

*A letter from your grand mother,
Sally Turner Alexander to
my grandmother.*

Park Forest January 20th 1860

Although I have not heard from you, dear Aunt Betsy, since I wrote last to you, still I feel like writing again and having heard that you had gone to Texas I thought you might not have received my letter. Since writing to you we have been greatly distressed at losing dear sister Nancy. She died on the 2nd of November, the very day that she was to have set out for her new home in Mississippi. Since her death the whole family have gone. I am now the only one of our large family left in this country, and you may be sure that when I suffer myself to think I feel lonely indeed. But thank God, I have the best husband in the world and good children for which I try to be grateful.

A few days after sister Nancy's death my dear Betty lost her little boy who was just nine months old and the most endearing and smart little fellow I ever saw. That was a greater affliction to cousin William than the death of his sister, for I never saw any one idolize another as he did his little name sake and grandchild,

Alice Browne's brother Daniel's eldest daughter is staying with us. Her husband is attached to the African Squadron, a surgeon in the Navy and will be gone two years. She has received letters telling of her mother's safe arrival at home in California about the 20th of November. Mother and all were well. Ellen, their second daughter will be in the States soon. She expected to be married about Christmas. Effie Henderson was married in December.

I have not seen or heard from any of your friends in Warren for so long that I have nothing to tell you about them. One of our pretty girls, Mary Jones is to be married on the 1st of February to Mr. Ed Walthall of Holly Springs. His sister married Bishop Freeman's son. I expect you perhaps know them.

We have had some of the coldest weather this winter we ever felt. The thermometer was on the 2nd of January 6 degrees below zero. The ice 6 inches thick.

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James wife returned with her mother about that time to Mobile for a visit of a few weeks. She is a sweet woman and I hope will soon become a good country wife.

I look forward with much pleasure for the summer to come as I shall then have Rebecca at home from school. She is very tall and some think her very much like her Aunt Rebecca, but her hair is much darker. Mary Ann received a letter from her Father John written the first of December, and I was sorry to hear he was confined by sickness and surprised to hear his wife was still living. It was from his letter I learned that you had gone to Texas. Is it to be your permanent home?

Give my love to all your children, and do write soon and tell me about all my friends you left behind and those who are with you. Mammy Maria sends her love to you. It is a great comfort to have her with me. Mr. A. desires to be kindly remembered to you. Alice Browne was wishing the other day that she could see you. God keep you, my dear Aunt.

Your niece,

S. P. Alexander

*a letter sent to me
I wish it was mine of course
Grand ma writing
this is a copy Be-*

My dear mother
My dear mother

I have not seen or heard from any of your friends in Warren for so long that I have nothing to tell you about them. One of our party girls, Mary Jones is to be married on the 1st of February to Mr. Ed. Whitehall of Holly Springs. His sister, Elizabeth Freeman's son. I expect you perhaps know them.

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James wife returned with her mother about that time to Mobile for a visit of a few weeks. She is a sweet woman and I hope will soon become a good country wife.

I look forward with much pleasure for the summer to come as I shall then have Rebecca at home from school. She is very tall and some think her very much like her first Rebecca, but her hair is much darker. Mary Ann received a letter from her father about the first of December, and I was sorry to hear he was confined to his bed and surprised to hear his wife was still living. It was from his father I learned.

Give my love to all your children, and do write soon and tell us about all your friends you left behind and those who are with you. Henry Lewis sends his love to you. It is a great comfort to have her with me. Mr. A. desires to be kindly remembered to you. Alice Brown was wishing the other day that she could see you. I hope you will be here.

Your niece,

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I must have been
I am a copy of*