

he consented but seemed
a little afraid to let me un-
der take them - but they
are almost finished now
& he seemed quite pleased
with them last night when
he examined them & said
it was as well done as it
could be - & I might go into
the business - Ma is not
well, she sends much love
to all - the children are very
ambitious and ever delight-
ed with school, Nick reads
very well in the first reader

There has been several
large fires in Rome recent-
ly - & some lost every thing
the wheel of fortune is always
turning one day we have
plenty & the next nothing
Pa tried his best to borrow the
money to pay the mortgage
for uncle Graham which

he gave our Aunt Julia's
 house & several of his friends
 would have been delighted
 to have done so, but were
 no better off than him-
 self, but Mr. McGinn is a friend
 of Paul and will relinquish
 his claim on the house
 at any time the money is
 paid so it will not be lost
 as it would have been with
 others perhaps - Well I am
 writing hurriedly & will have
 to say Good-bye Give love to
 Aunt Julia & tell her I will
 write to her before long - also
 love to little Julia & Aunt
 Uncle L. with much for
 yourself & hoping to hear
 from you soon I remain
 Your loving grand
 child Jennie

P.S. I have just mention-
ed that I was writing to the
girls all send love. Nick & Brooks
send them love & kiss to you
I soon explained to Julia
my reason for calling her
"Farben" I had no reason
for it; but thought she
much think it a pretty
name as she always called
Bothwell by it, & I knew she
would not call him any
thing she did not like. So
you must tell her for
me. Good bye do excuse
this & if you can't read this
scratching call our Aunt. I
possibly she can help you
I have only a few minutes
& much love - affectionately
Jimmie

Bothwell only received the pack-
age back -

P.S. I enclose your receipts for you to send to Mrs. Malone - when
you send for the \$20 back Rent -
Direct to me at "Bethany" York Co. D.C.

Black Station for line R.R.

17 May 1895

My dear wife.

I should have written to you a week ago. but for the
fact that it was so inconvenient to write here - and I have been
all the time nearly tiring myself by long walks & having to rest till
the next walk. It is impossible to get a house except by buying
one. This I have not thought of - as I expected to stay here but
a short time and I am told that I can probably hire one cheaply
from Mr. Oates - where I expect to board near the Herringway place
when the trade is closed. I have often thought of you and am
very anxious to hear from you. and would not have delayed
writing so long - had I hoped that you would reply promptly.
Do, my dear wife, disappoint me this time by writing at once.
I can not in an ordinary letter give you in detail much of all
I have seen and learnt of this neighborhood, but I have reasons
to believe that the Herringway place will prove much more valuable
for minerals than when I first came up.

There is a rich silver ore near here in the limestone vein.
This does not run within 2 miles of the H. place but there is said to
be another vein of silver ore. running through that place - a mine

he had fast this morn.

on which was worked by a Frenchman profittably before the
old Revolutionary war - that war broke up the working of it & the
owners returning to France & dying there. Be that as it may. I
saw myself last Saturday Copper pyrites - which is very abundant
4 miles from here in a vein which must cross the H. place.
I am very anxious to close the trade & get on the place and explore
it thoroughly & expect to leave here for Chester on the 19th though
I have heard nothing yet from Mr H. or his agent Maj Hart.
It takes the mail about as long to reach here from Yorkville (20
miles) as to come from Miss - and I expect to hear from Maj H.
when I get to Chester & close the trade this week.

My general health is much improved. I never suffer from indigestion
tho, I eat heartily - sometimes even bacon for supper. but I can not
say that my right leg (or side as you will call it) is better.
Some times it troubles me most after a long walk & sometimes after
a long rest. Yesterday & Sunday, I scarcely walked at all & it gave me
much trouble. I have tried many remedies & all proved worthless.
There is a mineral spring near the Oates in the same vein as the
Glen Springs & analysis, I am told has proven it to be identically
the same kind of water. I hope much from it.

If well enough do, my dear Julia, write me yourself at once & if
not well ask Frank to write me & let me know how you are.
This is the first letter I have written since I left home - I hope you will excuse
the delay & believe
Your devoted husband.

