

Dec 31st 18, 68

Dear Ell

I received your letter some weeks ago and would have answered it before but something always presented me from doing so. Well what for a Christmas did you have it has felt very little like it to me the little ones seemed to enjoy themselves. I have not ~~heard~~ seen any one from home in some time I ^{have} been thinking of going down but the weather keeps so disagreeable I dont know when I can go. Nellie and Walter are both in the country Nellie is at Mr. Winters and Walter at his Uncle Gols. He was delighted to get in the country. Dick is staying at home all alone seems to ^{be} very well contented with his Cats and Parrot I never see any thing of her unless I go down. Jimmie ~~is~~ spent his Christmas at Dick Smiths I expect they ~~will~~ had quite a

time by time. I ~~expect~~ ^{hope} he will get to see Johnny before
she returns. Has she been to see you yet. The
Girls are still at Mr Cunningham's. Beck has
not returned expect her back this month. Cousin
Lucy think of going on to Washington soon
Warrenton is most tiresome dull for her. Tell Billy the
Children will answer his letters soon. Anna
has never written and she is almost afraid
to attempt it. I saw Betha Williams a
short time ago she spent the night with me
said she had received a letter from you.
Mr Parker expects to leave for Cincinnati next
week if nothing prevents. He said he would attend
to that business for you. Tell Miss Elias that
Brie speaks of him very often sends him a kiss
Warrenton is very dull I don't think I ever
saw it more so. They had a sale at Hickory
Crook sold out every thing Mr P. and the
Children join with me in much love to
you Elias and the Children and believe me
as ever your fond Sister

Betha. Write soon

and soon send this to the friends after reading

P.S. Maurice's husband was in the office day to day to copy up the letters she has been
several times he said the children are all well I should be bound to hear from her I told her
I would write I expect she got tired of the old gentleman and thought she would take
a leaving