There is to be a great whig meeting in Averysboro to-
morrow, big fish are expected to attend — W. J. Leak
is the Adm Elector & Kelly from Moore is the whig
Elector from this District — Pen does not write to
me if he writes to you I wish you to remember him of his neglect
to me altho I get letters from him but I got one from him in
12 years. I return I must quit — I have enough for the post
mark — my mothers health is very bad she is about altho three days
but regrets that she is so far from you. I want you to write to
us so I will write no more but remain yours &c.

John C. Atkins

Mrs Caroline C. Turner
Montgomery
Montgomery Co
Alabama

Sheriffs Office
July 1st

58880

There is great talk of robbers and suspicious characters about
through the country I am almost afraid to go alone
if I had home I would go to see you more about them

June 22d 1840

Dear cousin

I now take my seat to fulfil a promise
I have too long neglected. We have no news amongst us these
hard times, every thing I hear is hard times and scarcity of money
it is now I would like to be as smart as Mrs Avery
I made a homespun dress for my self last week it is black
and copperas with very little white, you may guess it looks
like Damson. I have just come in from gathering squashes
for dinner if you were here you might dine on the golden chicken
venison Mr Atkins killed a large buck a few days ago
I have the hams nicely dried if it was convenient I would
send you one. I saw Mra and cousin Maria about a week ago
they staid with me Saturday night before preaching they do not come to
see me often I have been expecting a visit from the Col and his
lady for a week cousin Polly told me they would come before
she would go to Haywood which will be the last of this month
then she expects to stay some time I know Mrs E. is getting impatient
I have not been down the river but once since you left N.C. I have
been confined at home nearly two months attending to Bell
burns she is getting to walk about some her legs only were burnt
Bell the children and chickens have occupied the
I had chickens large enough to fry the first of May
market I would try to make a small fortune off my
butter Cousin Alexander and Lemuel were up
they have a fine son, he is the proudest father.
it is time for me to say something respe
James has been a little sick from teething I scarif
or twice. he does not talk yet only by signs he is
troublesome little fellow you ever saw he wan
hour in the day, and all night. Nell is as hardy
and very little writer Bell Mr Atkins and my
very thin in flesh but are not in bad health or any thing
like that he is working in the shop to day. I was under
some complaint the other day. taken with very severe pain in
my breast right side and collar bone I was confined to the bed
one day it was no common pain I assure you, if Dr
had been in Cumberland he would have been sent for
but I come through I feel a little of it now some times
tell Dr he must send me a prescription for the Splen it makes
its appearance some times but is not painful.

I am quite complainafied have been for the last week afflicted with pain
and weakness across the small of the back and under the short ribs but
not enough to confine me to the house I heard from papa yesterday
all well papa is much weaker than I ever knew him to be but
not sick he continues to visit the boro but I understand drinks less
I also heard from Flora & McKethen she is quite low with some
disease of the liver I have an invitation to a quilting at Mr Barksdales
the 4th July I heard there ought to be a great many persons Gentlemen have
a hunt Mr Alex. McLean has a fine school near Mr B. they take a dozen
or more boarders, tell L. R. F. Sarah McLean is a school girl yet. no more
M. I. Atkins

June 23d

It is very cloudy this morning and rains a little there has been a great deal of rain this spring we are in need of more now We heard from Mary last night they are well down there I am quite lonesome today Neill went up to his grand papas yesterday and has not returned he is fond of visiting wants to go to Alabama some times to see his cousin James. and ride his poney he thinks a great deal of the carriage Martha left him. often speaks of the children he remembers the play they had on the little bed the morning before you left. Cousin Ida we lost the fan you left me I have not done grieving about it yet. I wore my Mobile muslin last preaching for the first time it was very much admired I have seen Mrs James McAlester she is a right down good looking little woman but rather on the brownish order James has his grandfathers carriage. his family are well pleased with the match they have not gone to themselves yet. I have a new neighbour Mrs Arnold. Mary Harrington she was. she is a fine woman we visit sometimes not often the distance is not far but the hill between us is very high and not pleasant walking Aunt Bell and her good man come to see us some time ago I want to go to papas with them. Benjamine was there on from school he has grown tall his complection are very much like R. B. Smith the old lady says her good to know you had written to cousin Sophia what to say to the children I have so much I could fill a sheet of paper tell Julia I have two best she ever saw one is white with blackspots yellow white and black. Neill has just come he says tell Ian plough and cut high weeds tell Martha when Neill she must write to me I know she is industrious learn C how I wish we could all be together I know how long we will stay in this place Mr Atkins says he is willing to go nesct fall there is a talk of all hands being off then I do not wish to go so soon there has been no improvements made about the house this spring on account of having in the fall they are going where Ica Atkins is if we ever leave this place I hope we will get near you, I was glad to hear Flora has a daughter that is something strange, Rose has a son born 20th Feby you know I am almost out now so I will tell a little bad news, I heard this evening that little Daniel McLeans wife is quite deranged they keep her confined I was sorry to hear this

I cannot say much more as Mr Atkins has something to say to Dr give my respects to R & Catharine and cousin Flora tell her if I was fonder of writing I would write to her I saw Mr Copelds son the last time I was at papas Old Mr Dirks lives in the boro. a bad place for him give my love to Dr and the children give each of them a sweet kiss for me and Dr must give your one. remember me to your black family &c

I remain your affectionate cousin forever

C. C. Turner

M. I. Atkins

Dr

Mary has left a blank on this sheet for to fill to Dr will endeavour to fill it with something I keep not what but will say I am in good health & have the finest boy in this state. so much for light skin & hard features. With regard to the prospect of crops here I cannot say much in their praise for cotton for hair plants Cotton & altho this is a country which does not produce cotton well. I assure you the prospect is two fold worse than I ever seen it I have a bag of old cotton I will remain in Jo[illegible] Harrison is Elected [illegible] is beaten I will have to take what Fe[illegible] Corn & other corn crops are not so g[illegible] but if it get rain when needing I [illegible] much of it more for my own use, as for [illegible] now if you take the observer you can see some of the doings here (politically) the observer pins the Carolinian & thunderer so tight that they are puzzled & wonder whither sower they cast their lot — The Adm men at Bobo, were in a dreadfull dilemma they had a meeting they [illegible] & as yet I have heard of but one candidate (Reid) the whigs had a meeting the day previous to that of the adm. men & they for to without any nomination for some time. (McLemore & Powell are spoken of) there are some changes in this country to Harrison, but we cant Elect our candidate to Legislature Money has become very scarce I do not think of asking a poor man for what he may be owing me for I know he has not. I do not think there is enough of money in the county seat of Cumbld County to pay our taxes. Taxes per poll this year is $1.10 & 50 on $100 —

Mr Dr A. J. Williams
cousin Ida's mother
married
Mary St

Write soon and direct your letter to Mottling — times before I take it is something to my family were up on a visit to the Old ones to see me. I suppose Mary & Shaw is