Bethany Park Co. S.C., 24 May. 75.

My dear wife,

I though quite well I am homesick, so much so that I would certainly go & spend a few days with you - but for the expense. I have heard nothing at all from you since I left, and as you were not then well I am very anxious to hear. I suppose Willie would have written - but he seems to have had a notion that I was gone North - as Mr. Hanningway informed me that Willie told him so.

I should have written to you after but for the inconvenience of writing. A week ago Darby bought the H. land & bargained to me on time as first proposed, and I came here the next day. I am boarding with a Mr. Bates in a comfortable house with nice people - who keeps a good table. I take a great deal of exercise on horse back. Mr. D. having a young horse he told me I might ride him every day without any charge - this is a great convenience as I am one & a half miles from the nearest point of the land & about five from the farthest.

For the last week it has been quite warm for this country -

Last night I slept much of the night without covering.
I can learn nothing as to the present value of Barytes
in N.Y., & can not until I go on there. There is an abun-
dance of it on the land. We have found another vein of it
& there are probably several more not yet found as five
or six have been found on other tracts of land in the
neighborhood. So far I have seen no other mineral of
value - though I hear that one man can show me asbestos
another copper pyrites & a third some are unknown
but abundant. Probably I will see them all next week.
The copper or asbestos if in quantity & good quality
will I suppose pay much better than barytes.

While I think the H. land has valuable minerals, probably
several veins of gold - & as a good purchase, there are
for sale near Blacks (on the Air Line Road) several places
for sale at four to six dollars per acre that would be
I think much better - containing as they do an abundance
of good limestone, magnetite iron ore, silver & copper ores
& others. One of these places rents for as much as would
buy it. If it were possible for you by going up to Rome
to sell your lot there, I would advise you by all means
to ~~do so~~ & buy the place spoken of. The silver & copper ore
on it is abundant in several veins near the Rail Road.

The fastest about a half mile off as rich as I am
told by a gentleman who had it analysed before the war is
worth \$500. per ton & would not cost off \$1. per ton to ship
put it in barrels at the R.R. The gentleman (Mr. Black
a prominent man in the State before the war speaks from
memory as to the analysis & may be mistaken as to its
richness - but I have seen it & do not doubt it is rich
enough to pay very finely by shipping it north.
Besides this - burning lime on that place if well managed
will pay \$10,000 to \$50,000 a year & the farm will rent
for more than cost. You may think it strange Mr. Black
does not ship this ore, & that no one does. It is strange & but
Mr. B. is an old man without health energy or means - ~~and~~
the owner of the place lives in Texas & knows nothing of
that ore.

I have written more and more than I intended about
business & minerals & will only add that I expect to finish
exploring the H. land & go north about the 14th of June.
Willie Doubar wrote me that Benfild's brother would pay
rent up to \$1000 & that Mr. Laws was trying to find a tenant
for the balance of the year. This I fear he can do easily, tho,
I told him to rent it off as a farm if he could do so better
as it is better to have the place occupied & after 1 Oct I

think it will bring \$20,

I write by this mail to W.D., to send the article to you
if not done already. Perhaps though it may be safer for him
to keep it till you need it. If you think so, write him a
note requesting him to keep it till you want it.

May I hope, my dear Julia, that you will correspond with me
as regularly & punctually as you do with Sister Anna?

I hope so and I ask no more - that much I have a right
to expect, less than that will not satisfy me.

I wish more than I can express that circumstances would
~~would~~ admit of my having a home here on the Rail Road,
but for the present many things seem to forbid that.
My fate seems to be a hard one - but I know I deserve it so
much worse. I am in the hands of a just & merciful God,
& must try to resign myself to his Will.

So write to me. pray for me & try to cheer & encourage me
in doing what seems to me to be my duty - enduring hardships
to try to pay up all my debts. Perhaps God may in his good time
bring me out of all my troubles.

I must close at once as the home mail passes, & will not stop
an hour for a week. Your devoted husband,

Bethany S.C. 4 June 1875-

Dear Willie

I did not receive yours of the 20th May till the 29th May. If you had mailed it on the 19th it would have reached me on the 21st. Always mail letters for me on Tuesdays & I will get them on Thursdays after.

