Beene Cly Oct 14th 1839

My dear friend

When I promised to write you on my arrival in the country, I certainly did intend to do so, but one circumstance after another has occurred to prevent me until now. Since the appearance of the fever among you, I have not had the courage to write to a friend in Mobile not knowing that they would be spared until it would reach them. And independent of that consideration, my spirits have been depressed on account of the mortality among my friends and neighbors. At one time it was reported you were dead, but I did not believe it, as I knew you had been wise or prudent enough (admitted now) to move out, early to Springhill. Never was I more shocked than when the report reached us of the first case, and that one, our beloved neighbor & friend Judge Bitchcock. When we had recovered a little from the effects of that intelligence, we were informed Mrs H. too was dead. This we believed for some days, and you may imagine my feelings

for their orphan children. The last news from your City is more favorable, and most sincerely do I rejoice in it. I trust all your immediate family have been spared, but I regret to learn that your house has not — that Mrs Converse is dead —

On our first arrival at home, we were of course very much occupied, and during the summer have been a good deal annoyed by workmen, and are not yet done with them. The Carpenters continued at work, in, and on the house for two months after we moved into it. You may readily suppose we were in no very quiet quarters. Indeed it was a difficult matter, for me to collect materials thoughts, pen, ink & to write a letter, even to Maggy. By the way, I hope you will see her passing through your City in Nov. on her way homewards. We expect her to return with Mr Soulmans family by the way of Cuba. I am growing so anxious to see her, that I hardly know how to get through the time. She will certainly call to see you, if she remains any time in the City. It would give me great pleasure my dear friend to see you this winter, but it will be out of my power. I often very often, think of my dear friends of Mobile, with feelings of mingled pain, and pleasure. I shall learn to love the County, I know, because I always love my home, but this does not feel quite like home

yet. It is a beautiful and healthful country, and it would be unreasonable in the extreme, not to be satisfied. I am satisfied, and think it for the best that we should be here, but my taste and my affections lean towards your unfortunate City, at least cast, some lingering looks behind. My family are all around me here, except my one dear child. Sarah T. Gertrude & Harriet busy with their books, as tho they were at school. Little Hal too, is caught occasionally and made to halt long enough to say a lesson. Little Carey he can read a little. Bessie has grown very much, and is a nice little girl. Nothing would give me more pleasure my dear friend, than to see you and your little folks up the Country. Can you not make us a visit next summer? Will you not be travelling through the State? If you should, we will certainly expect you to come out of your way if necessary to see us. Adelaide and Carey would be delighted to run about the woods, and I dare say Hanse & Bapell would have no objection to a ride or a run with Gertrude and the other. We Country is rich in the world's wealth but is very destitute of the true riches, or in other words of the means of grace. We however have a prospect of securing Mr Gray's services in future for two Sabbaths in every month. I have heard him once, and shall be delighted to have him for our pastor. But O my friend, you are privileged beyond the common lot of mortals. Yesterday we rode down six miles

to a Methodist meeting. We heard no regular preaching ~~woul~~ but witnessed a great deal of excitement, and doubtless, some genuine feeling. About twenty had professed a change of heart the day before.

Mrs Thornton
Oct. 14. 1839

Daniels Prairie
Oct 17th Ala
3 1/2

Mrs Lilian Sayre
Mobile

Your friend Mrs Nott, is indeed a charming and interesting woman. Her health is much improved by her visit to Blount Springs — Mr Thornton has absent at Court, or would certainly have a kind word to send you.

I hope you will answer me soon, and return kindness, for apparent neglect. Nothing will give me more pleasure than to hear from you. Remember me to Mr Sayre and all your dear children. Kiss Bessie's little contemporary for me, I suppose he is a fine handsome boy now. Remember me to all friends, and believe me sincerely

Yrs L C Thornton