

EGP

Social Hall [Wednesday] Jan. 8th [1868]

My dear Emmie

Tis more than a fortnight since the reception of your letters. The wonderful trout & the basket of good things, & I have not been able to write & thank you before. G. expecting to pass by Oak Lawn this week, at last affords an opportunity of writing, which I must not neglect, so look out for a long winded article before going further I must remark that your pudding was the nicest & lightest I have ever tasted & the cakes & candy gave general happiness to the young ones -- if Tom is in the habit of catching such fish -- I am sure (that affection apart) you could do well to hold on to him for the winter. Annies turnips I supposed to be his, but Chance tells me A. has just as fine -- as those that came & which I find remarkable. Chance made his appearance on New Years day -- & we find him already a comfort -- his respectful demeanour is quite a treat, in these days when the darkeys speak of their wenches as "Mrs so & so" or "my Lady." I received the "day books" & your note thank you for the invitations to the boys & the means afforded them of accepting it I should certainly send them this trip but -- Brosio is wearing his fathers shoes, & Narto is still without his & is wearing mine, & none of them have hats or caps & pride keeps me from letting them be seen on the cars until furnished with these still, indispensable articles. Their father trusts to be able to buy them & on his return I will send the boys. The change I am sure will be beneficial Thank Mama for her letter the stockings & the loan of the laddle. I feel for all your disappointments, in the sale of your nuts &c such nuts as you sent us should certainly have brought 7 or \$8 per bushel. I trust Mrs Huger has made a satisfactory arrangement for you. Why dont you make Hoppock take them in exchange for sugar & flour. I thought that by having a grocer factor you were secure against ever being out of these comforts but I suppose I do not understand the nature of your arrangement with him. I am glad his visit to you is over for there is nothing so disagreeable as to have such a visitation hanging over one -- if I write nonsense excuse it for Margaret & Benigno are making any number of odd noises & my head is in a whirl. I sent your message to George Sanders & he sent to say that he would go over at once. "Grove" Maria was here a few days since & told me she was one of the hands who expected to plant the Bluff. Chance is employed just now in making bridges over the causeway which will connect this place with the Bluff & open a shorter road to the R.R. he heard by the way a few nights since of the death of his sister Pinah -- he did not visit his relations on sunday as I expected he would & was summoned afterwards to make his sister's coffin. The negroes are dying fast in this neighborhood but the Yankee work goes bravely on. The men have weekly meetings for purposes of drill -- fine dinners, uniforms, drum, flags &c. Prince Wright acting Brig. Gen. Ned Ladson (R. knows him) Colonel! We have a new neighbor at "Hairy Hall," A Doctor Palmer has purchased it & means to spend the summer in this pine land, Gonzie finds him a nice gentleman. We have two white men already at the farm -- one of them with a wife. They are going to plant provisions on shares with us. Their rations to be deducted from *their* half of the crop. They are well recommended as good farmers & reliable men -- & I trust may prove comforts. The rice fields any one ~~can~~ may plant in cotton -- who will make up the banks. Some of the nigs in the neighborhood like the idea extremely. G. paid a pleasant visit to Hutchinson's place some days ago -- he went to get some provisions from "Large Trees" store-- it having proved very hard to get the money from him & we being entirely out of corn, bacon, sugar, & molasses. Well he was most hospitably entertained by Minnie Stuart & family, who are living in a very pretty cottage built this summer, with our lumber. "Large Trees" was absent -- but we got the provisions, who

do you think hires the store from Seabrook? Willis Wilkinson! Mr. Stuart spoke very kindly of you all, he lives very much in our style, his little daughters setting table & waiting. Joe L. is going to plant on a still grander scale this year. The Counties allows something, for the improvements to her place.

We went yesterday, all of us, in wagon & cart to the plantation & spent quite a pleasant day. The sight of the live oaks & salt water did me good & while Gonzie was shooting ducks we all of us gathered hay & moss for the horses & Sallie who *is*, as C. Mitchell was, last summer "in daily expectation." The old slave burying ground at S.H. is a very romantic spot with most beautiful trees-- & if I am alive next year I shall enjoy clearing it up exceedingly. I wont stay in the pine land next winter T'is too dreary & ugly. Tell me what arrangements you mean to make this year-- & ~~what you will plant?~~ Do your present darkeys remain with you-- & what will you plant? *interest* not curiosity my dear -- *Private*

While Tom was with you delicacy forbid me from writing about his affairs but I suppose he may have returned to Millville & as Mama says she does not know "what she has written me about his family" I will say, that she has told me nothing & from Mamies letters I suppose there must have been a pretty big fuss, when he does not even know where his son has been sent, I should like to hear more. *I know* that the affair is no longer private & therefore dont mind asking particulars. Please ask Annie to send me some directions for preparing the land & planting green peas-- will the middle of this month be too early? The children send much love. Alfonso has a magnificent governors gate, three from teeth out -- he is replacing them fast however.

Monday 12th

Have received the papers & book. Think you might have written though & if George had told me *when* he was going I should

I am ever dear Em yr affate

Hattie

Love to Mamie & household & Elliott & the girls.

Friday 17--

As it is not certain when Gonzie can leave dear Emmie I send this by George who has been quite sick & is not to blame about the mule so dont scold him.

H.R.G.

EGP

Flat Rock 29th Feby. [1868]

My dearest Mamma

I thank You extremely for Your consideration in writing so often of late. I truly congratulate You upon having Your darlings again under Your own roof and trust with the united doctoring -- and nursing of the "Brothers Churyble" -- and the general petting of Mamma & Co. that Hattie will soon reward You by looking as lovely as ever. Poor Nanno too, will be better soon, and You will have once more a pleasant Spring at Oaklawn. I am glad to hear Tulita retains her winning ways. We should all like very much to see her, and Miss Hannah *hopes* she may have the chance before She becomes a Cuban lady. I feel very sorry for the Col. after enduring a summer of anxiety to have to give up all of his plans, but I hope something more reliable will turn up for him in Cuba. Give Hattie and the children a plenty of love for me, and tell Hattie she is really a heroine to have stood those fevers so long uncomplainingly.

We have all been sick with influenza this week. The weather was so disagreeable -- such

dense fogs -- for several days -- and then a slight snow storm -- now it is clear and cold -- and we are all getting better of our colds.

To day, our new help, the red haired Young woman (with her six year old son) is being installed. She looks too nice for the kitchen, but I hope she wont rebel. These country folks, think it dreadful, that they do not *eat* with us and the retiring Miss Gibbes "does not mean to confess the fact to her relations," one of whom is a revenue officer, making five dollars a day. A very decent honest woman, but too slow. He substitute comes for five dollars, to cook, wash and milk, if we ever get a cow again. Tell Lalise "Judy" died of "hair pins." She must have taken them in with her hay, for two were found in her throat. I am so sorry for Your mule losses. I hope the missing one has been borrowed only. I wonder You have met with so few loses however in Your exposed situation.