I was very glad to get yours as it was the first & last yet - that I have heard from home since I left. I am truly glad that your wages have been raised - & think you should be quite satisfied for another year at that pay.

I suppose you are anxious to hear something of my hopes & prospects here - but I am sorry that I can not give any encouraging news - for though I have been quite busy in looking for some valuable ore on the land. I have so far found nothing more than I found on the first visit to it I mean the white mineral called Barytes and from all I hear I am afraid that is not worth shipping -

I walk usual from 2 to 6 hours daily & ride about as many hours. My health is much improved - except the cramp in my leg, which seems to get no better or worse & I fear will never get well -

I hear many reports of gold silver & copper having been found on the land - but when I go to the persons

said to have found either - none of them can show it,
& I think it doubtful whether I can make the land pay
for what it cost. till I can come out to move a steam
saw mill to it & buy the timber.

I can not tell however whether the Baytes will pay
till I go to New York - which I expect to do on the 14th
or 15th. If you get this in time - be sure to write to me
by the 8th so that I may get it before I leave -
Give me any news you can from home, from
Beth & Harry.

May God in his infinite goodness preserve
& guide you in the way everlasting!
Your devoted father

Rome, Georgia

June 11th 1878

My Dear Mr. Smith.

I am exceedingly
very negligent about attending
to your request, but when the
letter came I was sick but as
soon as I was able I went to
select you a dress, I succeeded
in getting one that pleased me
very much and I hope you
will like it, the goods generally
cost \$1.50 but I got your dress
at a very reduced price and
at the wholesale store, it was
60¢ per yard - the whole bill a-
mounted to \$18.00 with every
thing except the making - the
merchant promised to credit
me a while for it, and when

I purchased I expected to be
able to pay for it - in a week
or so, but - since I have ^{certified to} made
I learn that there will be no
rents coming in this month
as the occupants moved away
and the house is now vacant
had I only known the owner I
would of course, have con-
sulted you how to do. but -
as it will soon be finished
of course have to beg you to
forward me the amount.
that I can settle for it; the
lady who is making the dress
is one of the most fashionable
& reasonable - all of their prices
are so high, but she promised
me she would not charge
me over a dollar, I selected
an elaborate pattern to have it
made by - you should have

had it long ago, but - I have
 been obliged to disappoint you
 because I have disappointed
 me - I hope you will let
 me hear from you an
diately, I will send it im
med - if it is finished I wrote
 a note to the dress maker
 this morning - turning her
 up - I told grand ma all the
 news on hand at present -
 things are very quiet; I have
 been waiting, for an answer
 to my letter I wrote you, I hope
 you are not going to retaliate
 by waiting as long as I did,
 but - I was so diverted, I did
 not find time, Should you
 decide to go from home this
 summer come up - all will
 be glad to see you and I will
 do my best to promote your

pleasure and comfort-while
with us- Mr Josiah Libby was
here a few days since, and
I am as much charmed
with ^{him} as possible, I think he is
one of the dearest old gentle
men I ever knew- he says
they want me to come down
to Marietta this summer-
Ia was very much amused
at his visiting me- Well! I
must say good bye- With
love I remain your affec
tionate friend
Jesse Linn Byer

Do excuse haste

Retham, S.C. 14 June 175.

My dear Son

I was disappointed in getting no letter from you last Thursday - but I suppose you did not receive mine in time to reply last Tuesday, I expect to leave for New York tomorrow, & be absent probably ten to fifteen days.

I will take with me Bayne & Mangum - to see if I can engage either at a price that will pay - which I much doubt.

If I fail in both these things I have no idea what I can do here that will pay - If I can find nothing here that will pay - I suppose I must after all go back to the practice of the Law, which I do not wish to do ~~after~~ if I can well avoid it.

This country is the roughest I have ever seen, and nothing could induce me to live here except to make money to pay my debts - if I was out of debt money would not induce me to stay here. I can not in a short hurried letter give you much idea how rough it is.

