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About the Institute

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.

Oct 6th 1897.

My dear Son

No letter from you this morning
but I will not wait to write, for tomorrow
I hope to spend with sister Sally, the
weather is good & roads fine with the
exception of about an inch of dust, &
now is the time for me to make some
visits. I would not be surprised too if
Louise is back here next week, life at
Warr Down is very monotonous for her, no
piano, no machine & nothing to do, much
Warr will not let her clean up & put
to rights. She is in Denzopolis this week.
Mayer had his fall opening in his new
store & she wanted to be there, then there
is a feast or fact either the Jews today
& grand arrival expected. I am inclined
to think she hoped to be asked to take

part, tho she did not say, is very much
like the Duggers in keeping her own
council. Louis & Uncle Wm. left Fred at
Oswego, late in the evening Uncle Wm.
had not returned as he came up here &
is with us yet. I had a note from aunt
Melville yesterday, her governess has arrived
but I don't think she is much pleased
with her, it is unfortunate -

Ben I am so forgetful that I fear I have
not sent Miss Loe's thanks for the little
darkey's pictures, she was delighted with
them & thought the work as well some other
likeness good, sent many thanks. You are
such an artist I wish you had tried
your hand on a picture of myself, I
have never been satisfied with any that
have been taken, I am so sorry you did
not take a picture of the "kids", I was
so upset with Fanny's strange behavior
that I could not think of, or enjoy any
thing these two weeks she was here, it
seems now like a troubled dream, I hope

OCT 6, 1897

I may never have such another.
I am glad you enjoyed some good music,
you seem to appreciate it as much.
Laurie tried a good many of the Cornell
songs, some of them are to times we used
to sing "long long ago", carry me back to
my happy young days when there were
no cares or responsibilities - "Could those
days but come again"!!

I will enclose Laurie's last weeks letter, he
seems not at all troubled about the fever,
in a letter to your Father received today
he says that Belize people have quarantined
against Mobile, one steamer has been
taken off the line & when the Monrovia
arrives the cargo is fumigated & certainly
no communications allowed with the
city. He thinks it probable her trips now
will be made to Baltimore instead of

Mobile, if such is the case he will be
 recalled & may have to come home by way
 of Baltimore, no orders yet to that effect.
 William Bender left Mobile after the first
 few cases & went to St. Louis, the other day
 he attempted to return, I don't know what
 route, & was put off at Maple Hill, after
 four or 5 days he appeared at home, I
 have not heard how he came unless it
 was he stopped where he was, until the
 20 days from the time of leaving Mobile
 had expired & then was allowed to pass,
 quarantines are as strict as ever. There
 seems no abatement of the fever in
 Mobile & decidedly an increase in N.O.
 Yesterday the morning was very cool
 & we hoped for a continuance of such a
 temperature but today is summer heat
 again, frost seems as far off as ever.
 I believe I wrote of Berrie C. & Miss
 Chadwick spending the day with us
 last week, they took me by surprise, I
 never mentioned about John's expected

OCT 6, 1897

Did you remember that yesterday was the 33rd anniversary of our
 marriage? I don't
 realize it.

mornings too, that reminds me of other
 talked of engagements, Mr John Richman
 expects to bring out a bride from Va in
 December, also Mrs Willie Beachy-Jones
 Davies too, expects to marry Miss Taylor of
 Danapolis.

I have not heard from Fred in two
 weeks. Reuben's visits are like angels,
 "few & far between." Mrs Hatch was here
 this morning before I could get the sweeping
 done, wants me to visit with her in
 sending letters to Montevalls, it will net
 us about 18^{cts}, I am now getting 15^{cts}.
 She reports that Mrs Shivers is much
 pleased, I hope she will make a good
 living. Waver returned from the store
 yesterday. This is a dry letter news is
 scarce so I will close, with much love

Your devoted

Brother.

After dinner —
Miss Len sent to ask
me, while we at dinner
to ride to Hamden
with her & I must
begin & finish my letter
before 9 o'clock. The
hunting and potting
with a good many
instruments but collected
but a few birds.
The seeds, both
will have to make
another trip. The letter
from Laura today
helped it well, come
toward me, with much
love from all
your devoted
sister,
7.

This is a delightful morning,
just cool enough to be pleasant, every
thing is very quiet & the birds are taking
advantage of it to pour forth their sweet-
est notes, I listen while I write, with
the window open near by. We had a
showery day before yesterday, but we
hoped would bring a real cool spell
but were disappointed, we would gladly
have your frost transferred to the
southern cities that the fever might be
at an end. We sent you two papers
early in the week, the latest we had,
mails take sometimes about three
days from Mobile & the same from
Birmingham, owing to the quarantines I
suppose. We have not heard from Fred

this is the thirteenth week, Walter Collins
being sick increases his work I suppose.
Walter has been critically ill, in fact
yesterday morning his life was despaired
of, last night there was a slight hope
of his being able "to pull through" as Dr
Drake expressed it. Mrs Collins is with him,
sent Wallace home, he was out on the
porch yesterday evening.

Our Father drove me up to see Mrs
Kornegay's yesterday evening we had a
pleasant visit, found Mrs Bob Kornegay
there, she told us of the death of Miss
Pattie Lee in Selma, typhoid fever, we
had not heard it, you know report
said she was Lerie's girl, I don't know
whether it was so or not. I feel very sorry
for Mrs Lee, think her has been rather a
sad life. Lerie's college will not open
until all danger of the fever is over. I
will enclose his last letter you can see
what he says about returning. If they
would only order the Manager to

Penner told it would be better for him, no fever there, & less expensive to get home than from Baltimore I expect. I feel very thankful there is no fever near him, we looked for it to appear first in some of those south American towns.

Louise & Fred Sprague came up yesterday evening to go with Waver on a scrub back & walnut hunt today, it was funny to see the city folks driving an old snail. Ihe came along on Mary, to take the buggy back, leaving Mary for Fred to ride home this evening, Louise will stay some time, in order to use my sewing machine in making some fall clothes, she must have any sent her from Mobile.

Bessie arrived safely in Pittsburg & was enjoying herself. Mrs. Hutch still has her refugees & is expecting two more, Maricee's husband & Verdie's beau. I don't say but the house full, there are hard times to get up dinners, chickens pretty well exhausted, no market, & vegetables all

gone except mustard & salads, none of
our family care for that now.

Waver & myself spent last Thursday
with sister Sally, all were well, the children
at school, I think they are better pleased
with the governess than at first. She isn't
as beauty & I don't think sister L. will
be troubled with her beauty, she is
only 22. Amanda Harris is at Beech's
getting ready to marry the brother ^{in law} of Thos. Harris,
I can't think of the name now,
there is hope for other girls if she can get
off.

