

"Fountain Hill," N.C.
Jan. 12th 1875.

My dear Aunt:

Your welcome letter
has been received—doubtless, I can
assure you—for we have been
fairly "installed" the past week, snow,
sleet—hard cold weather, since
Christmas not one genial day—
all hard, (like the times) but I
trust 'tis a harbinger of a good
year! let us think so. We are
fortunate though 'tis have good
servants (know you have) and
happy they who have faithful
woodmen, don't you think so?
I know your greatest anxiety is to

hear from dear grandma - the latest we have heard was through aunt Van a few days since - she was tolerably well, excepting cold, which she has had for several weeks - as soon as the weather will admit, I want to go up and stay some with her - And am so glad you have an idea of coming up before the summer! Cousin Al's family have moved to Hickory Grove - Maria Alton, and Beck Davis are in Petersburg - and Nellie I guess, stopped to see Johnnie Battle - heard she had left Warrenton on a visit to you - the other girls I reckon will go to see you also. Sallie and Nath, spent Christmas week with us - and I can assure you, they seemed perfectly satisfied with each other! am very much afraid he will

"spoil her"! every insinuation of hers, is gratified. Cousin Charles Perry was down last week to see us - he too, I told him, humored Sallie more than he ought - said I ought to see his wife with her "new daughter," and I would think so! I think you did exactly right, not to sell your place as long as grandma lives - Trust she may yet, be spared to us, many, many years. Was so sorry to hear Mrs. Parker's gin was burned - accidental we heard. The people about here, have been, and are depressed about the times, but we must try and be resigned to our lot & whatever it may be - for it is appointed by Divine Providence and not man. Has Mrs. Twitty returned? you must miss her I know, when away! for even my

"short-stays" with her, afterwards feel benefited. We are busy getting Affie ready for school - will go to the same place this session - and next fall ma contemplates sending her to Baltimore, to the school Sarah Green is at - you remember Cousin Lucy Polk was telling us about it last summer - Aunt-Jan wishes so much they had sent Lena there instead of Raleigh. You must write soon - And now to use a ~~very~~ ^{very} stale, but exceedingly expressive quotation, "Give our best love to all as if named." Good night, with all my good wishes.

I am still yours aff.
Bettie W.