

[To: Elias Carr, c/o Hobe Aragon, Atlanta, Ga.]

Wilmington, N. C.

Nov. 3rd 1875.

My Dear Uncle,

I am so
troubled to learn of
your great loss - not
only because of the
pecuniary loss in it-
self - but because of
the added care I know
it brings to you -

But "God only
knows what might
have been" - and
when I recall the

terrible disaster in
Petersburg last week, and
remember that for
one brief moment, well,
you thought me of your
own precious children
in flames - a feeling
of thankful news comes,
as whenever I think of
it, that you were spared
that awful trial -
What an awful, awful
thing this was - for
Mr. Whittle to leave
his wife well & happy -
and to return two
hours later to find
the coffin closed above

the face that was
brought far beyond
recognition - The
year old baby girl, of
whom they were so
proud - died the day
her mother was buried
The nurse died last
night - and the family
life is despaired of -
Beth Mason left
us on Friday - she
asked me to write
and tell you how
much she appreciated
your thinking to give
her the pleasure of
reading "Beside

The Bonnie Bice Book.
She said it had
been a long time since
anything she'd read
had touched, or
pleased her more.

The father and the
Scotch were almost
too much for me
sometimes - but she
did not mind that -
I am taking best
care of the fork
and mill when
it the first good op-
portunity -

I hope John has
recovered even more
strength than he lost
during his illness - and
that the rest of you
are well - Give much
love to Aunt Ell and
the children - I think
of you all with
such tender affection
They are as usual at
Cousin Fanny's and at
Aunt Beth's -

Your devoted niece
Ple Alston