

Burnt Fort Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> 1858

My dear Father,

I have been waiting to answer your very welcome letter, in order to tell you of the arrival of the horses, they came last week, they were detained in Savannah nearly a month, on account of yellow fever being there, the Steamboats from Savannah were quarantined at St. Mary's. The white footed horse was badly chafed, but is nearly well, the other fell from the staging in landing him at Savannah but seems to have escaped unhurt, in fact they seem in tolerable order although Ben says the largest one has fallen away mightly. They have hitched them to the carriage, today is the third time & they do well, although they put them in different from what I thought was right. I thought the white footed was the right hand horse but the Dr. says not. The Dr., Virginia, & Demps have gone to Camp Pickney today, they are going see the things which came on the last-vessel started for here on a four mule waggon, they include the stove, piano, the box & barrel from New Hartford, the two barrels of apples we expect on the vessel which is expected next week.

The Dr. has lately (last week) purchased some more land in Ware Co., he considers it good investment, the Albany & Gulf R. Road passes through one corner of it, he paid \$1000.00 for 490 acres. It is about four or five hours ride from Savannah & in a very healthy section, he thinks he may eventually build there, it is beautiful pine timber.

I wish you could visit us, as all I can write will never give you a correct idea of this part of the country. On the whole I have enjoyed myself much better without a lady friend than I expected, perhaps the great secret lies in being constantly employed. The children are well & talk with pleasure of their visit in N.H. I find they are better children & more easily managed at home than elsewhere, not till they are a good deal larger, shall I attempt another such a journey, the fact is I had got thoroughly homesick, I have been returned, & although in common with others we have trials yet- I believe we see as much (or more) real pleasure, in these pine woods, as others who are surrounded with greater privileges, after all the great secret of true happiness lies with oneself in always aiming to be thankful & cheerful & in making others happy, or in the beautiful teachings of the Bible "to love God with all the heart & our neighbor as ourselves."

Thanksgiving is past with you I hope Lucinda spent it with you it was her intention so to do, when I saw her, with us it is the twenty fifth, the Dr. went up to Ware Co. & I made a mistake & kept Thanksgiving last Thursday & I found us reviewing the year I had many very many reasons for thankfulness, although we have had some losses yet we have been greatly blessed.

~~We are now out of~~ We are now out of debt, & in the Turpentine business they are able to pay for their land, their still, their wagons, & mules & the hire of their hands & have about (\$3000) three thousand to divide. And while I remember these temporal mercies, I would not forget to be thankful for the hopes which the gospel inspires & pray that such hopes may be shared by all I love. Ever your affectionate daughter Sarah. Love to Ma we shall be busy opening boxes this week, next week I will write her a description of their contents S.F.W.

Our sweet potatoes come in splendidly, many a one weighs four pounds & over.

We sit with open doors, it is warm & pleasant & roses in bloom in the yard. I have no salt-rheum to speak of.