

Feb 20th 1869

Dear Ell

I will try and answer  
your letter after so long a time. Miss  
Sister Mary Ann & Bethe Williams came up  
last Wednesday. she is so sad told me she  
reciev'd a letter from you but she could not feel  
like writing said you would be up the first of  
March she stay'd butly three days could <sup>not</sup> prevail  
on her to stay longer. Bet's soup she seems to  
be biten off from some way that remind  
her of Papa. I wanted her to go down to Sister  
Martha. I told her I would go down with her  
anytime think riding about would help her.  
You must come up as soon as you can.

Ms Holmours funeral was this morning  
she died last Saturday ~~she~~ was sick a long  
time. Had you heard of Miss Liffes ill  
health she has a Cancer in her mouth

caused from a tooth she suffers a great deal <sup>Do not - know any</sup>  
with it. Cousin Mary has been very ill but <sup>any</sup>  
is now getting well. Bess has returned home <sup>any</sup>  
and looking as well as I ever saw her. <sup>any</sup>  
The girls have not returned from Mr. Cunniff <sup>any</sup>  
they will stay at home did expect to stay <sup>any</sup>  
at Beck's but thought it was best for Jim <sup>any</sup>  
that they should stay at home. Do you see <sup>any</sup>  
much of Elias or is he like Mr. P always <sup>any</sup>  
busy. I see very little of him only at <sup>any</sup>  
meals. The children are all at school but <sup>any</sup>  
Bet and Bess she sends a kiss to Elias Love <sup>any</sup>  
to all. Love you and believe me as ever <sup>any</sup>  
your fond sister

Bettie.