If nothing happens I will turn over the
keys to Waver & Lories tomorrow & spend
the day at John's. He has not dismissed
Reuben yet that we have heard of, he
did not come down Sunday as I hoped
he would. Uncle Waver, Lories & Fred

Oct 19th 1897

My dear Son

The pens in this house are so abominable that I must use a pencil. Have to bring some pen points from the store but he has never thought to do it, he spends a good deal of time at the store now trying to find the truth of the many reports of yellow fever afloat. Friday 15 cases were reported in Montgomery, next day it was denied, but great excitement prevailed, telephones, & telegraphs were busy, today, Montgomery owns up to two real, & 50 suspicious cases, 300 persons from Montgomery went to Selma, Gallien path with quarantined against Selma, the those 300 were sent away at once, people seem wild with excitement, catch at & exaggerate every thing. The fever is

increasing at Bologni & has broken out at
Flomaton. The whole south is anxiously
hoping for frost but little prospect of one yet.
Yesterday there were heavy clouds & we hoped
for a regular "washer" & then cold weather
but we had only a drizzle & the thermometer
went down only to 65, this evening there
were heavy clouds & we may have rain
before morning, we need it, for the water
supply is getting very low, even on these
places. Frost has been predicted about the
26th I hope it will come. These quarantaine
business will put us to serious inconvenience.
I fear, supplies are cut off & soon things
will be very scarce. The idea of not being
able to go to Selma!! It is ridiculous I
think, I don't know how John will
manage about going to Birmingham to
be married. Bessie, Johnny & Mary all
expected to go, were having handsome
dresses made for the occasion. We hear
John will take a 10 days trip North &
then come home to a reception at his

OCT. 19, 1897

3

Father's. Mary is making more pillow sham
cushions, head rests & than you ever
heard of to adorn the house they are to
occupy in Farns dale. I don't know how
we will get a present, take what we
can find in Uniontown or Danopolis I
reckon, it is hard to know what to get.
Nothing has been heard from Walter Collins
since Sunday, then he was very ill, not
expected to recover, the suspense & anxiety
must be terrible on his Mother. I suppose
the telephone is so busy Mrs Collins can't
get a message through. Wallace reached
home safely & is doing well, she had also
another sick one at home, a little fellow.
Sunday was our church day, Aunt
Melville's family including the governess
(Miss Christman) were down, Remben
came Saturday night after every one

were in bed. Mr Cobb, Uncle Waver &
Fred came to dinner. Lorrain was with
us already, spends most of her time here
now, I had 14 to dinner. They like the
governess very much as far, she is very
quiet but pleasant, says she enjoys
being with us, we are so much like
Virginians, have the same ways & ideas
about things. She is quite an artist
sketches from nature, makes designs for
oil cloths &c &c.

Reuben has rented for next year Mr
Proflet Harris' place, Uncle Harris &
Mr Wallace Blake worked it on previous
ships & made a fine crop this year but
Mr Blake is so tied up with debt that
he has decided to wind up this crop &
leave, accept a place in St-Louis offered
by his brother. It is not a large place
but more conveniently arranged than the
Holcroft place & R. wants to try for
himself, I can't blame him, the house is
only a cabin, but about as comfortable

as the one he now occupies, he will be on this side of Isaac's swamp & near good neighbors at any rate. I think Uncle John was rather surprised that R- would give up his business, he has not yet found the men to run plantation & ginney too.

We had good music Sunday, Lizzie Minnie, Narcissa Mr. House & Lizzie composed the choir, Lizzie sang the offertory, "My God my Father while I stray" her voice sounded better than I thought it would in the church. Verdies' beam is on a visit of 10 days or two weeks to her at Mr. Hatch's, Mary has invited them to Norwood & I heard they were going together, that beats all I ever heard of - things have changed since I was young. I heard from Lizzie on

Wednesday, he was well & waiting orders, the "Morgan" has not stopped running to Mobile, is fumigated on arriving at Belize but I think it a risk for the town & a great risk for Lewis if he should make a voyage on her to any port should he be recalled, he seems to be "taking it easy." His recent news from Fred. Morgan is talking right well, & Frederick's face is becoming more rosy, in other words he is "picking up." I will stop for tonight -

Wednesday morning - A telephone came through last night from Mr Collins. Walter was resting well & they now have some hope of his recovery. It is still cloudy damp weather but no rain, thermometer 66 this morning so we are no nearer frost. Wave is going to the office as I hurry to a close, hope he will bring back yours & Lewis's letters for this week, with much love

Your devoted Mother.

October 25th 1897.

My dear Son

I have just heard there may be a
train tonight, as as there is no telling when we
will leave another I must hurry off a short letter.
Friday Dr. Gristine pronounced 3 cases of fever in
Selma, yellow fever, the whole country was thrown
into the greatest excitement & every town & station
from Selma to Oak guaranteed against every
other place, wanted no ^{summer} visits or nothing to come in,
as the trains had to stop for want of business, were
not allowed to stop at any of the stations, why we
should pass tonight I have not learned, but want
to have my letter ready if there is a chance to
get it off. We heard by telephone there are 18 new
cases in Mount Vernon, 3 in Selma. When the cases
were pronounced yellow fever in Selma there
was a regular stampede, 300 vehicles left the
city that morning & many who could sit here
conveyances walked out. All the little towns have
shot gun quarantines on all the dirt roads & no
one is allowed to pass without a certificate from a
Dr. House is waiting for his father now to give
him over to him. Any one who has passed

through Montgomery or Selma in the last week
or so is ordered off from whatever place he may be
in. Mr. Grey was sent out of Tusculum, Mr.
Tisdale out of Uniontown, Mrs. Adler quarantined
in his own house, we are allowed to go in or out.
A rumor came last week that there was a case
in Greensboro, Miss Pickett's brother came down for
her as usual Friday evening & contradicted it, so
she started home with him, at the store she was
stopped & told that if she went no children would
be sent to school Monday as she had to turn back,
yet that some day "Mrs. L. W." was trying to make a
way to get Mrs. Dickerson's family out of Selma to
her house. This morning 5 cases were reported in
Selma Greensboro but contradicted by one of the
D's there. The telephone is busy all the time, Waver
makes frequent visits to it & brings the news. The
people are so alarmed that they are leaving the
little towns, going off into the country, & families
have left Tusculum & many would like to go
from other places if there was any place they
could go. I never heard of such a commotion & such
wild rumors in my life. Refugees from Montgomery
went to Opelika & there has been a case there, also
at Abbeville & a station below Auburn. After the

news Friday there was a grand rush for
provisions, everyone was buying up as for a
siege, we were fortunate to secure some meat &
lard, would like to have gotten some flour but may
be able to make what we have do until times
are again. Frost is predicted this week & I hope
pray we will have it for the whole country is demanding
being any by the fever. "Mrs. Belmont" reached home
yesterday by private conveyance from Athens, left
Auburn Thursday, Walter was killed & Dr. Drake
advised her to come or he might not be able
to get home at all. I suppose you need not be
anxious about us, it will hardly get here as there
are no refugees, unless it is "come on the air" & I
almost believe it comes that way now, it is as
as many places where it never was before. What
makes my head ache to think of it.

