

Dec 19<sup>th</sup> 1870

Dear Ell

I received your letter and am glad to hear you are all well. I would be pleased to go down with Button but did not feel well enough to go after leaving Mounts. I went to see Delia and Ben spent two days with Delia stayed two nights with Ben then I went down in the Fork spent two days with Maria and two with Virginia. I came back and was very unwell for several weeks I am now feeling better. I would be pleased to spend a part of the winter with you but it seems as if my children are all the time something the matter with them. Fanny was lame all the Spring then Sally & now Alice. Mr Parker sent me word he would send down for me as I dont care to be here Christmas time if I live and cant get down to see you this winter I will buy and get down to see you in the Spring and spend some time with you. I guess Mr Clements will rent Huntersville again next year Solomon has not been up I dont know what arrangements will be made for the next year. Whitmill sends his love and says he would like very much to go down to see you this winter if it was in his power but dont think it will be convenient for him to go you know he is very fond of oysters. I hope Leas' crop came in better than he expected we have had a very pleasant fall if it had not I dont think they would of been able to get over our three cotton. I guess you have heard of John Daves

and Phill Alston says had their fire and bottom  
burnt do you expect to send Belly back this  
winter Sarah & Lena they speak of sending to  
Warrenton to Mrs Jones Mrs Jewetty Henry Williams  
has been very bad of has suffered very much he is  
better can get about but not well do write  
often and let me hear from you you do not know  
how glad I am to receive your letters I read them  
over and over again how does little Fear come  
on I think of him how sweet he looked would  
come to the door and say Grand Mother how  
do you do kiss him for me I would be pleased  
to be with you but we must try and be resigned  
to our situation my children are all very  
kind and affectionate to me may the good  
Lord bless them all I have not heard of the  
farmer having hands for the next year I guess  
it will be as bad as it was this year well I will  
stop as I have nothing interesting to write kiss the  
children for me and tell them they must write to me  
my love to Fear and a good portion to yourself  
and believe me as ever your devoted Mother

M A Thewing

Do bring up this imperfect  
scrawl