The country is broken, hilly, mountainous - the roads very

bad full of rocks of all sizes & gullies. After rains the
soil is so soft you will sink ankle deep in it & it will
stick to your shoes till they become quite heavy.

The roads are ~~bad~~ - mails rare. people generally
illiterate. Schools & churches sparse & preaching very
poor. I have in my life seen many places North, South,
East & West - but all things considered I have seen no
place to be preferred to that section of country running
from Columbia S.C. by Siken through Augusta and
middle Georgia.

What is Frank doing? Does he say that he is reading
Law much & regularly or not? Tell him that I expected
him to write to me & as he has not I fear that he has nothing
good to say of himself or he would have written.
I hope however that I am mistaken and that he is for once
in his life in earnest to make himself a man.

Have you heard any thing from Bost or Hany? I have
had but one letter from Bost within about 6 or 7 weeks
ago. Is he still engaged & likely to marry soon?

May God bless & guide you, my dear son!

Your affectionate father.

Bethany S.C. 14 June 1785

My Dear wife

I have no encouragement to try to keep up a correspondence with you. and but little to try to keep up one with any person. as I have not had the pleasure of receiving a letter from you at all. and have had but two from my children - one from Both written about 6 weeks ago. and one from Willie dated 19 May.

Have you deliberately concluded that you will never again think enough of me to spare one hour to write me?

I hope not. though I have now little hope of hearing from you frequently. I regret this state of things exceedingly, and if I could guess what is the cause of it & how to remove the cause and restore such feelings to you that it could never again recur, I would make almost any effort to do so.

I have begged you to write and I would beg you again but I think that useless and besides I can't say I would much appreciate a letter even from you, my dear wife, if you do not willingly & spontaneously write.

I am quite despondent on this and on all subjects and I can not rationally attribute your neglect to any other cause than indifference. thorough & continuous.

if not, hatred or contempt,
As you were not well when I left I would have thought
bad health was the cause of your not writing, but Willie
wrote that he had seen Frank a day or two before &
that he said all were well as usual.
I expect to leave for New York tomorrow, to see whether
I can buy any tea or Mangam as at a profit or
not. will probably be absent ten to fifteen days.
I can not ship either profitably. I do not know
what I can do here with profit and would be
at a great loss to know what to try next.
I may be obliged in the end to go back to the practice
of the law - but I presume you feel no interest
in that or any other matter which concerns me,
I am surrounded by company keeping up a constant
conversation, and it is scarcely practicable for me
to write or to know what I have written,
I need scarcely say, I should be very happy to receive a
letter from you but I will not ask you to write if you
have to do violence to your feelings to write

Your affectionate husband

Dorm. Georgia

Jan 18th 1878

My Dearest Aunt,

This evening I
will only be able to write you a
few lines, as I am anxious
to mail it, so that you may
receive it to-morrow. Know-
ing that you will have an
opportunity to send to Augusta
Pa will be there probably on
Tuesday or Wednesday - and
I write to tell you of his com-
ing, he is going down to at-
tend to some business for
the city, and they have not de-
cided yet what day he will
leave. But I know if you are
any thing like myself, you

prefer knowing when any
one expects to visit you -
I will send your dress by
him - which will save the
expense. I hope you will like
it - I have done my best - I
will also enclose the bill -
I was obliged to get some silk
to trim it - in & some thin
goods to line it with which
has added a little to the bill.

Give love to all - from all
& I write me soon. With love

I am yours affectionately
" *Jessie* "



Pattersons Springs - N.C. 1 July, 95.