Uncle Waver & Fred were with us yesterday, Annie
went to Tusculum. Friday evening was to sing in
the choir Sunday, go from there to Aunt Nettie's
Sunday evening & with her back here Wednesday.
Waver goes for her. Annie was well at last writing,
had recovered no orders. I don't see why they keep
him there now. Tom Father will take these letters
to the office so I must bring this to a close. I hope

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THOS. T. ECKERT, General Manager

NORVIN GREEN, President.

NUMBER	SENT BY	RECEIVED BY	CHECK
59	1	Ca B	10 ⁰⁰ AM nite

RECEIVED at CORNELL UNIV. ITHACA, N.Y. 8³⁰ am OCT. 30 1897

Dated Gallion Alabama 29

To L M Luggar

62 Dryden Road

Yellow fever in Selma no trains

all well at home

M L Luggar

What a present for John, now that there are freight running John says
that when the freight
getting to Birmingham we
think it will be worth freight
carrying a great deal, we
have to get it out of
the whole lot but
Friday he had two
failed to get for some
week. No more from
that for some weeks
Wednesday still doing
nothing. Chris. Parker
said that the
may be better & asked
and seems to depend
on the day of January.
1892

Monday we had our first
mail in 9 days, & you may imagine
how glad we were to have it, a large
amount full, but no letter from you, it
may come today, however I received
your telegram & was glad to have it.
My letter to you that was sent to the
office a week ago (thinking this might
be a snail) must have gone off
yesterday but as it was old I wrote
again today. I had a letter from
Lewis yesterday dated the 20th of Oct.
He does not expect to return to Mobile
until about the 20th of this month,
we hope by that time the fever will
have died out & he can resume them.

W. and all well. I hope to reach you
soon. I have started
Mother.

and suppose college will open by that
time. I would be as glad if he could
come home for a little while but he
could not leave anytime. He says there
is no danger of fever where he is & that
he will have his salary up to the day
he leaves. Probable as he is making himself
easy. Sunday we had a long wetted
for rain & since that time have needed
fire, last night the servants say there
was frost but I think it was only a
heavy dew. The tomatoes since do not
look hurt.

Yesterday there was great consternation
in our circle. Grace called at the
telephone for your father, told him three
persons died the night before in Grace
house with yellow fever, Mrs. C. had much,
Mrs. Smith & a child who were sent out

from Selma, Dr. Torrey said it was
genuine yellow fever, two of the cases
had black vomit, others are sick with
the fever, it is said a negro died of it
last night. Some time ago we heard the
fever was there but the report seems
contradicted, the persons sick, recovered.
Whether the cold weather will stop the
fever or not we can't say, this seems a
peculiar kind of fever common, mild,
but hard to stamp out.

No new cases in Selma, only one or two
deaths, persons are returning to the
city. Did I write you of Miss Patti
Gee's death? It was said she had
typhoid fever.

Some spread all her time with us
now, will be here until she leaves
for home. Some of her family left home

are all very well. We have not seen
Uncle Waver for about a week. I had come
up Saturday to go on a early back hunt
with us. We thought the Hatches & ourselves
would have a select few but when we
reached the place the woods were alive
with bollweigs. There were few ants &
as one took a try to climb the trees to
knock them out, so we returned empty
as we went, so far as ants were
concerned, but enjoyed a nice dinner, the
Moblans were "struck" on my next
trip, had never seen any, the cotton
craggites did not go bagging either.
Mrs Hatcher still has her crowd Minnie
& "Edwin", Rebecca & her husband Jessie
& her beauty besides her own family.
Our Father has half way promised to
take me to Mount Vernon tomorrow to

We have from Henry promptly. He keeps well & cheerful. Nothing from Foster
family. G. Foster
is very bright
believes in
4750 lbs. picked
up under the tree
in the pasture
4750 lbs. from the ground
last night. Must
be true then
even most
silly are
falling.

Dallion Ala. Nov 9th 77

Dear Ben:-

Your last letter came
safely to hand with little
delay.

In 1860 to 1865 we
passed thro' "war" and now
I might say we have al-
most had a pestilence, in
fact it has seemed so near
to us & so many friends and
acquaintances have suffered
& died that it is very like a
second war. Having seen the
"war" & the "pestilence", I hope it
may not be in my time or yours
to see the "famine". The doubts &
surprises, the rumors & false
reports so exaggerated have kept
us in suspense & excitement all

the time. At times the telephone was so besieged that in some of the cities 1000s of people, (hundreds of people) - would be near & pressing their needs, waiting & urging others to let them have their messages & inquiries in before their rated time. In Salem it took 3 to 4 different operators to serve the public, for they brought it night & day. One morning I was called up early to answer a summons from Grace Duggan, from Gloucestershire. Some suspicious cases appeared & several died; the people were in a panic & were hurrying to their country places, Grace wanted me to advise him, as he had a little country place about 5 miles, I thought it best for them to go out & stay there till all excitement abated.

Very soon others were taken sick
& so the panic increased; as I
was the health officer here, of
course I had to do all I could
to quell the excitement & keep them
quiet - posted Quarantine guards
beyond the Prairie Creek bridges,
(just as was done during the war
when the Yankies were expected);
down at Lomeville they heard
that a death occurred at
Bedfordville, this was too
near & too much, they could
bear it no longer, so a spe-
cial Committee went to the
bridge on the main road
& tore up the planks to pre-
vent Greenboro flight see-
kers from crossing and

sowing yellow fever germs broadcast over their section of country. Today I hope they are subdued, and their fears may slumber, as the quarantine against Graustons & other suspicious places has been raised.

I notified quarantine officers today that their time & pay was up & furthermore they were not needed.

The trains on our R. Road were resumed yesterday & today, so after this date we may have our mails, express & freights regular. Parties who were reported dead are again conscious and ready to receive their friends with affectionate greetings. The fliers are returning to their homes.

On Sunday we had to leave to
 dine with us, Your Aunt
 Melville made me promise
 that I would attend them
 when they had yellow fever,
 this question she asked at the
 table & called their attention to
 the answer as witnesses, in
 all seriousness. On Monday
 Your Mother & I drove to Saugatuck
 & spent the day, Your Aunt Bessie
 & Mr. Chadwick with Miss Kate
 &c. were the only ones at home,
 John & his son John had
 left for Ephraim Station, where
 they expected to get a train
 to Birmingham, tomorrow
 Wednesday Little John expects
 to be married to Miss Rosa Sloss.

6/

Mary Minge had preceded them by some days - as she & Miss Rosa are safe & intimate friends & school-mates. He & Bride will leave soon after ceremony for a trip northward, returning in about ten days, then if nothing happens his Mother wishes to give them a grand reception. When home again they will occupy a house north of the R. R.^d in Fairdale.

