

Eufaula, Ala, Aug 30th 1873

My most worthy Friend

Several weeks have passed since I received your esteemed letter. It is a source of great satisfaction to learn that yourself & your worthy lady enjoy such good health in your advanced stage of life. May Heaven grant you a continuance of the same _____ for your years to come. My younger son Samuel has taken suddenly and severely ill about two weeks ago while my good wife & myself were absent in a visit among our friends in Georgia. His disease was a little better after timely medicine and good nursing, it would have resulted in Compaction of the Bowels. We were notified of his condition by means of the Telegraph wires & were soon _____ to make haste to him. Through the kind providence of our Heavenly Father e has recovered & ____ able to attend partially to his business, for which we are thankful. My daughter Caroline _____ extensive fatigue in attending to her sick brother during our absence _____ which has given her much uneasiness & a sore throat with swelling of the glands of her neck, but I am happy to say she is now much better. The rest of us enjoy our usual share of health, except that the exceptional heat of the weather is quite debilitation to the symptoms of my dear wife.

My sons are getting along with their farms as well as the seasons with a drought. The worse timed rains have injured both Corn and Cotton to some extent and now that the time of maturing is at hand the caterpillar & the Rust Boir (sic) using their work of destruction to the Cotton.

I received a letter, a few days ago from my dear Sister, who says she received a ____ letter from your and wants to reply to it in a short time. Her health continues feeble, & I understand fears that she will not survive the disease with which she is afflicted.

It has always been my desire to send you the picture of my wife & myself, which I will certainly do as soon as my wife will allow hers to be taken. She wishes to do so in the Fall if a good artist should be at hand.

May Heaven's choicest blessings _____ you and your worthy family the remainder of your days. Your true Friend