My dear wife

I arrived here on the 28th ult. quite well except the
cramp - rheumatism or sciatica - which ever it may be - that
sticks closer to me yet than a brother. I suffered more
from it yesterday than ever, though it is much easier
this morning - & I hope it will be entirely cured here.
I expect to stay here until 26th Inst 4 weeks in all,
unless I find that I do not improve after a week's
stay - and should I improve much after 3 or 4 weeks
I may if not quite robust - protract my visit a month
longer, as I know that I can not in my present state
of health follow successfully any kind of business.
The place is very quiet, I found but one visitor here
ahead of me, a married Lady Mrs Miller from Shelby N.C.,
another Lady with 2 children expected today & several more
next week. Through July Aug & Sept. there are usually
over 50 on an average. The waters have quite a reputa-
tion for dyspepsia & kindred complaints, and would think
would cure all skin diseases that are curable.
Board & all appliances quite plain - but good - price \$30. for
4 weeks or \$10. by the week (single). I should rejoice to have
you here. Can't you come? What does your mother
propose to do this summer? Does she intend to remain at
the old home all the year or not?
over

You can not well guess what a joyful thing it would be to me if I could have you here with me! What rapture I would feel to meet you - if you met me as you once did. But I confess I can not hope that such a meeting will ever again be my happy lot, for it seems to me that during the last few months of my stay at home a change - a sad change in your feelings toward me occurred - for which I never could imagine the cause - and ^{your} continued refusal to write to me even one word convinces me more & more of the permanency & thoroughness of that change.

My dear Julia, what can I do to restore myself to your affections? I feel quite sure that once at least for a short time - you loved me to a degree which if continued would make me quite happy - and I loved you more than words can tell. but now my heart is sad & my hopes almost gone forever. I will not I can not blame you for this change - as I know the affections are not controlled by the will - and that you would, as a matter of duty, if you could, love me as you once did & love me to the end - but oh tell me, if you can analyze your feelings, what it is that has estranged you. Possibly if known the cause of the estrangement may be removed. A line from you would be very acceptable to
your devoted husband

Sincerely

Shelby

Pattersons Springs. N. C.

Patterson Springs Shelby N.C. 8 July 75-

My dear Julia

Unexpectedly the mail has just reached with two letters from you after I had despaired of getting one. I know you can not conceive what joy they gave me. I feel that I now have a new motive to live & work & hope. You must forget that you ever thought I judged you too harshly. I will in future, if possible, try to think and feel as I now do - since you say you sympathize in all my troubles & I feel quite happy in the assurance, I wrote to you only a few days ago - the letter probably left Shelby yesterday, but I can not sleep without writing again & giving vent to some of the emotions produced by your letters, especially as you say you are always delighted to hear from me.

You ask me if I can not pay you a visit. I feel a very strong impulse to do so at once. I had intended visiting you about the last of this month & had in New York bought a ticket clear through. but you kindly say, "do stay at the Springs long enough for the water to benefit you". The waters are benefiting me now & I think I ought to stay about 4 weeks from the beginning, to get the full benefit. It will cost no more to stay 4 weeks than 3 - as board is \$10. a week & \$30 - for 4 weeks.

There is another reason why I want to remain here a week or so yet on business. I have a very hopeful enterprise on

about which I expect letters directed to me next week.
I will not enter into particulars - as it would require pages
to explain at length. but it is a very hopeful matter & if
successful will in a short year pay all debts & leave me
independently rich. So far every thing looks auspicious -
except that I will need $\$3,000$ to $\$4,000$. in cash - which I
have not yet made any effort to procure. but I think I can
^{get} at the time I shall need it. So anxious as I now am to
pay my dearest Julia a visit I must wait a little longer and
you must not expect me till the last of the month. If I can
close the business & put it in shape so that my visit would not
defeat & delay its close I may see you a little earlier.

I am delighted with this section of country & could cheerfully
take my abode on the Air line near here with you but not
otherwise. If business requires me here & business that pays
well enough - can we not hope your mother will consent to
come up here with us - for I know you can not be content to
leave her alone at home.

Tell Willie he has been owing me a letter for some time & that he
must pattern after his elder brothers

"My side" is a little better for past two days & I now feel quite
confident will soon be entirely well. After trying various things
I applied a weak mustard plaster along the whole diseased nerve
& that gave the relief. & I think keeping the irritation a few days
will complete the cure - I have been absent from you over two
months. but most of that time have been quite busy. but now am
rather idle & two weeks ahead seems longer to me than the 2 months
past. Oh how I yearn to press you to my heart that beats only
for you.
your aff. husband.