I presume your Mother wrote you that Dr. Whelan (of Ogden) died; had Bright's disease. The Callins family had news today that ^{young} Calhoun had born to them a ten (10) pound boy. - They live in "Shrewport." - Mrs J. T. C. went on some time ago via Memphis, to visit them.

We haven't had the notes

Nov 9, 1897

of your works as you promised
to send us. Mrs Stewart &
Miss Mary are still in Washington.
The people in the neighborhood
have kept close, but little visiting.
We had dull times, occasionally
twos almost a week and
we had no papers or could
hear no general news. After
supper I would sometimes
go to the store & steal a "listen"
to the telephone messages passing
to & fro. Without the telephone we
might as well have been in
some wilderness. Louise has
been at our house most of
the time; she would go for
a visit to her Uncle Wase &
spend perhaps two days, but
she could not or would not stand
it more than a couple of days.
When she & Fred both were
here, we would necessarily

have every room occupied, & to have cleaned up &c -
 Parlor, dining room, Chamber
 Nursery, & some upstairs over
 Parlor (Fred would occupy this) Rose
 held the room over dining room
 & Gr Mother would not require him
 to let any body else stay in
 there with him. This degree of
 selfishness was not satisfactory
 to me as it imposed on gr M
 extra trouble & work. To make
 matters worse we could not at one time
 buy any meat or flour, The plaguey
 negroes in the midst of the hard times
 had one of their grand Church conventions
 or rather a series of them, & of course all the
 "fried Chickens" & eggs were consumed &
 broke before we could get at them.

There is an abundance of Cotton in the field
 & a great deal to spin, price only $4\frac{3}{4}$ Cts. All
 are ached & I must follow suit as my fire
 is getting low. Gr Affection Sister. *W. H. Hays*
 Love from all.

T. H. FRAZER, M. D.

62 North Conception Street,

Mobile, Ala.

Nov. 13, 1897.

My dear Mother,

I suppose that by this time you have received my ship-letter and the telegram sent after my arrival in the city. We had a very pleasant passage and reached the wharf about mid-day on Tuesday. I immediately made investigation as to the chances of my reaching home, but found them no better than I had expected, so have given up such hopes for the present. I spent the first night in town and was told the next day that I could get accommodations but at Spring Hill, so I am now domiciled about eight miles from town, and come in when there is anything to do. Though we have not yet had frost the mornings for some days have been very cool. Frost was predicted for last night, but none was seen this morning. Yesterday morning the thermometer was down to 46°. I have seen but very few yellow flags, but of course I don't hunt them up, and I am not at all

Nov. 13, 1897

62 North Conception Street,
Mobile, Ala.

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frightened. People are returning to town and the streets are assuming a more active appearance, but there are numbers of houses still closed. College will not open until there is a killing frost and this seems to be very ^{far} distant about coming, and I am getting very anxious to, at regular work, or as this is not possible, to run up home and stay until college opens. When I arrived here I was advised by one of my medical friends to apply as an assistant to the physician at Thistler, to keep in the fumigation &c, but I thought that it was now too late in the season to run the risk from the exposure just for the sake of probably becoming immuned. I have never felt better in my life, and I don't see the necessity of running into the infection. I am going to move in town as soon as it is perfectly prudent, for I can live cheaper and having secured my room at the same place I can settle down to work.

They have had a bad time out of the mumps

Cousin Maria has had yellow fever and two or three of the Muckers have also been sick, don't know whether the latter was yellow fever or not. I heard from them yesterday over the 'phone, and they are all getting along very nicely.

I haven't been out to the Sprague's recently for I understand that there is some fever in the neighborhood.

And what did you think when the fever broke out in Greensboro. I have seen no reliable news from there at all, though they say here that it was very bad in that place.

I received no mail from home for the week. I left Belize so I presume the Managua will bring two letters from home when she comes back.

My address at present is Spring Hill, To Spring Hill Hotel.

Hope that you all are keeping perfectly well. With love to all,

Yours off. S. L. Lacey

Institute.

Sunday Nov 21, 1897.

My dear Mr Duggan:

Pricking my
fingers in a draught just
now, did not serve to put me
in the most cheerful
temper, but I hope so far
to conceal my feelings that
you will think I am
writing with unalloyed
pleasure; even the
attempt already made

me feel better.

School weeks pass so quickly
that Mr. S. and I have concluded
there are but two days in
the week Monday and Friday.
Last week I gave two exams;
in one I was very much
disappointed. I am sure
some of the girls hadn't
been paying the least
attention in class. Their
answers were certainly
original and unique.
I shall have to speak to girls,
which I dislike very much.

to do, it makes me feel so
guilty. How thankful
we shall all feel for the
two holidays! Most of the
girls are going to Nashville
for the foot ball game between
Sewanee and Nashville. I am
not going, as I care nothing
for these universities. The
people here, are most of
them for Sewanee, but
Nashville will win.

I have been very much
interested in foot ball, because
the people are always talking

it, and I have to stand up
for my college. The victory
of last Saturday, I mean the
Saturday before, pleased
me as much as did the
Princeton game. Mr. Fowler
is always talking Yale and
rather makes fun of Cornell
and Harvard. Now the less
we continue on speaking
terms, otherwise, you see,
he could not tell me
about Yale's victories.
Since I left the "white folks"
table, we have had no battles.

Nov 21, 1897

Our Jan waiter, is a
perfect simple Simon, he
is a philosopher too I think,
at least he is very sound-
minded. But the way he
treats my sister is scandalous.
he saves the largest dregs
of cream, and fullest glass
of milk for her, and really
I fear she will become
scurvy. Our maid is a
jewel, and has the same
taste in note paper and
cough medicine that I have.

I drew colored people toward
perfume and whiskey, but
thought it quite safe to leave
white pine balsam on my table.
what pained me most however
was that she filled up the
bottle with unfiltered
Duck River water (no personal
allusion intended) so that
I should not notice its
disappearance.

I think I can now understand
your feeling in regard to the
race question. Do you know,
Mr. Duggan, I was really

afraid of the negroes when
I first came down. They
were so different from the
class of negroes I had been
accustomed to. I am getting
over this feeling now, but
I still prefer not to be too
intimate with them.

Two weeks ago I took
my primary German class.
nothing. We had a glorious
day in the woods, and
really found some nuts.
after gathering them up and
getting the driver to hold

them, we played "base"
and "hide and seek". There
were in the party at first
looked rather indignant at
my short skirt, but became
reconciled to it when they
found I could get "home free"
as easily as they. It may
be because of the long drought,
but the woods have not the
brilliant coloring of autumn
in the north; but I am
willing to admit the splendor
of a southern sunset. The
sun sets here over a range
of hills, but does not at all

Nov 21 1897

resemble the Italian
sunsets, & there are very few
clouds which I must add
greatly to the beauty.

Although we have had a
cold snap, mild weather
continues. As the mosquito
please tell me, do they
ever freeze or die from any
other cause? In New Orleans,
I understand there were
two new cases of yellow fever
today. I trust it has not
come near enough your
home to make you anxious.