I heard from Alice R. today, and also by the last mail She mentions Charleston news which may be new to the family so I repeat. Mary King's engagement to George Bryan, the Dr. is just there in time to give his consent. Sallie Huger Calder, Alice says after seven years in Europe looks younger than she did before leaving, dresses beautifully, and has two children. Mrs. Waldo, clothed in black velvet, who is she? staying with Col. Chisolm. Annie Means writes that the young people are having masquerade parties -- ladies wearing pink dominos -- gentlemen black & masked. They dance square dances till twelve -- then engage partners for the German and unmask -- when often the couple are unacquainted. "Grandpapa says they are very objectionable." Willie Bee has been going to a wedding Miss Ingraham to Col. Pickens, and some balls, in complement to Alice says Our Grace had been to enquire about us. She had lost *three* children during the Summer. Alice has two boarders a Mrs. Newbould and daughter. *She* the sister of Julian Mitchel deserted by her husband, for no other reason than that he is tired of her. Alice says I may judge of the times when she is willing to receive strangers into her house for such a pittance as \$12 a month. Mr. Ravenel is chirpy in consequence of the rise in cotton thinking some of the planters may be able to pay their bills. I doubt if there is any cotton to sell.

I had a note from Mrs. King this week promising a visit soon, but the roads are still bad, and I believe she meant to walk. A present of apples, cabbages, parsnips and turnips were an acceptable addition to our pork diet. A letter from Mr. Drayton says he has no means to go North and Julia dislikes snow and Yankees, so much she has not been heartbroken at her detention in Charleston. *He* will come up before May, and probably stay with us, until Mrs. D. arrives he wrote in a panic about some plants of his, at the Wiguhart greenhouse, fearing it was to be neglected, now that Farmer has everything there.

Did Elliott tell You of his pleasant day with Col. Johnston of the C. R. R., sight seeing and dining in Washington. I am sorry he did not see the play at the Convent -- it seems he could not pay his way but, it only punishes him, for returning the Bishop's draft which I sent him for "contingents" and which might have lasted with him. I send Mamie's last, which mentions something of their recent pleasures. They had it seems, three crowded performances, the Chefelles, Rolands, and other friends of the children were among the spectators on the third night.

Good bye dearest Mama, it is getting late and is very cold off by the window. Did Anne gte the [...] seeds? always tell me of Tom's garden and fishing please. I must beg You to write as often as possible, or make Hattie write to me. do You know I have never I think received as much as a note from that Young lady, and She will have a plenty of time now to make amends.

Much love to each & all from our little [...]

You most affecte.
M. B. J.

EGP

March 9th [1868]

My dearest Mother

I have to thank You very much for Your last, it is doubly good of You to write me nice long letters, when surrounded with so many pets, and I wonder too how You find time. I really have so much writing to do that I sometimes feel bewildered. This is my fourth letter this morning and I have two more to write for this mail. I rejoice to hear of the improvement of Your "returned emigrants" Hattie can really give us an idea I expect of "life in the bush" without seeking it further from home. I hope Brosio has joined You. No doubt he will be a valuable aid to Emmie in her housekeeping after helping his Mother so much. This Spring weather will help Your garden and make the fish bite. I hope to show Ralph how matters are conducted on Santee and encourage him a little. I will sent You a letter from Mrs. S. You must read it first to *Yourself*, at least the marginal portions, some of them wont bear reading aloud. I am sorry for her dread of the low country this summer, and will write to advise her to club with Mrs Fowls by all means. "My arrangements being *too* uncertain" etc etc. I wrote to say "how happy the family at Oaklawn had been in the presence of Tom for the last two months, & that I supposed she had heard how his devoted indulgence to his family had been rewarded," that I could not write on the subject, but would ask Emmie to do so. She alludes to this as You see, but I do not understand from it what her impression may be. I received a long letter from Elliott two days ago. He said they had been much excited about affairs in Washington and Father Maguire had kept them in at first fearing their getting into mischief. Lent had begun and without being actually starved, the fare was very scanty. He wrote in good spirits. My letters from the girls failed on Saturday but I hope will come tomorrow. You ask about our servants. Our new help has been here a week only, but if she continues as she has begun, she will be very satisfactory. She is very neat quiet and efficient, and does her work very pleasantly taking out the washing on Monday, and bringing in the clothes niuly [*sic*] ironed on Tuesday without interfering at all with the cooking of our two meals, which is all we have. I get her for five dollars, because I let her have her little boy, and teach him. *He* is sociable, but a well disposed child and his Mother keeps him very clean. Then I have a very competent drudge of twelve years, for 1.25 a month whom Mrs. Taylor manages, and when we cease to want wood she brought in. She will clean the premises.

About Farmer and supplies. I get two bushels of grist every week from his mill, and his wagon has hauled wood two days this winter -- that is all. I saw him once last summer to sign a paper. They say he is bankrupt -- I suppose so. Mr. Lowndes knows of his arrangements for us. I do not understand them but although he may not intend any wrong in his dealings, I expect no good from them.

In Annie's last letter she begged a great deal of love to be sent to You all at Oaklawn especially to Uncle Tom. I hope to hear by Wednesdays mail of the welfare of all including the Col.

With our united love believe me dearest Mamma

ever Your devotedly attached
Mary

The Southern Enterprise
[Greenville, S.C.]
22 April 1868, p. 2.

Jefferson Davis in Cuba.

We have been permitted to make the extract which follows from a letter, written by a Charleston lady, now residing with her husband at Matanzas, and who was a refugee in Greenville, during the war and sometime afterwards. The letter was addressed to a lady of this place, an intimate friend, who was well acquainted with JEFFERSON DAVIS, in former days, as she was, in fact, with nearly every distinguished Southerner, who figured in Washington society, having spent several years in that city, prior to the war, and we believe for a time resided in Richmond after the Confederate Headquarters were established there.

The letter was written the 20th March.--Here is the extract:

“Who do you think I have seen? Had close to me in pleasant converse, knowing you envied me all the while and making you, for a time, the chief subject of our chat. Our dear beloved Jeff. Davis! I hear you scream all the way here, I see the big tears gather in your loving eyes. Yes! I was so happy, I took his hands in mine and we instinctively pressed them long in silence. He is travelling for his health, was in Havana and our Cousin Edward Sanchez telegraphed him to come and visit his house, an honor, I told him, I envied, for I once had a far more comfortable home than my young married cousin, but he was the only Southerner here. Uncle, Charles, Gus, and some of our friends, went to receive him and he rode in our carriage with General F., who is at present in Havana with his family. I dined with them and all that evening we enjoyed almost to ourselves, till they notified him that a Committee awaited him at the Lyceum to make him an honorary member, and we did not have our walk on the Place d’Armes, as we had intended. He said he knew you very well and asked much about you, where you were, &c., &c., and desired his kindest remembrances and best wishes when I wrote; said he had heard a great deal about Greenville, and the energy of the ladies there, and how much had been done. You better believe I dressed up my ‘little witch’ and he took her in his arms and spoke of his family; his little boy near her age that would ride her in the sleigh in Canada, &c. I told him *we* had worked together during the war, that everything had been conducted, planned and carried out by your never-failing energies and the part Anita performed, he seemed *au fait*, and kissed Nita with many endearing little speeches. He has a look of melancholy, still he was entertaining and amusing at times. Joked about many incidents during the war. My husband enjoyed his visit greatly.”