Bethany S.C. 15-Aug-78

My dear Julia

I arrived here yesterday tolerably well. rheumatism perhaps a little better - but so little that I am really not certain that it is at all. The weather however is so bad that it is something not to know that the rheu- is worse.

I find Mr Oates folks all well. & in good spirits with very fine crops. The house is crowded with company. ministers & others attending church. this being communion sabbath which with the Assoc. Ref. Presb. comes I think but once in a year. It is quite cloudy & raining all this morning, so that as I thought it impudent for me to attend church I am left alone to keep house while all the rest are gone to church, which gives me a quiet time to write.

I am homesick already; How I wish it was possible for me to be with you today & if I could go without expense I think I should return this week - especially as I am disappointed in getting the two letters one about the fire clay & the other from Col Screven I expected to find here.

I fear the latter will not come for several weeks yet as Col S. is probably not at Westchester where addressed. I hope to learn definitely where he is. next mail day.

I presume you have had Anna with you ere this and that her visit has to some extent supplied my place.

I intend if the weather becomes favorable to go to Yorkville this week & probably to Shelly for a day - but there is not much that I want to do until I get those two letters

I found a letter here from Frank mailed 17 July. but it has almost nothing in it except that he had been a little sick for about two months. or that he would have written sooner. I learned at Chester that he is or was very lately on a visit to Mr Hartog. I fear he has made but little progress in the Law, and he certainly has made none in letter writing.

My dearest wife I am afraid that I can remain up here, without you, long enough to give a fair trial to the three schemes I still have to make money out of minerals in this neighborhood. Your very manifest love for me lately has made your presence almost a necessity to me, and I must if I get up a business here make the earliest possible arrangements to get you here.

May I hope now that you will show your love in a new way by writing to me every Sunday or Monday so that I can hear from you every mail. Do, my dear Julia! You know not how much pleasure that will give me.

Do write regularly! It is not hard for you to write. after you get pen ink &c. & begin - your difficulty is to begin, and you can overcome that by a very slight effort.

Remember me every night as I promise I will you at the Throne of Mercy, and may God bless you now & forever.

Your affectionate husband

P.S. I think I can send this to Yorkville tomorrow



J. L. ADDISON,

Attorney at Law and Solicitor in Equity,

Edgefield C. H., S. C. Aug 12th 1873.

Col. Winchester, Graham,
Bethany, York Co., S. C.
Dear Sir

Your Letter sub head. containing the
following notes for collection.

one Note for \$285. 31. qm 6th April 74. due 1st Dec 74. m. B. C. Nicholson
Credit \$100. 00. 1st May 1875. interest after 1st Dec 74 at 1 1/4 per cent
on note for \$ 29. 15. qm July 1873. due 1st Nov 73. m. L. J. Miller and
J. A. Devore. Interest at 18 per cent per ann after due
one note for \$33. 25. qm July 73. due 1st Nov 73. qm by J. H. Neal & J. H. Smith
Interest after maturity at the rate of 16 per cent per month
one note for \$35. 00. qm July 11th 1873. due 1st Nov 1873. qm by J. S. G. Graham
& Wm Butler.

The note on Nicholson & L. J. Miller & Devore. I think is good
The other two is very doubtful. I will give them
attention as there is no money word in circulation
it will not be prudent to press any of them
but in ninety days many will be more plentiful
and all will be collected that can be

Yours Respectfully
J. L. Addison

Bethany S.C. 21 Aug 1875

My dearest Julia

I was disappointed last Thursday again. No letter from you none from Screven & none from Crossman Clay & Mfg Co. relative to the fire-clay. I am here doing nothing at all except waiting to hear from the clay & from Screven.