Columbia is excited sometimes. Last week there was an election, and of course several fights, and later in the week a show band paraded, it being near. Lunch time we turned out and were serenaded with "a hot time in the old town" etc. (what memories it called forth). Further than this there has been nothing to break the peacefully monotony of our life. But I forgot to tell you how the town was called

out, to see the beauty of Tennessee married (there seem to be any number of ~~the~~ Tenn. beauties). It was Miss Mary Walker. So I was on duty I took the girls to church, and took a reserved seat - think of it. I was disappointed in the bride's appearance, she certainly was not extraordinarily beautiful, but I understand she was not at all, at the best that night. Her sister was the belle of the evening.

I was greatly amused by
the committee's display in the
church generally, I shall say
again let you say, Southern
girls are more beautiful
than those of the North,
but they certainly are more
skillful in making up.
This may only be true of
Columbia, I so I beg your
pardon, or rather the
southern girls.

Speaking of wedding, reminds
me of something that happened
in the family: One of the

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girl, she was just fifteen
ran off and was married.
Mrs. Thompson felt
that she was somewhat too
young, but the girl's parents
had given permission for
her to see him at the train,
and receive daily letters,
and besides she was supervised
by an elder sister. I am
truly sorry for the child, altho'
she would be very indignant
if she knew it.
Lately I have read a
great deal, some trashy stuff

with the good books, the
selection for the book-club was
not a good one. There are
always other books, however,
which I am glad to find
time to read. I have enjoyed
most of all rereading several
times Rana Khayyan's *Rimba*
with Vadden's illustrations,
which add so much to
the meaning of the poem, or
rather help to explain it,
what do you think of it?

You will perhaps be interested

to know, that I had a letter
from Miss Vaux, among
other things she mentioned
her plans for visiting Ithaca
this week, and that she had
several engagements, some
of which she hoped to keep.
There is one last chance
to return (!) last year.

Perhaps you all will have
a mighty nice time, I
feel very anxious at times,
and some sick for the
good old times, perhaps.

I have told you this before.
but some how I am going back.
I am glad for my sister's sake
that I came south this year.
she is certainly improving.
I am always so glad to
hear from you all although
~~I am~~ ^{I am} sorry we little creatures
take so much of your time.
I haven't heard from Con yet
told him I am writing. — And
now I have not told you of my
visit to the Centennial,
and how I enjoyed the Parthenon,
did you see the Rembrandt?

there was a Rosa Bonheur
just opposite and a head
attributed to Raphael near by.
I met a Swanne fellow, ^{there} whom
I knew, he had been there
several times and described
I should care most to see.

Some time ago, I met an
Alabama man, Mr. Little.
He knows your tin-folds,
I thought he would know you,
but he went to a different
University in vain. He was
quite pleasant, near the door
and we had a delightful

sense.

I certainly was surprised
to hear of the engagement of
our friend Mr. Austin, though
he did not believe in
matrimony. - What did
you say of a crank once
in motion?

Very sincerely yours,

Anna L. Wagonschuetz.

drive. After I have told
you about Miss Temple I
shall stop, surely. She is the
niece of Dr. Becket who formerly
left this school, and is visiting
for some time. She is quite
unlike most of the girls I
have met, probably because
she has lived so much in the
north, and we have become
good friends. We read
Browning and Quin together
and sometimes talk

They were rather badly treated. One little boy was quite disturbed today by a shooting. Your man was hurt, the deputy sheriff, Douglas, was drugged, was sitting on his buggy on point of New Streets when, told a negro to come & get his buggy & to take him to Granville, & of course the man did not do it as he pulled out his pistol & shot at him, missed the arm but hit his leg & shoulder, & there was a good cry over the heads of two persons in the street. I saw a great regret that your Father would wonder the circumstance on 1st his press for such such paper. I feel sure.

Shawhan who went down Saturday telegraphed
his wife not to come. Lavinia expected to go
with her Tuesday or Wednesday, but may write
for her after this, for it turned quite cool last
night, we had a good frost. Lavinia has returned
to his last year's lodgings in the city & the
College I suppose opened Monday. I can't help
feeling anxious about him. The weather seems so
changeable every where this season, & it is so hard
for winter to come. Our water is getting low, the
wells seem not to have caught much from the
little rain we have had. Fred says their well
is dry, they have needed rain very much on the
farm. I had a letter from him today the first
one since two weeks before the train stopped
running, he has one more good water just
set in to help him, Walter will come home
when able & not return this season, he is
just able to be propped up in bed now. Fred
says the children are very well & happy, play
together nearly all day without a quarrel, & that
Frederic's face is like a full moon. I would
like to have a peep at them when in good

It is getting later & I will
 close this somewhat
 hastily written letter, with
 much love
 Your devoted
 Mother.

I hope you will
 enjoy the day &
 tomorrow & find a
 more serene calm
 where, we will think
 of you & the other
 dear ones.

I have never seen them so. Fred's hands
 are full, a paper before the convention closed
 last night on Charles Kingsley, a lecture before
 students Feb 1st, Bulletin &c &c; was at a
 Farmers Institute at Ansonia on the 10th.
 I hope you enjoyed the dance last night, I
 have not heard of any "quaking dances" this
 season.

The stylish reception comes of next Tuesday night
 is my next letter to you may not be on time
 as I will probably not reach home until Wednesday
 night on train & will be too sleepy for anything.
 If the night is cold & dark I will stay for the
 train next day, will not mind the short
 ride from Baltimore. You should see me dining
 I took Lizzie out visiting a few evenings ago,
 find I can manage "Annie" nicely.
 Reuben spent Saturday night & Sunday with
 us, was well & in good spirits. I write you

he had sent the Conflict Harris place & Uncle John wants him to continue to manage the Holcroft place too, he will live on the Harris place, R. finds he will have much more corn to buy than he expected, also some mules, will sent some from Mr Harris. Reuben made 130 bales of cotton this year, the place made 46 bales last year so you see why Uncle John wants to keep him. There was no corn on the place to start with, now he has 1500 & all his plow &c in place for another crop, last year they disappeared with the man who left the place, so much for having an honest man. Reuben rides the girls out a good deal since he has a buggy, planned for a visit here not long ago in honor of Miss Buchanan, The Winge took her & Reuben, Bland, each one took a different road into the woods, missed each other & the rest of the party failed to come, Reuben's boy climbed the trees & they picked up nearly 7 pecks & returned, driving by R.'s house to leave the remains of an abundant lunch. The & Miss Beulah returned to Bessie's to dinner, ^{think} J.

for looks, you want a girl who is that respect. You have seen very little of her
yet. Present your
if so, you would find
she is at the girl
she was asking you
Wipe together. We
all noticed the
change then.
However, look
before you leap.
I have many times
approached myself
for not speaking to
you. I am sorry
that I am sorry
to that is why I
call your attention
to this matter. I
don't expect to
show for you but
wish you could
see things as we
do. I don't know
but the appearance
of other birds very
highly might have

I don't know of your dinner in relation
from Uncle John, how that dinner is now. I have
set the charcoal in order after last night's savings.
I will begin my letter. I am so full of the receipts
I may as well give you an account of it after telling
you that much to my surprise. Since we had on last
Thursday night, that morning we had a letter saying
the college would open & he could not come, but
the dinner decided not to open until today so he
came for a short visit, left this morning to go by
the N. & B. he was looking very well but took a
bad cold & did not wish to stay to the reception but
your Father insisted & he enjoyed himself very much.
Wade & himself went home with Uncle Ben last
night & he was ready for the train this morning.
I was sorry to have such a short visit but it was
better than none.