EGP

Boston April 23 1868

My dear Miss Elliott

I have recd. yr. note of 14 inst & will, to the best of my ability, do what you want in respect to coffee, tea, sugar & preserves, as soon as I recover from a slight illness which at present confines me to my house. The amount of yrs, in my hands, is \$282.27 -- exclusive of interest -- which may come to about \$30 to \$60 more.

If you could send me a sample of the preserve you propose to make, put up as you propose to send it, & name the *quantity* & the price I will with pleasure in some way do what I can to dispose of it for yr benefit. Very likely if much of it I can, thro’ some respectable grocer with my aid, do best, but if the quantity is only about 100 to 200 lbs I can arrange without a

grocer Excuse the shortness of my note as I am not quite well

Yrs faithfully

W. Amory

EGP

Charleston August 13th [1868]

My dear Son

I should have written to you yesterday in order that the letter might have reached you this morning but I was so busy that I found it impossible to do so. I hope to-morrow to receive your promised letter giving me good accounts of your little charge. Dear little fellow I am so sorry that I did not bring him as Papa told me to do. Tulita is so happy & good & Narto seems delighted with his visit. Yesterday we all went to the battery-- (in the cars of course) it was very pleasant & there were a number of little children playing on the grass & looking very merry-- from there we walked to Mrs Hegers-- to inquire after Cousin Mary Manigault who has been *desperately* ill. She is now out of danger, & was very glad to see me. I took Narto & Tula up to see her for a moment only for she is not allowed to see much company yet. She told me that the first thing that did her any good & made her feel better, was a bottle of champagne which your Papa sent her. She thinks him a very nice Doctor. Poor Mrs Huger was quite sick with fever-- but she is much better to-day. Tell your Aunt Emmie she says that she has been attending to her interests so I suppose that she has sent her what she wished[.] Cousin Mary sends a great deal of love to your Gd Mama & Aunts-- Narto says he is going to write to you so I will not make this letter very long. The weather is delightful. I was glad to put flannel on Tula or rather, glad that I had it to put on her. I hope Mino is wearing more clothes than when I left. Remember what I told you about taking care of him.

Friday

Another beautiful day & so cool that you will doubly enjoy the bon fire which you ought to have tonight to celebrate "Thad Stephens death"¹ Good bye my darling be very good & obedient & tell Alfonso to be so too & kiss Mino for me many times. Tell him Mama has not run away for very long. Papa says he cannot let me go before Thursday-- so come for me on that day & write when you receive this telling me how you all are. Yr affectionate

Mother [Hattie]

EGP

August 13 1868

My dear Ambrosio

I am having a very nice time and Mrs Sharlock is very good yesterday Papa and I went to King Street & Papa bought me a nice pair of shoes & 4 pair of stockings Mama is going to have Tulas picture taken tomorrow we have very nice breacfasts dinners & suppers beef, rice, fish & sardines, cakes, puddings, & stewed peaches I like Mr Sharlock, it is too funny to see him trading with the negroes. One wants 1 cent worth of molasses another 3 cents of rice & another a 3 cent loaf of bread. They sell him warter mellons for 5 & 10 cents it is late & I am sleepy so good night dear Ambrosio with love from Mama Papa & Tula I remain your very affectionate

¹ Thaddeus Stevens, radical Republican representative from Pennsylvania, died in Washington, D.C., on 11 August 1868.

brother
Narciso

Fryday-
Friday August 14th 1868

I forgot to tell you last night that Papa gave me two tumblers of nice soda water. The street cars are very nice. The Rutlege cars at night have a red light and the King Street a green one. Tula seemes to know this house as if it was made for her. Mrs Sharlock has a little negro girl caled Beccy Tula likes her very much & is playing with her all the time. To day Mama is going to have Tulas picture taken. Papa gave me 4 rides in the street cars. The Rutlege, Meting and Wentworth cars have 2 horses & the King Calhoun & Broad street have one.

SCP

Spanish Consulate, Charleston Passport Registry 1868-1871

No.	Date of Visa	Authority	Passport of issue	Passport Number	Name	Age	Place of Person	Occupation Birth	From	To
8	22 August	Consul [...]	7935	17	June/68	A. J. Gonzalez	49	Matanzas	Rancher	Charleston
Wm. Seward										
3	29 Dec. 1868	US Secretary	37935	17	June 68	Ambrosio Gonzalez	50	Charleston	Rancher	Charleston Havana
of State										

He is accompanied by his wife and five children whose names are the following: Mrs. Harriett Elliott de Gonsalez; Ambrosio Gonsales, who is 11; Narciso Gonsales, 10; Alfonso, 8; Getrudis, 4; Benigno, 2 years of age. This has the following note: This gentleman, I know for certain that, in accordance with acquired information, after the dismissal of the confederate army, to which he belonged, is dedicated exclusively to his agricultural interests.

SCA, Colleton County Auditors Tax Return, 1868, Box 5, File 19, A. J. Gonzales.

TAX NOTICE FOR 1868--REAL PROPERTY.

To *A. J. Gonzales*. You are notified to make out and hold in readiness for me a statement, in the following form, of all real property in your possession or under your control as owner or holder, or as husband, parent, guardian, trustee, executor, administrator, receiver, accounting officer, agent, attorney or factor, on the first day of September, 1868. [...] Assessor. Dated *February 20th* 1869.

REAL ESTATE NOT IN CITIES, TOWNS AND VILLAGES.

Names of Property Holders	Arable or Plow Lands		Wood, Uncultivated and Marsh Land.		Buildings	Total	Total Value of all Taxable Real Estate		
	No. of Acres	Value	No. of Acres	Value			No. of Acres	Value	
A. J. Gonzales	100	\$400	1350	\$1350	6	\$120	1450	\$1850	\$1970
								1750	1870

EGP

Convent de Notre Dame
Oct. 11th 1868

My dear Grandmama,

Until to day I have been unable to fulfil my promise of writing, but I hope you will excuse my delay when I tell you how busy we are, and have been, since our return to school.

We received a warm welcome from all the good sisters on our arrival, and took the

greatest pleasure in introducing dear Mama to them, and the three girls. Mamie continues with a course of English studies and is improving in French and German, while I devote most of my time to painting and drawing, music and French. I like nothing better than the two former occupations and hope to be compitant [*sic*] to teach those branches when we open our long talked of school. We are delighted at having Mama so near us and are quite cured of being homesick, for the simple reason, I suppose, of having no home to long after now, since Mama has left "Farniente." So far we have seen Mama every week; she brought with her the last time some of the girls from Miss Kummer's, so that her visit was rather limited as they had to return at a certain hour. She looks well, however, and is in better spirits I think than I have seen her for four or five years. Edith enjoys seeing so many new sights and persons and the nice fare at Miss K's. Emma and Fannie are recovering from their first attacks of homesickness and were more cheerful when we saw them last.

