. I was asked to help serve the tea & ice cream which I was glad to do, it was nearly 3 o'clock when we reached home.

Sunday night we went to the Baptist church, while there your Father was called out to see Mr Torbert, he was out on the church porch, had by mistake taken an over dose of Laudanum & was feeling the effect of it, services were soon over so when

we came home I lighted the oil
stove & Waver & my self soon had
drunk some very strong coffee, your Father
put some Atripia in his arm & by
eleven o'clock he was all right, W-
stayed with me until your Father
came from the store. Your Uncle
Waver had a little three days spell,
took cold from some imprudence,
was up yesterday.

We are having a quantity of
tomatoes & okra now. I sent both
to Mrs Browder she has neither
any quantity & such a house
full to feed. I am drying okra for
a soup next winter.

So far no letter from Lewis this
week, may be it will come tonight,
The sick at Johnnys continues to
improve the Melville is not out of
bed yet, Bladavich is up. I have
not seen Reuben since I was there,

P.S. As a general
thing, old Tom
& sick is better
than its wont-
from its ordinary
wells. Is it a
fact that old
Ross has lost
his wife of
14 years?

Rallion Ala. August 19th 1891.

Dear Ben: -

Two days ago your letter to
your Mother reached us, and we
all hope that some results alluded
to, in it, may happen to your benefit.
A gentleman of some influence was
at my house and said he would
write to a party in Montgomery,
and also to Dr. Brown about P. -
I have been pretty busy copying
testimonials &c & have some good
men promised as coworkers. It wd
be almost too good a thing to have
you all "neighbors". I have replies
to some of my letters which indicate
good feeling & assistance. Can't you
find out something from parties con-
nected with the College? I forgot to give
you a letter of introduction to Col Ross
-if you know him well & talk to him

about Jersey's first & follow on with
anything about Silos & C & how they
manage things at A & M of Miss -
you might possibly get him to talking
about amount of work he has done - and
the opposition he had to encounter - He
was mightily taken with Fred's management
of the "So L. Stock Journal" - I think if a
certain party has made a contract, it
is very likely because his support will
leave for another place. I saw Judge
H to day (he was with Mrs M^{rs} Haddin -)
and he still says he has heard nothing
about it, but wrote to Dr. B to learn facts.

Have just seen Ware - & he says Mrs Lag-
ard told him, she might not be there
another session. - So I think it would
be best for you to look him up a place,
He spoke of Mrs Packets - just beyond the
Depot or Rail Road Sta. But if you can
get a good room at Prof Mell's I think
this should be preferable - Mrs Montague
lives just across ^{the st^h} from the front of the
College building. She I understood had rooms

Aug. 19, 1891

to eat & you might get Board & meals
at the Hotel. I merely make these suggestions.
I would not care to go to Paocher Anderson's
but Dr. Anderson (the Prof.) I suppose might
do very well.

Mary Minge has been with me
since Saturday, I was down to see
her Mother & left Mary back with me.
The sick ones, "Chodwick" & "Mel" are fast
improving. Mary has been busy putting
up some fruit &c - Your Mother I believe
has canned 49 quarts & put up 32 qts
of preserves. Mother still talks of going
to Petersburg - but I think she is disap-
pointed in not having Alice to return,
it seems Alice wants to remain in
Mobile for some time longer although
your Aunt Alice has written that she
expected to take Louise on to Colum-
bia Tenn to school & perhaps remain
sometime.

Mrs Robinson had a church supper
at her house last Monday - very well
attended - cake & ice cream, realized
about 40 dollars - expenses were very
little I judge. Miss Fanny, you know
is here & preparing I suppose for the con-
cert which is to be in Demopolis, I wish
you would inquire about "Miss Turner" a
daughter of Mrs Lazarus - I thought per-
haps, if she could teach music, she
might suit you much John & Bessie
as Miss Bell M - will not return. As
to your feet I think a weak "Alum water"
with vinegar would help to harden
them. A spoonful or so of vinegar to
pint of weak Alum solution. also rubbing
them every night with vinegar & cold
water is good. Try & find out all you
can, & if Col Ross comes to Auburn
find him out & present this letter.
Your Mother will write in a few
days - all well & send love to you -
Be careful of the water you drink at the
different places, as Auburn water is not as
good as other places. Yr Father - R. Duggan -