

[To Mrs. Elias Carr, Tarboro, Edgecombe Co.,  
N. Carolina]

November of <sup>the</sup> 1867.

My dear Aunt:—

With a sad heart I  
announce to you the death of dear  
Aunt Matilda; the community mourn  
— over her loss, but her mission is fulfilled,  
The page of her life's history is un-  
— lied, and she passes away but to be  
remembered, she died on the 5<sup>th</sup>,  
very easily, was buried to-day, no funeral  
preached, I suppose Mr. Hodgers will  
preach it.

Your welcome letter was handed me  
to-night, and indeed you cannot  
imagine the great pleasure it gave  
me, hearing that you are all well,  
and think of me sometimes, I do  
owe you an apology for not sooner  
writing, but I have been from home  
nearly ever since you left is why  
I have not, will promise in future

to be your most punctual correspond-  
-ent. I have just returned from Aunt  
Martha's (or rather) several days since,  
Uncle Tom's health is very bad, Mollie  
says she will try to get to see you in  
"February," and if possible I shall cer-  
-tainly accompany her, nothing could  
give me more pleasure than to  
pay you a "long visit."

Cousin Loggie Hawkins died last  
week, left nine children. Mr Messen-  
-burg died the same week.

Aunt Mary-Ann thinks of leaving for  
Peterburg to-morrow. Cousin George  
Aston was married on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of  
last month, so much wedlock!

Hymen and Cupid are gods of the  
Universe, that conquer all and rule  
all, if I don't know I shall lose all  
my associates, Don't you think so?

"Hesiod" says,

"Life is less than nothing without Love".  
Grandpa and Grandma are now in

the country, came out this evening.  
Tell Cousin Elias, "a photograph of him,  
you, and the "little boys" would be high-  
-ly appreciated and be among the first  
in my Album". I am nearly through  
with my winter work, how is it with  
you? The "Fork" is very dull at this time,  
"Darkies" are stealing every thing in their  
reach, with a number of other things  
they took a bed from Ma not long  
since. Do not let the "little boys" forget  
me? Write me soon - I shall look for  
a long letter, A letter is the link that  
binds together the chain of "friendship  
fidelity and pleasant associations"  
Sweet to think that though we cannot  
always be with those we love there is  
yet a medium for communicating  
the feelings of heart. Pattie would like  
very much to visit you, she with the  
rest unite in much love to you and  
all. The time piece bids me stop, Good night,  
Ever your fond niece,  
Bettie H.