Elliott has obtained a very good position I believe, but no doubt he has written Aunt Emmie all about it, so I wont repeat. I hope his health will improve. Please give our love to Aunt Hattie and the boys and Tulita. When do they expect to go to Cuba? Give her many thanks for the warm cloak she sent us; we needed a thick covering very much indeed. Tell Aunts Annie and Emmie that we have determined to keep their presents until next year when we may require dress more than we do at present. We feel quite "set up" now, with new black alpacca suits, and warm saques. We regreted so much the news Mama gave us concerning the ravages of the "caterpillars." How disappointing the failure of the crops must be to Uncles Tom and Ralph. Do give them our love, and ask them not to forget us. We long to see you all so much. Mamie joins me in much love Dear Grandmama, for you and our aunts and many thanks for yours presents.

Most affectionately your fond Granddaughter

Annie E. J.

EGP

Charleston, Nov. 4th [1868]

My dear Mama,

I send a line to inform you of our safe arrival & welfare. I got down quite late on Saturday, but fortunately it did not rain while crossing the river. Benigno was very obstreperous & I missed the boys assistance a great deal. I found them all well but Alfonso whose fever had interfered with his visit to the circus² -- he has been quite well since however taking quinine & bitters every day. The others are all well. Narto has a troublesome cat! I have not seen the Hugers. Mary Man has been ill again. Bet Burnet walked to see me on election day³-- with a beautiful bonnet made by Madge quite cheerful Tell Ralph! Mrs. Mary Banderhoste is coming to stay with them \$20 per month. The people seem broken spirited! I went out today for the first time, shops very much crowded, dresses very short. I gave Bet the 10 dollars. The Mantua maker has not come to me yet-- she is considered a very good one, works for Sue Alston. My dress [fi]ts well. I heard that Phoebe & Annie passed through this place some months ago on their way North as teachers. I hardly believe it. We fare very nicely here & are quite comfortable. The little

² The John Robinson Circus Company arrived in Charleston on 29 October 1868 and departed on Sunday, 1 November 1868. Charleston *Courier*, 2 November 1868, 2.

³ The election was on Tuesday, 3 November 1868.

ones Mrs. S. takes care of by the hour. The boys have some nice companions in the neighborhood & are enjoying themselves & behaving well. The city is quiet, the nigs orderly & polite. The old spoon you gave Alfonso he sold for 85 cts. I mention this as you might like to know how silver sells. When I see the Hegers I shall no doubt have something to tell you, but so far I have seen nobody. The Barnwell Rhetts all go in the country for economy. Alfred Rhett⁴ has another daughter. Mrs. Andrew Burnett expects [torn]. Andrew has not the means to bring her down. Mary Manigault also expects to go to Santee, Ebet tells me. Please get a message to Clitus for me & tell him if he wants the Pony & cart & can pay *cash* for him to come down for him at once on Saturday or Tuesday & if he does not want him let him say so at once. John Drayton has not come as he promised. Clitus can have the whole affair for one hundred, do tell him so. I hope Tom has recovered & that his attack was not fever. Give much love to sisters & brothers & believe me Yr always affcte daughter

If you use a stamped envelope Crovatt will bring me any letters from you & I will get them the same evening.

Please give me Mamies address.

EGP

64 Mt Vernon Place [Baltimore]

25th Nov [1868]

Dearest Mamma

Your little letter was most welcome and I owe You many thanks for Your constant remembrance. I am much pleased at the idea of seeing Hattie and her children on their way to Cuba I hope she will notify me of her coming that I may collect my forces to see her. I had the happiness Yesterday of seeing all of my children. I went to the convent in the morning, walking home for the first time, and thus gained time enough to catch Emma & Fannie at their recess -- then Elliott came in the evening, but Cousin Judith had him in tow for some dates as escort to a little Dawson who was to take passage on last nights boat for Charleston so I saw him only for a moment. Miss Kummer (pronounced Koomer) has kindly invited all the girls to spend tomorrow Thanksgiving day here. The Sisters wont let Annie & Mamie come out but Mrs Semple graciously enough promises Emma & Fan for all day I am very glad they can come here for cousin Judith is in desperate straights (is there such a word) and the Peningtons are also straitened so I do not care to force an invitation from either of them. The girls will come to me early go to church, then go to the Convent, and return here to dinner. I have just seen Johnnie Elliott & Rosa -- Johnnie has accepted the invitation to St. John's Church -- Cinninati [*sic*]. I am glad of it for after Dr. Hocks, he would not have been appreciated here and Cinn is a growing place he will leave Rosa until he arranges for her, and hopes her Sister Ellen or his sister Nancy will join him to assist Rosa in housekeeping etc. he says provisions are much cheaper in Cinn than here. his Salary will be only 3,000 at first.

I am glad to say we have got through with the dentist he made poor Emma suffer very

⁴ Alfred Moore Rhett (18 October 1829-12 November 1889). Confederate Colonel, Commander, 1st. Regiment, S.C. Artillery. Killed another Confederate officer in a duel. Commanded Fort Sumter during the April 1863 ironclad attack. Captured on 15 March 1865 at Averasborough, N.C. and imprisoned in Fort Delaware, New York, until 24 July 1865. Brother of Robert Barnwell Rhett. Married on 14 August 1866 to Marie Alice Sparks, born 25 March 1848. [*South Carolina Historical Magazine*, Vol. 4, p. 63.]

much, but it could not be helped a bad tooth was overgrown by its neighbours and refused to come out. She had to keep half of it whether or no. Dr Williams only charged \$30 -- which he said was very much less than his work came to, but that was bad enough for me to pay. I went to see Mrs Drayton's friend yesterday Miss Latrobe. She is quite pleasant and inclined to be polite.

I really have so little to write of dearest Mamma, I might as well tell You who Miss Kummer is. her Mother was English of a good family. She married a Morovian Clergyman (which Miss K came to regret I think) lived in Penn. Miss K's uncle was Secretary to Wellington. She is famously educated there is nothing that She cannot do, and She is as proud and independant of patronage as any one can be. A very rich neighbor called after three Years deliberation. Miss K says She will return the visit in three years. She reads a great deal but does not care for Society, which does not seem enticing I should say in Balt there are daily weddings -- at the church close by. Carpets are being now laid in the Street, for a bridal party, to walk to the church which is near by. Edith sends much love to You all, and with ever so much from Me believe Me always Your Affect

daughter [Mary Barnwell Johnstone]

Dont be distressed about the cold for me I have a very warm cloak Mrs Richard Lowndes gave me which I already find a great comfort.

GFP

Office of the
New Orleans, Jackson & Great
Northern Railroad Company

New Orleans, December 10th 1868

My Dear Col.

Your favor of the 2d inst. has been received. I could not obtain an answer from Messrs. Perkins & Co. until yesterday. I regret to say that they can not grant you your request, which is contrary to the rules of their Co. from which they can not depart.

