

Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> 1856

My dear Parents,

Yours was received as usual just after I had written to you, my last found you enjoying Lucinda's society. This perhaps will find you lonely, just after her departure.

At any rate I hope this will be the last I shall write before leaving for Georgia, we hope now to leave in two weeks. You must write me as soon as you receive this for I want to get another letter from you before I go. Ben got Lilly a Willow-Waggon & a chair to sit at table & a wooden one similar to the one she used at New Hartford, he says he shall leave her waggon, so whether she ever gets another is rather doubtful.

I am much better of my salt-rheum & so that I can use my hands some. In regard to Lilly she grows fast & is running from morning to night, only when she sleeps. She tries hard to talk & says many things we can understand. She can call Charity & the other little negroes- she sings some- she uses her little knife & fork with ease & pleasure, as for her groans she has given them up, although her good habits still continue. I find she learns many things I do not like if I take her out. She sees the Ladies dipping & spitting she must dip & spit too- the little negroes too C if I don't watch will learn her much that is bad, if she sees one of them kicking up her heels, up hers must go too. She imitates everything & everybody. The other day a gentleman in leaving made a very low bow, before he got off the steps, Lillie was bowing just like him.

I was truly glad to hear from Mary. I had sent her a letter a few days before Being the third I have written without receiving an answer. I think she is much mistaken & judges the Dr. much too harshly when she hints that he may not like me to correspond with her. I think my coming South has changed some of my friends more than it has me. We remained over in Philadelphia a day expecting to meet James & Mary as James wrote Luther he thought they would meet us, but neither were in the city.

I do not feel in the mood for writing, neither have I anything of interest to communicate, so please excuse all want of interest and write very soon. Ben sends love.

Ever yours  
S.F. Williams