Burnt Fort March 11th 1860

My dear Parents,

I have taken a few moments this night of the holy Sabbath to tell you that we are all now pretty well. We call our little boy Samuel, his whole name is Joseph Samuel after his two grandfathers. The name we have chosen, is the one of all the others I would choose & I was glad when the Dr. selected it. This baby is fair skin & blue eyes, very unlike the others, but Ma he has got your & Pa's & my long upper lip. Since the Dr. wrote you & when the Baby was not quite a week old Ben was obliged to go up in Ware Co., while he was gone Virginia, Hattie & I all had dysentery also three of the negroes, it seemed to be epidemic. The Dr. has rented out this place to a man with his wife & eleven children- they live across the road & seem to be real kind hearted people, Mrs. Grooms was in several times a day while I was sick, several of her children have been sick with dysentery. The Dr. was home last week & is now gone again to Ware, he expected his Still & wished to see to putting it up, I do not expect him under two or three weeks.

He spoke of my going up with him & leaving all the children here but the youngest but I cant do that, he wants to have me help select a place to build. He has set out & engrafted between four & five hundred fruit trees, he ordered some choice ones from a nursery in Savannah.

The negro women & children stay here with me, we have planted a sweet potato patch & mean to keep up a good garden if we stay. The Dr. told you Anne was dead, poor thing she suffered dreadfully, Demps wife & Lizzie were with her night & day for two weeks, the Dr. employed counsel, everything was done for her that could have been done for me well she is gone & I feel that I did all for her I could, she expressed true sorrow for her sins & for two or three months appeared very different from her former headstrong course.

It is bedtime, I wish you could look in upon us, I have three bedsteads in the room, Virginia & Hattie in one, Henry in another. Baby & I in the third & Fan & Let have their bed on the floor.

Good night, ever your affectionate daughter. Sarah