Their prices in greenbacks are from Cedar Keys -- \$20 -- & from St. Marks \$30 -- children 1/2 price, infants free. I send you their advertisement of the time of sailing of their steamer. I regret to hear of your disappointments, but you have this to console you, if it be a consolation, that few, very few of our late associates have met with any success since the War. The worms & the weather have continued the destructive works of the Federals. But this year things look more cheeringly.

I hope you will do better in Cuba, although matters there appear "Trés en broilléss." You may, ere long, find yourself in the midst of another revolution. Your past experience will give you, at once, an important position there, should you desire to take a part in the coming struggle. You should consider well, however, whether Cuba is not happier under Spanish rule, than it will be under the complications which may ensue, should she separate from the mother country.

With my kindest regards to your family, I remain,

Yours very truly,
G.T. Beauregard

Col. A. J. Gonzales
Charleston, So. Ca.

EGP

Thursday 10th Dec. [1868]

My Dear Mama

I received your letter with its enclosures some days ago, & should have answered it ere this but since Friday last I have been confined to my bedroom & for four days to bed, by a severe attack of Neuralgia accompanied with tooth ache. The weather has been so severe that I have been unable to visit Patrick & get him to prescribe for me. Certain it is that I never knew what tooth ache was, until I visited him last summer. Much to my disappointment Brosio has had a return of his fever, after an interval of near 50 days Alfonso too has been again sick. I may try Shollenbergers for them but have lost my faith in them. Margaret tells me they have done her no good. She has had fever recently, Oak Lawn fever she says! I was much surprised to find that Annie left on Saturday such a horrible day she could not have got dry over the river. Brosio has just returned from the Hegers & Burnets. Mary M[anigault] is preparing to leave to-morrow with both babies. I shall probably be here a week more it would have been impossible for me to leave to-morrow. The weather as I have said is most disagreeable-- how I long for a more genial climate. The sudden changes here would ruin my health. I am very glad to hear of the marmalade success. Mrs. Webb sent me some of hers -- very like yours but more bitter. They have been quite attentive to me & the younger lady is a very sweet woman. We took tea there some nights ago, on such beautiful china! She brought in the tea tray herself & her little daughters waited. Attentions here are rare so that I find myself writing of them. Ebet, good girl, has been twice to see me since I have been in my room but I have been unable to see her. I may go & tell Cornelia "good bye" she has not been to see me. If dear old Dr. Bachman is not able to christen Mino I can have it done in Savannah or Havannah either, he is getting "lovely." You must forgive this egotistical letter Having seen no one I can not tell you anything startling I merely write, to relieve any anxiety. You may fret at my silence. With much to all I am always yr aff

Hattie

We shall probably *not* change lodgings while here.

Have just received yours, without date, enclosing Mr Spencers and Marys letters. Tis Certainly most agreeable to me to know that Carolina Sports is appreciated as it deserves to be. When I am rich enough I will send to England & buy a copy. Thank you much for your offer of Carpet curtains &c but -- my bed room is quite comfortable. I have always a good fire & am not allowed to suffer for any thing. The dining room we are never in except at meal times & it would not be worth while to "fix it up" I return Mary's last letters Shall I return them all? Nano's hands will be glad of his gloves. The boys are all out. The children give me no trouble they are perfectly cheerful, happy & well behaved. We have a free passage from here to Fernandina Fla. ~~if without money we are ea~~ We know everything about the rates in Florida & dont expect to be long there. Mr Crovatt will I hope take this up to-morrow.

aaf. y.

Hattie

NA, RG 21 Records of United States District Courts, Eastern District of South Carolina, Box 55.
In the District Court of the United States
For the *Eastern District of South Carolina*
IN THE MATTER OF *A. J. Gonzales*

In Bankruptcy.

To the Hon. *George S. Bryan*,
Judge of the District Court of the United States
For the *Eastern District of South Carolina*.

The Petition of *Ambrosio J. Gonzales*, of *Charleston* in the County of *Charleston*, in said District, respectfully represents that, on the *15th* day of *December*, A.D. *1868*, *he* was duly declared and adjudged Bankrupt, under the Act of Congress entitled "An Act to Establish a Uniform System of Bankruptcy throughout the United States," approved March 2, 1867; That *he* has duly surrendered all *his* property, and rights of property and has fully complied with and obeyed all the orders and directions of the Court touching *his* Bankruptcy aforesaid; and that *he* is ready to submit to any other and further examinations, orders, and directions which the Court may require.

RG 21 Records of United States District Courts, Eastern District of South Carolina, Box 55.
PETITION BY DEBTOR

To the Hon. *George S. Bryan*
Judge of the District Court of the United States,
for the *Eastern District of South Carolina*

The Petition of *Ambrosio J. Gonzales* of the *City of Charleston*, in the County of *Charleston*, and State of *South Carolina*, and District aforesaid, Respectfully Represents: That he has *resided* for *Six (6)* months next immediately preceding the filing of this petition, at *Charleston*, within said Judicial District; that he owes debts exceeding the amount of three hundred dollars, and is unable to pay all of the same in full; that he is willing to surrender all his estate and effects for the benefit of his Creditors, and desires to obtain the benefit of the Act entitled "An Act to Establish a Uniform System of Bankruptcy throughout the United States," approved March 2, 1867.

That the Schedule hereto annexed, Marked A, and verified by your Petitioner's oath, contains a full and true statement of all his debts, and (so far as possible to ascertain) the names and places of residence of his creditors, and such further statements concerning said debts as are required by the provisions of said Act:

That the Schedule hereto annexed, Marked B, and verified by your Petitioner's oath, contains an accurate inventory of all his estate, both real and personal, assignable under the provisions of said Act.

Wherefore, your Petitioner prays, that he may be adjudged by the Court to be a Bankrupt, within the purview of said Act; and that he may be Decreed to have a Certificate of Discharge from all his debts provable under the same.

[Signed] *A. J. Gonzales*

RG 21 Records of United States District Courts, Eastern District of South Carolina, Box 55.
SCHEDULE A--3.

IN THE MATTER OF *A. J. Gonzales* BANKRUPT,
Creditors whose Claims are Unsecured.