The reception was quite a step-like affair & much
enjoyed by all, the best of it was the weather cleared
off so prettily & we had a pleasant night but too
dark for old folks to drive, Bessie had insisted on

was staying & we were glad to do so, Aunt
& Uncleville; just thinks of it! was there for the day &
night with only Rich, Lucy & Grand papa remain-
ed at home. Wm drove me down Monday evening.
I found Mary in the midst of decorating & I went
in to help & continued to, until I saw things pretty
well straightened this morning. There were about
100 persons present, supper was provided in quantity,
11 turkeys, a 50 lb. can of chicken salad
(made by myself) 2 gallons of olives, a large keg
which it was of oysters & every thing in proportion.
Aunt Unlille made "Charlotte" until there
was not a bowl to put it in & we had to call
in a new wash basin that had never been
used, to help hold it. The dining room was beau-
tifully decorated in white (chrysanthemums) &
green, in the center the table (very much short-
ed) was pretty set with candlesticks, a pyramid
of fruit, flowers, a few cakes, a bowl of jelly &
one of Charlotte, around were small tables with
beautiful embroidered covers, a spray of flowers on
each, salted almonds, wine & scrupins, 30 at a
time were seated at the little tables & served
with the same oysters & crabs, they (the oyster plates)

were removed & turkey, salads, olives, pickle, cheese
straws, little long narrow crabs, & bread was served,
also coffee, chocolate & sherry wine, there came
cakes & Charlotte & jelly in the same manner. Tables
were cleared each time, dishes washed, & the same thing
repeated 4 times, it was 1 o'clock before we waiters
were seated to our supper, but there was not a white
any where, host & hostess felt perfectly satisfied
with the success of the undertaking for it was such,
Punch & wine with some private bottles smuggled
into the gentle man's room made some of them
rather merry towards the last. The music was good
& the young folks enjoyed the dance, my boys
received so many compliments, especially the youngest
that I felt quite proud, he is certainly a fine fellow
& has such every good manner. The presents were
all hand some & useful, much silver & cut glass, a
very hand some lamp, vases, & large ornaments, an
oak top table, a lovely set of after dinner cups, also
a set of bonillows cups with top, & two bundles, but I
wish you have seen them. The family were quite
pleased with Rose & I hope she will steady follow.
I think the Hoes family taken as a whole are the
simplest people I ever saw. Mrs Hoes & son, & two ladies

came down yesterday morning & Beacie had them
all there, as much as she had to do. Last night
there were 17 of us to sleep there.

I think our good weather is over with now, it has
been cloudy all day & is now & disagreeable. I wish
Mrs. Davis & Mr. Davis were in to hear about the reception,
she & Mr. Davis did not go, on account of the
illness of Mr. Davis, pneumonia.

I forgot to tell you of a new caper at the reception, as
soon as the guests were seated Beacie went around
& pinned a little ribbon on each person, that
was to show they had supper, I thought it a funny
idea but it was a help in finding out who had
not had supper & getting all in.

Now, I am afraid you have another love affair on
hand & want to give you some advice before things
go too far, remember she is your first cousin, & the
a pleasant sweet person I don't think she is one
that would be an ornament to the society in
which you move. You know her education is very
limited & she also makes some attempts to improve
herself I think when the curse of married life comes
upon her she would make no further effort in that
direction she likes domestic life & does not want

Auburn, Ala., Dec. 5, '97.
Dear Mother;

We are having
our first bit of winter weather
just now. This was only the second
morning when ice was found.
The first killing frost was Nov. 30.

You saw in the Post a
partial account of Secretary
Wilson's visit to Auburn. I
noticed that the Post said
much about the breakfast given
in his honor but nothing about
the lunch given him ^{or dinner} by Mrs.
Cary. The guests at the latter
were Judge Bruce and all the
members of the Council of the
Experiment Station.

Mrs. Parn assigned me
to the seat of honor next
the lecturer, but as the
meal was greatly hurried to
enable the party to catch the
train, I did not have a
great deal of conversation
with him. In the forenoon
Prof. Park and I had taken
hired the farm in a carriage
and had quite an interesting
talk with him.

His speech, although very
plain and agricultural, was
well received. I of course ap-
preciated it, but was rather
surprised to hear Prof. Trach
commend it highly.

DEC 5, '17

Secy. Wilson intimated that he would again visit the South. If he comes here he should certainly not return before seeing the Canabake.

One good result of his visit appeared in a meeting of the Station Council a few days ago when there appeared a greater disposition than usual to pay special attention to the needs of the Agt. West.

The Committee of Trustees on Expt. Station, having failed heretofore to get a full attendance will meet here again on the 13th. inst.

The Post has given you

news of recent entertainments,
Miss Harrison's singing and the
meeting of the Conversation Club.

Father asked the
name of my first graduate.
He is Leonard of last James
graduating class. Entering
2 months late and fully bent
on medicine, he will probably
be considerably less useful to
me than Walter would have
been.

Father also asked about the
heifer. With good feed, she fails to
grow satisfactorily, but is considerably
larger than when she came. Please
ask father what is the date of her
birth. All are well.
With love to all yours aff. son Fred.

Dec 8th 1897.

My dear Sam

I feel very much like taking
your place & sending as posted this week,
news is so scarce, in fact there is none. I
did not get a single item from Miss Lee
this evening. I took my crocheting & went
to sit with them awhile, everything seems so
quiet here. I almost want to sleep working
alone. Mr John Richeson is very sick as
Saturday night. I have went in to help
Bob, this morning he has left for Mobile as the
house seems deserted. Reuben stopped here a
few minutes yesterday on his way home
from Demopolis, he said Bob's housekeeper
had left & he & Wm had everything to
see to. Wm has set his head on getting a
lighter buggy & has not started out since
noon yet, I tell him he is letting all the
good weather & roads go without doing

any thing more but is in Demopolis. I expect Bob will try to keep him until Mrs. Richards recovers, I know her husband is typhoid fever & is sure he is going to die. He was to have gone to Ala. the middle of this month to be married, he & Mrs. Beasley were going together. We have John to feed in place of Thane & I have a small girl in the house, she does very well, only will take things to eat as much more much. I give her, she is one of Dick Ferris's children. Sister Elizabeth has gotten a dairyman near Mobile to give Thane milk but I don't expect he will hold out a month, will want to be where he can go to school as he did here, play a good deal & work as little as possible.

