

Line Bluff. May 16" 1860 -

Many thanks. 'Dear Sister Martha' for your letter. It was fully appreciated I assure you, coming as it did just in the right time, and being so sisterly and affectionate. I really felt the need of having a quantity of sympathy to cheer me up, and a full mail-bag to keep me from having the "Blues" How strangely that sounds? For a 'Bride' as it were, talking about being low-spirited, and only married five months! It would be out of the question under ordinary circumstances, but my apology, (although it would fill up too much of my letter, were I to write it) is a good one. All of our Daily papers have it published in full, and I will enclose you one of the most correct notices, and let you decide if it was not enough to send a chill to my heart, that only love and sympathy can cure. An important item in addition to my peril, (fright), and sickness, is the destruction of two

regular Saratoga trunks, containing the
larger portions of my Bridal wardrobe, -
all entirely burnt up! No small matter;
when I thought I would have clothes enough
to last me five years without looking at
a threaded needle, to be compelled to
renew that wardrobe out and out. What
a delightful task, - that of sitting the hot
summer day, pulling certain long seams
and putting on stiff bindings - to say nothing
of the tiresome cutting out and fitting!
Don't you pity me? My own eyes fill at
the very thought. It is getting quite warm
now, and I am having my first taste of
what a Southern summer is to be. The
different sicknesses peculiar to this, and
every warm climate I suppose, are already
stalking about, ready to seize as victims the
imprudent and intemperate. Not long ago
the 'Heiress', and Belle of the State, died
of Typhoid - fever in Pine Bluff. Her

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death cast a gloom over all of us. She
being one of Mr Hutcheson's first and
best friends in Arkansas. Both of us
have good constitutions though, and in-
tend to be very careful and prudent.

How delightful it would be to accept
your invitation and visit Virginia this
summer, but alas! it is impossible.

Mr H says he cannot leave Arkansas
this summer and I believe I am afraid
to, at least until our Railroad is com-
pleted. The Mississippi has proved too
treacherous for me to trust myself again
to its mercies. My first summer then of
married life, will be spent somewhere in
Arkansas, but whether in Pine Bluff or in
Little Rock has not yet been decided. It
is more than probable however that we
will locate at the Capital, as soon as
Mr Hutcheson gets through with his court
at Napoleon, and settles up his affairs in this

place. It is a much cheater and prettier town than Pine Bluff - more desirable in every respect, though I have made pleasant acquaintances and good friends here and shall dislike leaving very much.

Your going to house-keeping is not to be thought of now, and we look at it as something way off in the distance. The novelty of boarding has'nt worn off with me yet, and Mr H. (although there is but little novelty for him) finds it more to his interest than house-keeping. We have a pleasant, cool, nice little room at the only hotel in the village, and are very happy in it but miss many conveniences of a home of our own of course. As for the arts and sciences you

mention in your letter - I am as splendid hand to sew our buttons' and can darn a sock to a charm, if you give me time, but patching! shall I confess it? I am as ignorant of, as a girl who has been to school all her life, generally is. I am still young enough to learn, and as my clothes are all new yet, I'll have time, before they need my services to take lessons.

A kiss to all my new little nieces and nephews, I have such a heap of them in every direction that "unt Jeanie" has long been a most familiar name. "Good bye". "Jeanie"