Names of Creditors. of Debt	Residences and Occupations.	Amount	Where Contracted	Nature
Edward Lafitte account	Charleston Merchant	1,900	Charleston at different	Open
Willis & Chisolm made	" "	1,800	times & amts 1866-67 Charleston 1866	borrowed money Note, advances

& goods bought					
Thomas Bonnel (note)	“	”	200	Charleston 1866-67	advances made
W. W. Stubbs	Mount Holly N.E.R.R.	Sawyer	140	Charleston 1867	Note for wages
West & Jones (note)	Charleston	Merchants	125	Charleston 1866-67	produce box
W. Mathisson & Co.	“	”	25	Charleston 1867	Clothing (note)
C. F. Panknin	“	”	35	Charleston 1867	Note for Drugs
Klinck & Wickenberg groceries	“	”	60	Charleston 1867	a/c “
R. A. Pennal	“	”	150	Charleston 1867	“ ”
“					
Laury & Alexander	“	”	45	Charleston 1867	“ ”
“					
Archibald McLeash work done	“	Machinist	40	Charleston 1867	“ ”
Cameron & Barkley ⁵ material	“	”	70	Charleston 1867	hardware &
Raoul & Lynah	“	Druggists	10	Charleston 1867	a/c for Drugs
Adams & Damon	Charleston	Merchant	40	Charleston 1867	Acct for Hardware
Joseph Purcell money	“	Hotel Keeper	20	Charleston 1867	“ borrowed
Jno. Tuomey	“	Merchant	40	Charleston 1867	“ hardware
C. K. Huger	“	”	40	Charleston 1867	“
“					
Bissell Bros.	“	”	21	Charleston 1867	“ ”
J. E. Adger & Co.	“	”	35	Charleston 1867	“ ”
John F. Capo Engineer	“	Engineer	100	Charleston 1866	Service as
Margaret Fludd	“	House Servant	135	Charleston 1867	labour
Rosana Roach	“	”	57	Charleston 1867	Menial work
Geo. Page & Co. boiler	Baltimore	Merchants	7,000	Baltimore 1866	Acct. for Mill
Wm. C. Bee & Frank Plantation	Charleston	“	6,175	Charleston 1866	Bond for
Johnstone, Trustees of Mary Johnstone					
R. E. Elliott, Trustee	Adams Run	Planter	10,000	Charleston 1866	Bond.

[Signed] A. J. Gonzales

RG 21 Records of United States District Courts, Eastern District of South Carolina, Box 55.

SCHEDULE B--2.

IN THE MATTER OF *A. J. Gonzales* BANKRUPT

Personal Property.

D.--Household Goods and Furniture, Household Stores, Wearing Apparel, and Ornaments of the Person.

~~None~~ No Household Goods
2 Suits of clothes

[Signed] A. J. Gonzales

⁵ Cameron, Barkley & Co. sold lubricating white oak oil for machinery.

EGP

Charleston Dec. 26th [1868]

My Dear Mama,

I had intended devoting part of the morrow to writing to you, but think it best, to begin this evening not knowing what interruptions may occur. To begin with business, Your cart has been delivered to Mrs Huger & I enclose you her receipt for it. I hope you will not regret its purchase but will be able to resell it for a higher price. We are all pretty well now but Tula has had regular *chill* & fever since my last. I had really hoped that she had escaped t'is certainly the first malarial fever she has had since she came down -- will have to take Shollenbergers, I suppose. I fear you must have suffered yesterday it was so bitter cold, even today the salt water ponds are frozen, but the cold is more bearable, & I was out this morning & paid four visits. Carrie Mitchell gave me two glasses of ale which warmed me up. She looks pretty but very delicate, her baby is a sweet little fellow. They live now on the 1st floor, very fine rooms but no carpets. Mrs. Burnet & cousin Margaret have both been quite sick with cold & fever. Mrs Huger has not heard from Mary since her first letter, her father seems anxious about her -- in spite of the cold we had rather a pleasant Xmas. The chicks were very happy in their own way -- having sold some old clothes we could give them a little money which they spent in the most foolish way for such sensible boys -- Trumpets, horns, accordions, organs, & other noisy toys -- fire crackers of course. You have little idea of the amount of money squandered by people at this season. The stores have been crowded & the streets thronged for days past with those purchasing presents for their children & friends. I met Annie Stuart some days ago & she as well as I were obliged to leave a store finding no one to wait on us. Annie looks quite well & seems very cheerful. What do you think I heard to day. That in *consequence* of Mamies having such a comfortable place in Balt. with all her children, even her son, in the house with her, no room could be found for the children of Genl. Elliott who had done so much for his country--“ Is not this far fetched!-- I thought that Mamie was one of the few people who was not envied! You ask what about Nat Heyward I understand that he owes money to some extent to Savage Heyward or his wife & that in consequence, all his property has been advertised even the place he is on & he will be obliged to find another home. Ebet Burnet can give you all the particulars. Cornelia has called at last. “she thought I did not care not to see her “as a cold shoulder had been shown her & we had not written. I told her that that could scarcely apply to me as I never had written to her-- & that I thought she was quite excusable in writing for the bureau instead of slaving at her needle for low people. Thus encouraged she spoke with zest of the government pass she had inscribed three dollars per day (including sundays) &c. she stops at nothing she says-- “applied to Gov Scott for a place, as Doctor of the Jail, for Dr. Raoul -- &c. P. & A. Elliott called & spent a morning with her -- & spoke of their father in a way that she would not repeat she told Annie that their father had seemed devoted to them “all put on” A. said. They complained of having to work to educate their little sisters. Cornelia says she knew this was not true as the little one in Columbia is taught free of all charge-- better not let poor Tom hear all this. Mrs Huger has just called with a big bundle of candies for the boys & a sweet little cup & saucer for Tula-- She says she has a barrel of oranges which she is most anxious to get to you, suggested Hoppock I told her Hasel was the business man she says she knows him & he will oblige her & send it at once, she got the barrel free of freight. There are worse places to spend Xmass than a german boarding house. Mrs S. has supplied us most liberally with fruit & pound cake, Turkey &c. besides candies, fruits &c for the

children. Since the very cold weather we have our meals served in our room & are much more comfortable. all this time I have not told you when we leave, D.V. on Tuesday night in the "Dictator." I shall be next door to Aunt Meta & will see something of her I suppose. I am *too* sorry to hear of the inconvenience you suffer from the loss of Charlie surely his wife might manage to bail him out of jail. Why dont you try Sarah as cook & make Chloe maid & washer? better not overtask yourself but get some help at once. How has Tom's green pease stood this weather I hope old Thompson did not cheat in this seed.

Tis hard to tell by the papers what the true state of affairs in Cuba is, but I can not believe it very bad when the people are returning there & amusements are going on as usual. Genl Dulce a sensible man & a favorite with the people is on his way there to take the place of Lersundi⁶ who has mismanaged affairs & caused a great deal of the present trouble. I see that the prisons are filled. I trust none of our friends have been arrested.

Sunday night [27 December 1868]

I have been busy all day packing & preparing for our move in order to devote tomorrow to writing & saying "good bye" to the few friends I have here. Chicks pretty well today. Tula has just received a Christmas Box of most delicious bonbons from Mrs. Lafitte. I wish you could see & taste them. Brosio is waiting to take this to Mr. Crovatts before going to bed so I must close in haste with love to all-- Your afface.