I requested that this letter addressed to Screven be returned to me at this place if not delivered to him in ten days. and it is time I had the letter returned or a reply to it. Then I have written to his brother at Lenoir N.C. for S's address & ought to have heard from him & have not. I am at a loss to know what to do. that is - how to spend the time till this matter of the fire-clay is settled especially as I am not yet well so that either riding on horse or walking is irksome in this rough country. I have too no special desire to go over the Hemmingway place. as I do not think there is any valuable mineral except gold on the place and that I can not work without capital & a goldmine is unsaleable. So I spend most of my time reading

and of course in doors - where I feel that I may be
in the way. My rheumatism has been better for several
days past & as I am now trying new remedies I hope
in a few days more I shall not feel it at all if I con-
tinue improving as heretofore. If so, I intend next mon-
day going to R.R. & shipping more clay to another party
in N.Y. & then looking at the black lead of which I
spoke to you & probably shipping a bag of that.
Time is flying & I am getting restless to be doing some
thing & I fear that after all my efforts I will be com-
pelled to return to the practice of law as my only
hope of making any thing.

So write to me, my dear wife, and cheer me up in my
gloom by new proofs of your inspiring love!

No other person on earth has my happiness in this his or
her keeping except yourself. To you & your love I cling
for life, hope & joy. Write & write often! Appoint one
day in the week & let nothing but sickness make you post-
pone writing. It is the only way, in my absence, that you can
show your love and judge by your own experience what
pleasure you can give by writing.

Meet me at the Throne of Grace every evening at 9 O'clock
that our spirits hold sweet communion!

your loving husband,

Bethany 30 Aug 78-

My dear Julia

I was much gratified by receipt of yours of the 23rd. I feel hopeful that you will now write to me regularly & thus strengthen the deep love I bear you. "We shall see what we shall see". Thursday will soon be here again & I trust will bring me another token of your love.

I am sorry to hear of your trouble with your tooth but hope you have had it extracted ere this.

I expected May all Laws to charge corns on the rent, that is his regular business & his corns, ^{make} constitute his income. He must change his friends as they are his only customers.

Last Wednesday, after having often tried to blister my leg with chloroform liniment & failed, I rubbed croton oil on the whole leg from the knee to the ankle. That blistered so severely, that it gave me fever for 3 days & I think would not have gotten easy if I had not dressed it with sweet oil. It is now nearly well, but does not seem to have done much good to the rheumatism - though it is still much better than it was while I was at home. The improvement lately has been very slow and I now appreciate what the Med. Book says, that in chronic cases one must persevere in the use of remedies. I hope however that at some time & by some means it will get well.

No news yet either from Scriven or the Clay. My letter to S. may not have reached him, but then it should have been returned to me long since - as it was so indorsed. I wrote to S. to his brother for his address, on my way up here, & have no

reply from him. I sent money in letter to the Bay Co. to
pay charges on the bay & I think the money was stolen the letter
destroyed & the bay still in the Express office. I have written
again to learn if the letter & money reached the Co. & expect reply
next Thursday. I have done nothing since I came up except
nurse my rheum. but I intend going tomorrow to ship more
clay to another Co. in N.Y. I think there can be no delay in
this case & that I will hear from this Co. before I will from the
first. I intend also writing to an Iron Co. in Richmond
about magnetic iron ore & sending some black lead to another
Co. in N.Y. In about ten days more I ought to know
which if any of these articles can be shipped profitably. If none
can. I may see that I ought not to stay here longer.

I have heard nothing from Bost or Willie since I returned
so you see my dear wife that after all you are my best cor-
respondent now & I will in future rely on you for keeping
my spirits up. I know it is no great trouble to you to write.
Your main difficulty is to get the pen, ink & paper, and I think
that difficulty will soon vanish by a habit resolutely formed.
I could be so happy if I only could have my Julia always
with me, but God's will must be done, let us pray always to
Him that these days of painful separation may be shortened.
Love to your mother & Willie.

Your loving husband

Bethany, N. C. 5 Sept 1878-

My dear Julia

Today is the blessed Sabbath, but as I think it a religious duty to write to you at least once a week and I can send this to Yorkville early tomorrow morning. I think it right to do this good work today - especially as I can not spend all its hours in reading the Bible with profit, or in other strictly religious duties.

I hoped for another token of your dear love by last mail but was disappointed. I was pleased to get one from Willie dated Monday, in which he said he visited you on the last Sunday & left you well &c.

