Warrenton Jany 5th 1870

Dear Ell

I have waited so long for a letter, I concluded I would not wait any longer but write to see what had become of you all. I am not feeling very well. Ellen has been very unwell but up and much better she was sorry that she could not get to see you intended spending a week with you but left sooner than she expected had a very nice time. How did you spend your Christmas It rained so I could not get out. I had a very interesting book so I spent the time in reading. I think Mama has been up once since you left I thought her arrangements was to spend her time in Warrenton I think she is entirely out of that notion

I think she would be much more comfortable but every one to their own liking. Brother White and Mr Clements have rented the home place she will spend her time there and at brother Whites and Henry Williams I think she ought to have some settled home. I hear she was sick some time ago I recon it was from riding in the cold and changing her room. Fannie Green and Alice will leave this morning for Jonnes If nothing prevents Rie and myself will try and pay you a visit when the weather gets pleasant. How are the children goting on. Tell little Elias I may carry little Rie to see him How is Sarah goting on. Tell Elias I was glad to hear that he made a good Cotton Crop. I think we shall send Ellen to the Coledge next session I think it will be better for her. I miss you so much wish it was time for you to come up I do not think there is any way of geting you to stay all the time of course would not be so delight but cant you come up little Cousin Marys first payment was made for her land five thousand dollars which she payd for the Coledge. she is not well. I think exposes herself too much I see Cousin Lucy very often she desired to be remembered to you when I wrote Tassy has hooping Cough. Rie spent the day with us last Sunday. she was looking very well. Julie she is in Petersburg staying with Ellen Norwood I expect she is having a nice time. One of those large trees in your yard blown down across the street. Calvin wanted to cut it out for the use of it but Mr P said there would be several Cords so would ~~try and~~ have it cut up and put away Warrenton is very dull so I will close, all the send love to you Elias and the Children write soon and belief me as ever your fond wife

Bettie P.

do not show this but burn