Hattie

The Charleston *Courier*

31 December 1868, 2

BANKRUPT NOTICES

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES--FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA--IN THE MATTER OF AMBROSIO J. GONZALES, BANKRUPT--BY WHOM A PETITION FOR ADJUDICATION OF BANKRUPTCY WAS FILED ON THE 16TH DAY OF DECEMBER; 1868, IN SAID COURT--IN BANKRUPTCY. This is to give notice that on *the twenty-third day of December, A.D. 1868*, a Warrant in Bankruptcy was issued against the Estate of AMBROSIO J. GONZALES, of Charleston, in the District of Charleston, and State of South Carolina, who has been adjudged a Bankrupt, on his own petition; that the payment of any debts and delivery of any property belonging to said Bankrupt, to him or for his use, and the transfer of any property by him are forbidden by law; that a meeting of the Creditors of the said Bankrupt to prove their debts, and to choose one or more Assignees of his Estate, will be held at a Court of Bankruptcy, to be holden at No. 72 Broad street, Charleston, South Carolina, before R. B. CARPENTER, Register, on the *eleventh day of January, A.D. 1869*, at 12 o'clock, M.

J. P. M. EPPING,
United States Marshal as Messenger.

EGP

Charleston January 5th 69.

My Dear Emmie,

⁶ General Francisco Lersundi, former Carlist and Minister of War, who suppressed the 1848 revolt in Spain. Captain-General of Cuba in 1867, he was replaced by Domingo Dulce, who arrived in Havana on 4 January 1869, with a moderate reform program.

I have been intending writing ever since the New Year, to wish you all many happy returns. We have had quite a sick household since I last wrote, Mamma & Aunty, both, with colds rheumatism & fevers, I suppose caused by the intense cold weather, Christmas morning was uncommonly bitter, for Charleston, every thing frozen up, I felt a decided longing for our old time Combahee fires, while dressing, you see I am getting old enough to consider the comfortable, & practicable. Harry left us this morning after a visit of one week, we were dreadfully disappointed, at not seeing Emmie, but the wretched caterpillars, was their excuse, or rather reason, for not paying us the promised visit, three bales of cotton, instead of twelve, which H expected to make even, late in the season, makes a decided difference in their prospects, however as his planting expenses were small, he hopes to pay out, even with that crop. Our plans for this year are still uncertain, I suppose it will soon be decided, whether Father [...] the planting again. Of course you know that Hattie left for Savannah on Friday night, I saw her in the morning, they all looked bright & well, the children all seemed delighted with the idea of travelling, steamboats &ct anything in the line of moving always delights children, Harry took a little package to the boat, that I was to get for Ha, and I would have gone with him, but it looked so much like rain, I was afraid to venture, he said they were all comfortably fixed, on the steamer, I would not believe they were actually going until *then*, particularly after the accounts of the disturbance in the vicinity of Savannah, however Hattie seems very bold, and determined to be cheerful, which I think is very good phylosophy [*sic*], she says having been through one revolution, she does not feel *at all* [...] on the subject, she had a bright color, and looked just as pretty as ever, the morning I bid her good bye, Tulita was charmed with a Xmas present, she had received of a beautiful “doll, cradle & real little matress,” she was anxious to “show it to me” but unfortunately her Mamma had packed it up.

I hope that you had a merry Christmas at Oaklawn, we had a very quiet one, went to Church which was prettily dressed, with ivy, pine & moss, then was invited to a beautiful Christmas [...], we have had John Kershaw a son of the Gen staying with us, he is a smart, lively, young man, and was in a particularly, good humor, as you may suppose, being on a visit to his lady love, Luise de Saussure, so we all tried to be jolly, and said merry Christmas extensively. By the way Emmie I mailed the *anonymous* epistle, and hope it had the desired effect, have been rather curious to hear what your diplomacy had accomplished.

What do you think of my having nearly finished my letter, & just remembered to tell you of my new niece, two weeks old Andrews second daughter, you see Miss Burnets are getting numerous, Hattie wrote a two page letter giving an account of her beauties &ct the morning after her birth she has dark blue eyes & black hair her Papa sent a lock in a letter, to prove its luxuriance, it is said to resemble Mamma, and is to be called “Anne Smith.” With love in which Mamma, Aunty, join to Cousin Anne, Annie & yourself

As Ever Yours Affectionately

Ebet Burnet

EGP

Cedar Keys, Florida Jany 14th [1869]

Mrs A. H. Elliott

Adams Run South Carolina

My dear Mother

I wrote you a tremendous epistle from Savannah in which I promised that if

possible I would again write before leaving the country. We left Sav. on Saturday reaching Fernandina at 3 a.m. did not reach the hotel until near daylight. We had comfortable beds & were allowed to rest in quiet until late in the morning. We stopped at the "Virginia House" the best hotel in the Town kept by some friends of the Pinckneys the "Paynes" who took Maria from the Orange Springs home to their house-- when she was an invalid at that place. They were quite kind & delighted to see people from the South they have so much to do with Yankees who are there for health. One of these daughter of Com. Vanderbilt (worth 65 millions) is a resident of the hotel, with her consumptive husband-- whom she is most anxious to get rid of. She wears cheap calico & says she is very poor-- her father having given her nothing but a house-- Annie Fuller came to see me very sweet & lady like & more talkative than I supposed possible, for her. Poor soul she seems lonely & must feel like a Fish out of water! although prettily situated & delightfully cool in summer Fer-- is but a dreary place & t'is very well that Mamie did not accept Bishop Youngs invitation. The Bishop too has removed to Palatka-- so although I had a letter to him I did not see him. We were detained at Fernandina on Monday by a violent gale & did not leave until day light on Tuesday. We reached this after dark, having been on the cars all day. We are not at the best house in this little place(a very open one) but the people are decent & the fare very good. The steamer should have been here Tuesday night but she has not yet made her appearance & we are enjoying the salt air, fish & oysters-- although the bill will be hardly so enjoyable. If it had not been for our free passage from Charleston to this port we could not have come. Travelling in this State is awfully expensive. This is a lovely spot & I often think how Papa would have enjoyed it-- We are all well Narto has had a return of fever in spite of his pills, is on a second box-- We were treated with distinguished kindness in Sav. & in deed every where. Billy Habersham desires to be most kindly remembered to you all-- He came on board the vessel to bid us good bye with the most delicious sugar plums for Tulita. My young lady received just as we were leaving a tremendous wax doll from an old friend of her Papa's Wallace Cumming & his wife gave us a delightful drive the eve before we left beautiful [...] & fast horses. Mrs. White & Mrs. William Elliott also called for me to drive but I was out or unable to go. Aunt Meta & her family are charming. Mary is very french in manner & appearance-- a dear little widow-- The Steamer is in sight! Good bye to all.

With a great deal of love

Yr affate

Hattie

EGP

64 Mt Vernon Place
Monday 18th Jany [1869]

Dearest Mamma

I did not write Yesterday because I was in bed all day, keeping quiet, and heavy dosed with spiced blackberry cordial I indulged too freely in with mince pie I suppose on Saturday, and was made sick by it-- I am all right again, and must make up for lost time by writing to You although there is really so little to tell You.

