

copy's Mountain Turk. Le Nations April 27th 1849
(49)

Dear Syracuse.

I have at last reached the nation, but have not yet got home. I am waiting here to see your Grand Mother, ~~she~~ will be here some time today, in the evening. The death of William has nearly broken your Aunt Rhodas heart. She is weeping all the time. I have done all I can to comfort her, but it seems the more I talk to her the more she weeps. Your Uncle Heavel is cut down - he appears more like a crazy man than any one I have seen in a great while. They had received the news of William's death but a few days before my arrival. I have seen but a few of our acquaintances and friends. I staid all night at the Harri's as I came up. They were well, and doing well. Your Uncle Saml Garland left here yesterday. He appears well, and was highly gratified with the account I gave him of Lou & yourself. He & your Aunt Ellen had been grieving much at the report they had got of Lou. ~~But~~ I hope he will spare them of such feeling hereafter. And I hope you will so conduct yourself as to spare me also of the worst feelings that can be felt by a father. and you know you have by your conduct heretofore been the cause of my greatest troubles - I pray constantly that you may do well. Had a very unpleasant journey in coming home. I was tother sick at Harper's Ferry and did not get well until I got to Louisville Ky. ~~And~~ I took the Cholera

at Little Rock and came very near dying.
I was Cramp'd in my Stomach, in both legs,
and sides - my right hand was cramp'd for a
long time - I felt Crampy in every nerve in
every nerve in my system. Through the
Mercy of God I was spared and have been
permitted to see my country ever since, for
which I hope I am grateful. The weather is
very cold here at this time. We have had three
frosts, though the trees are all green and
every thing looks like Summer. The Cotton
is all cut down, ~~and~~ Corn also. I hear very good
accounts from home. My blacks have the pride
of being the best negroes in the Nation - they made
a splendid crop last year, and are ahead of every
body now in the country with their crop.
Besides have a plenty of hog and every thing on
the place good to eat. They have been very attentive
to all the wants of your brother and sister.

Your Uncle Thomas tells very amusing stories
about them. how Adams & Solamais has managed
to keep the farm going and at the same time get
contracts for hauling of goods. It is
very gratifying to me. Your Uncle is here with
his family, & he is living on the hill where
Saml Pymington lived near the ^{old} Salt works.
He is in great trouble - he did not look ahead
to consequence. People who are governed by
passion and prejudice act always blindly & are
ever in trouble, but he is my brother James.

take care of him. I will do this at the risk
of my life. The light horse are expecting to
come down ~~to~~ to him next week. Some
thought your Uncle T's place - Mal is there, but
it is not known whether he is there or not.
He has also to keep out of the way of the light horse.

Spencer Academy has been in terrible commotion.
Stark & Gardner, both have left the place in consequence
of differences with Mr Ramsay - it is
said they made a fuss about the way the hay were
fed - Stark kicked up a terrible dust - Stark
is at Kingsbury, Gardner started for home
New England. Many of the hay have left the place.
Edward & Edmund Bohannon, Marvin, Washington
Hudson have home a day or two since -
rebelled against the teachers & even had some
fighting to do before they came away. Every
thing is going on badly at Spencer and people
say Ramsay is the cause of all the troubles
there. It is said the Cholera is at St Smith. Your
Uncle Saml is uneasy about John. Your Uncle
T has taken John P. from Spencer. Lou & Peter
are still going to school at Starbuck. Your little
sister has the name of being the most talented
girl in all the land - Hope she is ^{graduated} ~~greater~~ than
she is smart. I will write you other particulars
when I get home. This is merely to let you
know I have got home. Love to Lou, Hall, &
Wright, and to all the students. God bless
you. Your affectionate father,
J. P. Peterson

Engletown Ark }
April 23rd 1847 }

10

George P. Pottlynn
Newark
Delaware