

Tallahassee July 20th 1864

Well my ever dearest Maria, you are at last (if we may credit ~~your~~ letter) safely ~~moored~~ in the haven of yr. hopes! and enjoying the pleasant company of yr. hospitable friends; and in anticipation ~~the~~ renovating influence of the salubrious & invigorating climate to wh^{ch} you have flown. You must dismiss bad feelings now - pain is not admissible - nor is physic! Suck in fresh air - take long walks, as long as you can endure. But I repeat take no remedies - and in a few weeks you will find yr. appetite & strength returning, and Cousin Sam will soon not be able to recognise in the bright eye & rosy cheeks & smiles of returning health, the poor sickly, hollow eyed, green looking, melancholy little quid, that once upon a time, threw an ominous line of shadow over his hospitable board. In now I have by no means forgot you when I can after so many days draw such an exact portrait! I was much grieved to hear of yr. detentions on the way. They were provoking indeed. But having got through safe in life & limb, you have reason, in such times as these to be most thankful. I am glad to hear that Cousin Henry was so kind to you, though I was sure he would be. I hope he did not suffer as much himself as I feared he would. Do you feel safe where you are? It is rumoured here that a

Great Granddaddy

Land is contemplated by the Yankus on Columbus? I don't
know an stirring times, there is war & rumour of war every where. It was
reported yesterday that the Yankus was advancing on Lake City but it
turned out a mistake. I apprehend nothing here unless Johnson & Lee
are forced to give way, & that I can't comprehend. We have heard
nothing very recently from Kiek - nothing since the fall back on the
Chattahoochie. I trust that all is well. Bro Jack & Josephine ar-
rived yesterday, and I shall return their visit next week. I
suppose you see the papers & have seen all the exciting news of
the last ten days. I have heard nothing from Millbrook; & greatly
fear that the intercourse wh^{ch} is now partially reopened will
be continually rebroken, during the next two months. So you
must do the best you can in Georgia, and leave yr. visit to
Va for the 1st year of glorious peace. Mama & all including
little John & Fanny from whom I hear today are well, and all
give you love. I enclose an order on yr. Cousin Henry in yr
favour for some money wh^{ch} I paid for him here. This will
replenish yr. exhausted In'sry somewhat. Write me if you need
any more at present. I have no time to write a longer letter
so you must excuse me until next time. Remember me kindly to
yr. Cousins Jane & Fanny & Henry. I sh^d be much pleased to see
them all return with you & in haste & affly yrs J. Ennes.