I have no news to write of any value, unless I should give simply my travels & personal experience I scarcely know what to write. I have heard from N.Y. as to test of the fire-clay which was satisfactory. Though the Co. seem to think it only a common clay like some which is sold very cheap. The Black Lead is I fear in quantity too small & in quality not pure - having some grit in it. Still with machinery for washing - it may be very profitable.

With capital of \$5,000. I think the fire-clay would be the best thing I have thought of - but the capital is not yet at command. I have neither heard from Screen or rec^d my letter returned. I rode horseback Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday & suffered considerably from rheum.

Friday, Wm Oates Jr & I went in buggy with mule to get
peaches about ten miles off - we had to cross R.R. & then
go on side of R.R. in a rough new road about 1 mile -
About half way in the new road - a train came behind
us - frightened us & the mule - we jumped out - without injury
caught the mule by the bridle & could not hold on & stop it.
It left the road from the buggy against a tree - broke out
& took to the woods. After an hours search - we found
the beast quietly feeding in an old field, but could not
litch it to the buggy without repairs. So we left the buggy
at a shop & Wm O. rode the beast home & I walked it.
about 9 miles - I tired considerably. Though I held out -
till I arrived at home - a nice mare - without having
seen the peaches we started for - one or at most two dollars
will repair damages. Since the walk the rheum - is much
better - whether from the walk or citric acid which I began
taking on that day. at the suggestion of Dr. Day. I cannot tell.
I scarcely now feel it at all - & hope by next sabbath I may
be able to announce the joyful news that "Charlie is himself
again" May God grant it! The weather for past week very
warm - yesterday especially so.

W. H. Drubbar advises me that he has recd. \$116. or a/c of 4 months
rent from Kenfille, & asks what he shall do with it. I write to
him to keep it for the present - as I do not yet need it & I do not
know whether you or I will first need it, so you think you
will want it or a part of it before Oct. If you do to pay,
pruteft or otherwise - tell Willie to get it or as much as you want.
May God in his goodness keep you in the hollow of his hand.

Wm Oates Jr

Bethany N. H. 11 Septe 1878

My dear Julia

Yours of the 6th Inst recd on the 9th gave me much pleasure especially that portion of it which promised me one regularly every week. I do & ought to feel much flattered by that as I know so well how you correspond with others. I write to May's old Lams to advertise the house if not yet engaged. I have no confidence at all in Hyams & I know him well. I think he would if he could secure for himself extra coms from the tenant & would not care whether we got any rent or not & if he recd the rent I have no idea we could ever get any of it from him.

Willie likes his little son & knows nothing of his character. Another week has passed without any progress made in business & without any in the cure of Rheum. I get along comfortably enough at all times except in riding horseback. Early in the morning that does not pain me, but it always does later in the day. I generally ride 3 miles to the H. land - where I have a man prospecting for mineral & ride back to dinner - the ride back is always painful. The weather this morning is quite cool & if it remain so - I think I will walk to the land carry cold dinner & remain all day. Walking seems to do me more good than physie. but heretofore the weather has been very warm & I have walked

but little. My prospector finds gold, so he says, in almost all the rock he has tried - but if so it is, so fine I cannot see it. He says it is very fine, & that the prospect in some places is as good for gold as he ever saw.

I change my physic every two weeks, because all the Drs say, that no medicine will do much good, for a longer time unless stopped for a few days, but the truth is I have not got the kind I need. The Nitric acid which for a day or two I thought so well of, I think proved injurious & I have left that off altogether. Capt Allen's advice, was to run for Congress against Wallace - not Alletton, but it would take a Radical & the most complete Tactician too, to defeat him, & such a canvass would fine me any thing else than an easy, time indoors. I should have to travel every path in the Mts on horseback or foot.

No letter yet from Bostwell. I presume mine never was rec'd & he is waiting to hear from me. Frank wrote me a very sensible well composed one last week.

I grow very tired of this up country life & nothing except constant employment, which promised rich returns can reconcile me to it. I can not say I now have much hope of getting any such business here.

I miss you, my dear wife, more than I can express, and I would not remain here longer, but that I feel that it is my duty to exhaust all chances here of making money, before I quit & give it up finally.

Love to yr mother - Your loving husband