

Greenville So Ca
June 25, 1857

My dear Sis,

I was made happy a few days since by reading a long letter from you – I was almost in the act of writing to you on that very day, but thought I would wait a few days longer hoping to hear that you were coming to see us. Indeed I was so certain that your Mother & [unclear] would accompany Pierce this [unclear], or his way north that I wrote to Ma to come & meet you all here, so that Pierce would not be obliged to go to White Oak to see her and sure enough Ma came, and staid a week, till we thought Pierce had gone and there instead of yourselves a letter came. The reason I so fully expected you was that Pierce wrote me from Ma that he would come & would try to come and I suppose the [unclear] did not try at all. And as to your brother, it never occurred to your minds. [unclear] Ma came, and proposed a week, he is in her [unclear] health, but not at all the same in spirits. She did not care to see any one, or take any [unclear] in the things of the world. John went home with her again. We are all well at present, but Butler & myself are in rather a dilapidated state. I think from no other cause, than pure sympathy on my part with the premises. I once had a great passion for old things, but I am thoroughly disgusted now with old fences, railings, gates, & houses. I have been trying very hard this spring to have a good garden, and to raise poultry but such a turn out, it makes me blue to think of it. We are all bewitched, expecting your mother She is the only one of us, that has ever had any good thing. I spend my time, pretty much as when you were with me working all the morning, reading or walking & some time riding in the after noon. Butler is so mean & so poor. That he will not or can not hug a mule to [unclear] this bit of care which I had

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planted_ and so one of the carriage horses has to do it all the time. This is a [unclear] plan to work carriage horses, and I can not take pleasure rides, where my horses are compelled to work. Sis, marry a man that can afford to keep carriage horses without work. I guess I'll have all these fields sowed in grain next year if I like. I'll set him up. And after all the trouble he will only make enough to lead the chickens. Well I wish you were here with me, your Mother has company enough without you. Do come & stay two months any [unclear] say August & September and then write for your Mother to come for you. Nothing but that would induce her to come. Greenville is gay. I hear Agnes Thompson stays with me a great deal and seeing her & Flo I get the gossip occasionally. As to resting I have given it up entirely going to Church is the extent of my worldliness & rarity. But if you would come I would brush up a little and brighten. Of what [unclear] are you, if not to contribute to the happiness about it and stay at home always Have you any thoughts of marriage? These times Flo has beaux, such as they are but I do not think he has any idea of trying herself to any of them. As was always asks after you. She is the prettiest girl in Greenville. Sue Hobe, I hear is to be married soon, to a Mr Donnelson_ 'Gus Hobe is the most suitable & gentlemanly young man in Greenville_ Grant(?) is not married yet= If I were a widow, he would have some idea of it= but nothing shorter- Mr Preston is on his summer visit to the General's & will be with us next week. Now he is the kind of Man for you Sis_ He looks as well as I ever saw him, excepting his lameness, which came from Paralyzing But half of such a Man, as he is, is better than a meeting house full of common ones

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