Barham Ville Co Va. Jan 22 1865

I really think my dear brother that you have treated that poor girl Miss Ferguson too badly but if you do not mind she will turn the tables on you. It was bad in you to help her do send me one of those great letters the most sickening one that you have. But please do not show her letters to any of the students.

Jan 23. I have laughed so much at your nonsense that I am tired out. But I must tell you the cause of it when the receipt of your letter I thought I remembered the name of Miss Lou Ferguson. and I was right for she is a cousin of Ellie Murphy's. I did not let Ellie know my object but found out from her all about her cousin Lou. Ellie says she is very pretty and is frequently taken to be 18 years of age but she is in reality 15 or 16 well perhaps you were wishing for some one to take care of you when

not that Ladies I can not tell a story by saying young Ladies. I think the joke is all turned against you now. to be taken in by an old maid they say laughing is very good for the health if so I ought to be very healthy for I have laughed no little at you and your young Lady. I will not tease you any more now. but I am inclined to think your young Lady was only flirting.

I think you do wrong to think the boys neglected you intentionally for I wrote to brother James just before Christmas and only received an answer this morning but he had many excellent reasons for not writing earlier. he has been sick a great deal. I think you do wrong to stop writing to them for they do not think how you feel about it. Of course you might to know that I am not tired of writing to you I wrote to you as soon as I possibly could. I received a letter from Cousin Sallie Taylor Christmas she told me that Bro Taylors friend intended to invite you to spend Christmas

with him and before I received your letter telling about it and telling me not to mention it I wrote to brother Greenlaw and mentioned in my letter that I thought you would spend your Christmas there I am very sorry that I did that now since I found that you did not wish it mentioned.

Sallie Pickett says she will give you a beautiful sweetheart she has beautiful dark blue eyes complexion as fair as a lily soft brown dark brown hair almost black which curls beautifully around her swan like neck plays well on piano and sings and plays splendidly on the guitar. very smart too. She said "the pretty girl" are about to fight a duel about you. they say you must decide for them. She "Blue-eyed-lily" says she knows were you to see her you would fall in love with her for to see her is to love her." Sallie says you had better take the blue-eyed-lily in preference to the pretty girl. The blue-eyed-lily says she is expecting

a box of Cakes and all kinds of nice things and if you will come she will divide them with you Sallie says the pretty girl is horribly ugly. the blue-eyed-lily says. if you wished to kiss the pretty girl you would have to get upon a ladder but if you wished to kiss her you would have to stoop just a little. The pretty girl says she did not feel herself competent your splendid oratory but sends you a simple device of of love. it is growing dark.

ALA. DEPT. ARCHIVES & HISTORY MSS

Your affectionate Sister
M. L. Hall

Does Len Abercrombie go to the university of Va.