Tonight Mrs. George MacRae & Minnie Walker are to be married, at her home, she is the best one I believe. We were not invited. I expect Rowen was & will be there, he is riding around to find good mules at a moderate price, Monday went to a sale

near Greentown, yesterday to Demopolis & to day expected to go to Uniontown, makes two trips in Demopolis for his horses. I heard today that Mrs. Shivers has rented his place to Mr. Willie Blake.

Perhaps you have seen in the papers a notice of Seth Wilcox's visit to Auburn, Fred had a good deal to say about it, believe I will enclose his letter for you to read.

Levine arrived safely in Mobile, is at his same boarding house, 354 St. Francis St. Leitch must be quiet for us, none of the boys at home - I hope some one will invite us out to dinner, it is useless for me to try to have any one here, if I fix for as much dinner something always happens to prevent those invited from coming.

Orville Warr dropped in Saturday evening, he has rented the town house to Mr. Cobb, I suppose he will not go in so often now. I am trying to persuade your father to take one to call on our new mine tomorrow

we ought to go before another rain. We
had a good freeze a few days ago, but
today we needed no fire, have a little
tonight. I was up this morning at 20 minutes
to 5 as you may know I am sleepy tonight
had to have early breakfast for them to get
off. This is dreadful paper to write on.
Please excuse from friendship with much love

Yours devoted

Matthew

Dec 22nd 1897

My dear Son

Your Father came in late
this evening bringing you very acceptable
letters, hearing from the boys is about my
only pleasure these days, we (I cant
stand this pen) are entirely alone &
dont even get the mail regularly,
when your Father goes he never
seems to hear anything that has
happened or is expected. I had letters
from Lewis & aunt Melville tonight,
she writes the weather & roads are so
bad she will not write any one for
4 snow days but that if any of us
can go up she will be glad to see
us, that is just my fix, I did not

went to prepare dinner & be disappointed as I concluded to write no one, the probability is we will be entirely alone, unless Reuben comes, & if the weather continues we will not see him. After many foggy dingy miserable days a slow steady rain set in yesterday, this morning it had ceased & as the wind was sweet we hoped for bright weather, but it has been drizzle, drizzle all day, not enough to prevent your Father from having 4 small hogs killed, two were brought from the same place for debt, it was not convenient to keep them & the men who brought them, turned in killed & cleaned them, & two of ours, tomorrow & next day I will be pushed to get through with land,

conveyance & come by 24 more days. It seems to be turning cooler & may be freezing by morning. The roads are badly cut up many servants moving. Sister S. says Reuben has been very much worried about the place he rented, Mr Blake has made away with the corn & fodder that he expected to have for his use the coming year, besides, a negro who promised to rent 60 acres from him has backed out. Mr Blake has moved to the Shivers place to live. Berrie & I will go to Meridian the day before next to spend 2 weeks with her aunt Mrs Dabney, leaving Melville & Fanny at home to get along as best they can. Elvira I suppose is in Birmingham visiting Sashie Ray. Mary Kings left Friday for Va. to visit some of our

relatives, the Cairingtons & one of her
brother's friends in Norfolk, she is
always on the go some where. Sister
I - says Thos Minge is going to see
Berulah Buchanan, has been offered
a place near where she lives, at
75 dollars a month. I am sorry for Thos
that girl would not have him. Sister
I - says also that Johnny offered him
500 to remain on the Bodden place.
I went to Uniontown Thursday, your father
said it would be too dark for him to
meet me that night as I had to stay
over for freight next day, dined with
Mrs Wren & spent the night with
Mrs Gholson. I think Mrs Wren looked
sick & badly, she asked about you &
desired her love, also gave me a little
book to send you, said she did not

mean to lecture you, but had heard
the book highly spoken of & so sent it
to you. Mrs G. is as flighty as ever
has rid herself of "Charley" & "Otto" &
will now take back "Alphie", that
reminds me of Uncle Wags, he came
up Saturday & remained until Mon-
day. He had what might have been
a serious accident, escaped with
temporary disfigurement & some unsuccess-
ful ones about himself - Friday ^{afternoon} he
left Denbigh quite late, riding
"Alphie", he was so late he thought
he must hurry up, so he put her
into a gallop, the road being rough
in places, she stumbled, fell, & threw
him over her head. He was stunned
by the fall & lay in the road some
time, he did not know how long, he

came too enough to mount his horse & rode on to Mrs Romney's store, Mr R sent for I he to take him home in the cart, he struck his head, & one whole side of his face was badly bruised & a cut on his nose. He was a pitiable looking object with his swollen & bruised face. Your Father fixed it for him & we wanted him to stay until it was well but he would not, it was much better when he left. He could not recall the circumstances of the fall for some hours, then it all came to him suddenly. We thought he escaped lightly, a colored man was thrown from his horse the same way his leg was broken.

Now I am so sorry, my intended & miss gift to you has not come. As there

is no good likeness of me I tried to have one taken, & expected to have one nicely framed & send to you for & miss, but the pictures have not come, I did not get a frame because I did not know the size so may have to send without one. I should have written to you last night & you would have heard this for & miss but your Father wanted me to help with some accounts. He was called to see Capt Taylor this afternoon, he is suffering from a cold, has some fever. Mr Richeson is still dangerously ill, Wm still stays with B. A.

We wish you a merry & miss, would that you could be with us, with much love.

Your devoted Mother.

The doctors & Dr. Williams' Pink Pills
you are to I am's existing
tragedy at the Episcopate
church. I know that is a
little bit for them. Only the
after the visitation of their
church, Sunday, with a
disappointment to them all.
Wishing you as happy New
Year, with much love
Yours devotedly
Mother.

Dec. 29th 1897

I hope they will be good when they do arrive. I believe I will begin my letter, have been jolting around all the morning, have no house girl as there is a good deal of work for me to do. My little girl, I liked as much, & thought I could make very good use of her, as I have not found another. Just now, Uncle Waverly, he was going to drive with Mrs. Dan. Rose, came this far out of his way to bring our horse back, and out expense for me, one that was used in the dining room in Danopolis. He is very kind & thoughtful of us. His face is almost all red, only a little red about

some of the busiest places. His hand is
still sore & a little swollen, he must
have fallen on that. Your Father went to
Galline this morning to ship some turkeys.
stays a long time, it must be about three
o'clock or more.

I did not intend to write so much, before
thinking you for your pretty & useful gift.
we all appreciate them very much. Sam
said, I sent Reuben's, have kept Waver's
thinking he would come home, will send
it if he does not come in a day or two.

