

Ell, know you will enjoy it, and  
so will Aunt Bet; and by the way,  
"uncle Jake," they tell me, is doing  
such an amount of business, his  
"old lady" ought to take an excursion  
like-wise; Perhaps, a lucky turn  
in fortune's wheel, will be my  
lot some of these days, and then  
I will go to N. Y. with you.

Jell came back a few weeks since,  
to uncle Tom's. I know your  
patience must be exhausted read-  
ing this dull letter, so will close.  
Must add, Mr Clements has been  
offered three thousand, for his  
place, but thinks he can get more,  
a Yankee, wishes to purchase it.  
Remember me affectionately to  
each member of your household,  
and write very soon to your  
aff niece,  
Bettie H

Warren Co. N. C.  
Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> 1868.

Dear Aunt:

Doubtless you are think-  
ing me a sad procrastinator,  
but hear my reason - I have been  
entirely out of "envelopes," and had  
to postpone writing on that accou-  
nt; and as times are not very  
blithe, you have lost nothing, fear  
much, I shall fail to interest  
you, but will at any rate, make the  
attempt; in order that I may again  
be favored with a letter from you.  
Must first announce to you,  
my very "unfortunate trip" to  
Warrenton, Cousin Bil Alston,  
with me, just this side of Cousin  
Phumner Alston, we broke down,  
and had to walk a considerable

distance through the mud, but were fortunate enough to get his carriage, and proceed on our journey, arrived at Aunt Bet's a little after supper, returned home next day. Dick, and cousin Jimmie are the only members of the family in Warrenton, expect they will remain there. Have you seen John Anna since her return?

Since I commenced writing Grandpa and uncle Whit have come, must go down and gather some news to write you. Have learned, that Grandma, and the rest are well, she and Grandpa, have concluded it is best to have a sale at "Hickory Grove," (of stock I mean) on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, of this month. Cousin Linnie Williams, speaks of renting uncle Whit's place, but I think it extremely doubtful. Mr. Parker, says, he will not go

north before the last of April, I hoped very much, that I could be one of the party, but am so certain of a disappointment, have almost ceased to hope. I am now on some very pretty embroidery, think I shall have to send it to Henderson next fall, to exhibit, as they contemplate another fair.

I wish so much I could pay you a visit this winter, if it were warmer, certainly should; know Jennie is a great deal of company for you. If to-morrow is a pretty day, I think of going to see Aunt Delia, but from present prospects, think it will be snowing.

I suppose Mr. S. is not married yet, dont let Jennie cut me out. Has cousin Elias gotten through with his cotton? I understand, he will make it all, this year, you be sure and go to N. Y. aunt