These long nights the books will amuse
us, your Father was thinking of writing
you to buy for him the Choir Invisible
as he wanted to send it as you selected
this very one he wished to have, they are
such pretty books too, we are getting so
many nice ones I think we must have

some shelves especially for them, in the front
hall perhaps. How did you spend your young
but this week's letter will tell I reckon. I
hope you had a pleasant time. If you
could have seen us I know you would
have pitied us, only your Father & myself
on the lot & one of the dearest, gloomiest,
days you ever saw, rain coming down as if
it never meant to stop & every thing looking
wet & miserable. The cook had gone the
night before to her sister's wedding, promised
to be back early next morning but of
course she could not come in the rain so
I had breakfast & dinner to get, couldn't
even send to Galline for the oysters we
had engaged & which we could have
eaten now without cooking any dinner.
Sunday too was a cloudy disagreeable
day but no rain, we hoped Reuben

would be be down that day but we have
not seen him yet, nor had a line from
him. I feel right hurt that he & Waver
never write me a note. We had a letter
from Frank, he also sent some nice books,
said all were well but himself, he had
sore throat. Lavinia has not been heard from
since 2 years. I reckon he some way going
out, a good chance to pay up his social
debt, said all his friends were reproaching
him for not going to see them. He really
has no time, 7 hours at the college in
the day, & several hours at night.

Lavinia wrote inviting me down to spend
the holidays but her letter was late, of
course I was not fixed to go to a city on
short notice, don't know that I would
have gone any how, being able to see Lavinia
would have been quite an inducement.

DEC. 29, 1897

if I have been fixed for a visit, I seldom go out that I scarcely ever have even a nice winter dress.

Yours Father has just come in bringing a letter from Lewis he spent rather a quiet of week, lived with Mrs Jones, the old lady sent Henry & himself each a nice pair of gloves & a set of bedclothes, they treat Lewis just as they do Henry. Lewis said he intended writing you. Uncle Waver desired to be remembered to you, said he would have written but has not been able to use his hand much, hurt it in the fall, I believe I mentioned that before, that is a symptom of old age. The Capt is not so well today, yesterday he was much better, I hardly think he will recover from this spell, he tells them all he will not. The photos have not come yet.

Van Horn Alaska
Dec 31/97

Dear Ben
I spent last night at my
father's. He spent the night at Capt
Taylor's. The Capt was very ill - if he
lives will be 90 in all. I have been
laying up for repairs as I was hon-
dered. Combat - for 8 or 10 days by my
horse stumbling & falling & throwing
me over her head on hard ground and
bruising my face & hand. a bad lick
teaching me to go slow - for I was
galloping when I ought not -
To me it is a sad Christmas, isolated
& withdrawn pretty much
from all. The only person who
came was Dr. Forester. he walked
out to see me when he heard I was
hurt & insisted on my coming in
to his house - I am now O.K. &
hope to go out a little if weather admits

this week - It is not a hardship for
me to be alone at home. but trouble
is, to be disabled & think of so
many of my best friends who
have passed away & gone forever
with whom I no longer inter-
change any civilities & whose
confidence I miss.

In addition I am inconvenienced
financially by my efforts to take
care of Mother's Estate - I have
not gotten it in shape I wished
& there is no income from the land
Most of our best people are now
distressed by debt - & see their
Estates & means of subsistence
disappearing - I am quite com-
fortable here with a good fire
good beds - over 400 lbs of
meat in the smoke house, plenty
of poultry - a barrel of flour & of
meal - enough Corn for my
horses - several good Cows

to the jail - always a supply
of butter to spare - & I he is
still in the kitchen & leaves
for the lot when I am off.
I came by Flora Dale & dined with
Mrs Stewart to day as she leaves
for Washington tomorrow to be
at the contest of the Probate of
Mrs Norths will. I also paid
a visit to Miss Adèle Du Rose
for old acquaintance sake -
you must note the Washington pa-
per as to the local legal proceedings
If I get under the weather much
I will go down again to N O to
see Jimmie Garguet - as he writes me.

The canebrake looks bad, although
the cotton yielded phenomenally. No
one has a surplus of money & all
are hard pushed as usual - the
land is not plowed - & few fences
or improvements are being made
people are not sociable - The Collins are
as usual. James Davies married Miss Taylor

in (Dromopolis) - Val Taylor's Sister -
I have a letter from Bolling Dugger
announcing the birth of a Son
(Henry B D) It is after 9 P.M. the
old year 97 is most gone - I wish
you a Happy 1898. with all
the health & peace & plenty of what
you desire - - I thank you for
remembering me & appreciate
the selection as it is something
I need & like - You have now ar-
rived at a period of your profession
when you will appear to stand still
because all your work time is
taken up in filling yr vocation
& you cannot branch off into new
fields of study - however you can incline
systematic & build up physically. Wm is at the
Dromopolis Hotel - Konegas has it - Louise
& Fred left for Mobile about the 2 Dec
& all are well in Mobile now
Affecly yr Uncle
C.M. Dugger

DEC, 1897

A statement calling for careful consideration.
Since January 1st 1897, your
income has been as follows:

From Carolina property 165.

" Lot in South Carolina 365.

" McPherson, J. D. Douglas from
Jan. 1st to July 1st - 6 mos. @ \$400 240.

" McPherson, J. D. Douglas from
July 1st to Oct 1st - 3 mos. @ 33 100.

" Your own work preaching in hand
Church and other places & working for
Deeg estimated 230

No. of months elapsed 1000

Balance on hand 15.36

No. of mos. elapsed 11) 95.464 89.512

You have spent an
average of 90⁰⁰ per month, 55

You & Mother owe Mr. Winship note
for 200.
accrued interest 31.00
231.

By Proceeds of sale of lot in Bluffton

865

.. Balance of White Fund. Money:

857

Aug. 16. To Currency for self. 2.00

27. " " "

31. " " " Mama. J. G.

91. " " " Charlie ticket to Chicago ✓ 2

30. " " " " *chickling legume*. 1 .58

31. "H. P. Burton balance on Cashier's Md. v. 13.00

Sept. 4. " Cy. for alf. 5.

J. " " " "

9. " *Faba* *Bois* *suif* v. 16.

9. " Sister's Name " 10.

9. "Marie N.Y. dft. v 2.

11. " Cy. fa. aff. ✓ 3.

14. " " " " " " " " 16.

21. "Agnes fa Charlie" 18.

25. " Cy. for self. ✓ S.

Oct 2: " Leo Kipper 4.56

Forward.

99.64 273.50

DEC, 1897

James Robison

In account with H. Robison -
Dr. Cr.

	Found.	99.64	273.50
Oct. 5	To Cy. for self.	1.	
6	" " " "	1.	
6	" " for money for shipping	25.	
14	" " for self. for money	10.	
21	" " " "	1.	
29	" " " "	1.	
29	" 1/2 of money paid money		
	for patent of self.	25.	
Nov. 4	" Cy for self	10.	
6	" " " "	2.	
8	1/2 of traveling bag	2.50	
9	" Cy for tickets etc. to St Louis.	50.	
22	" 1/4 of self	34.	
Dec 9	" Balance due	15.36	
		273.50	273.50