I am grateful in reporting "all well" as far as I know -- for I have not seen the convent girls since Tuesday. Emma & Fan were miserable at not seeing me in Church Yesterday so I sent to tell them by Edith that they might ask Mrs Semple to let them pay me a visit as I was sick but she snubs them so often they were afraid to ask her. The weather was so fine last week, I asked

Cousin Judith (who is now free from Mrs Draper's control) to pay a visit or two to some old ladies who came Months ago to meet me -- it took us to a new part of the city -- and in finding the places -- which She did not know -- we lost much time. One old lady was quite ill from having swallowed or rather from having been choked with a mutton bone, so we did not see her -- Cousin Judith is not succeeding at all -- indeed She is often without the means of sending to market and has to borrow where She can -- is always therefore in debt and but for keeping upon account of others She says She would go to the Home -- Sophia is a helpless goose -- always lamenting their condition and Lottie & Allie -- her Niece & Nephew are only a care & expense-- Their house is kept in a harum scarum way -- which is not comfortable to boarders and so poor Cousin Judith has no certain help from them-- She will miss the Pennington's who always helped her on an emergency -- they telegraphed of their safe arrival in Savannah [on] Saturday.

Elliott is quite well -- he seems to be getting broader -- his fresh air life agrees with him I hope -- There is so much disease in the city -- each day's exemption is a great gain -- Miss Kummer's grocer has lost four children in ten days from Scarlet fever -- he has employed a homoeopathic Physician -- but his neighbors have now insisted upon his calling in other Drs as he has two more children ill -- fortunately none of Miss K's pupils are sick.

The weather is rainy to day but a very mild winter is predicted by old folks -- to succeed a Summer of Locusts.

I hope to hear of Ralph's plans for planting being more matured soon -- and that Tom's hopes in the Phosphate business may be encouraged.

Anne must not "knock herself up" with gardening -- has Emmie tried the pumpkin chips -- with lemon juice and peel they are pretty and nice -- and I suppose the darkies still have pumpkins.

They have in Balt immense establishments for canning fruits -- which destroys the demand for preserves.

Elliott met Johnnie on Saturday he arrived here at 11 and took Rosa off at 4-- Florence Fuller having measles in the house I suppose hurried them off . Rosa is by no means strong and imagines herself very delicate. John has a nice house ready for her. Nancy will follow -- Good bye darling Mamma -- best love to all I must hurry for the Post -- With Edith's love. Your devotedly attached

Mary

Always tell me of Hattie please. Has the Col. given up Social Hall to his creditors? or is it rented? Is there no phosphate there?

EGP

Havana Jany. 23d [1869]

Mrs A. H. Elliott

Adams Run South Carolina

This is the fourth day since my arrival my dear Mother & I should have written ere this to inform you of our prosperous voyage, but for circumstances which I shall mention later. We left Cedar Keys on Thursday afternoon-- (I wrote to you just before leaving) & did not arrive in Havana until the Wednesday Morning-- remaining at anchor in Tampa bay for a day & a half-- & spending about 16 hours at Fort Jefferson The Tortugas-- a pleasant looking place in spite of what has been said of it. We of course did not land but others did & enjoyed the music & sea breeze. T'is here that the doctor who attended to the wound of "Booth" is confined for life! Also

the manager of the theatre who is *supposed* to have connived at his escape! Even the Yankee officers condemn such severity (I hear) & hope that they will soon be released. At Tampa I had the pleasure of seeing Just Reed famous in the war, second in command of the Alabama"-- he who once made the Yankee Navy tremble, is now the captain of a small schooner & supports himself by transporting in her the supplies for the garrison at Tampa! He resembles Tom very much in face-- works with his own hands-- & looks every inch a man. The Yankees at Tortugas are very numerous & are a miserable looking set-- some of the officers got on board for a pleasure trip to this place one of them with a pretty creole wife, who said she was a good rebel. Another yank officer had a very pretty Florida girl as his wife-- The Alliance is a fine ship, with most commodious state rooms, & excellent fare, but the Capt. was in the Navy during the war & some of his crew were radicals. We spent a night & a day at Key West-- a lovely spot-- here we had the pleasure of seeing our friend Mr. Mallory who was there on business he gave us a delightful drive all over the Town-- & was charmed with the boys & much pleased to find he was Alfonso's god father! 10 months in a Yankee prison nearly killed him he said but he is better looking than he used to be. The voyage from Key West was very rough the ship rocked terribly but I am told its usually so in the gulf-- before I finish with Key West I will mention what Mr. M. told us. Tis a great place for sponges as you know. Well 1 hundred tons of these are exported annually for the purposes of making mattresses. They are cut up by machinery, undergo some chemical process & make t'is said most delightful beds. The view of the Havanna harbour is worth alone a trip to the Island! T'is grand & lovely both. The sky & water the view of the Town. The Morro Castle, the splendid ships, some of them with bands of music on board. The numberless boats with colored awnings. The venders of delicious fruit who crowd around the vessel-- all combined to give a most delightful sensation. Lola is a very sweet & handsome old lady-- said to be over seventy, looks about 48, she is delighted with the children & is as kind as possible-- her house is handsome & one of the best located in the city, but a little way from the Paseo de Isabella Segunda" one of the most beautiful places in Havana. I was there last evening & can not picture to myself a more lovely spot. There can be none more beautiful in Paris even. The wealth & magnificence of this city is very great, & I am somewhat bewildered by the life & noise which seems to be as great as in New York. The climate is delightful but the nights are cool enough to render cotton flannel wrapper & handkerchief indispensable. When I write again I will give you some description of the houses ect. Now I will mention why. My letter has been so delayed-- since my arrival I have had both Alfonso & Ambrosio quite sick with fever. The latter was quite sick for a day. They had each taken a bottle of Shalenbuger. They were not as sea sick as they should have been, but I hope now with some dosing & more S--e they will get rid of these hateful fevers. The boys are of course delighted with every thing. Louis is here & devoted to them. I am sorry my letter is not better worth the ten cents you will have to pay for it. I am anxious to hear from you T'is more than a month since I have heard-- Trust that you received my letter from Savannah containing directions for your letters. Good bye my dear Mama love to all & to Mary when you write.

Your aff--

Hattie

Jany 29th

My letter was too late for the mail. I regret the delay. The boys are ~~better~~ well again. Better look after Mantoue his cotton claim was to have been settled ere this & hes had a fair chance of success. I have always forgotten to write you this.

EGP

Baltimore, January 27 [1869]
Eclectic Institute⁷
37 & 39 Mt. Vernon P.

Dearest Grandmama:

I have been watching eagerly for Madam's departure for her evening stroll, and am taking advantage of her absence in a most gratifying manner.

Mama was here to day and told us of aunt Hattie's sad separation from you all. I am too sorry she has decided to go so far away but trust it may be in her power to return in more prosperous times. Besides the satisfaction of seeing dear Mama, our greatest pleasure is to hear of you, and your letters to her are highly appreciated all around.

We are getting on more amicably with Mrs Semple now than at first. I suppose it is because we attach less importance to our numerous bad marks knowing that we received them for breaking very trifling rules such as forgetting to wear a thick [...] veil after sun down; or not asking in french for what we want at table. We room with two little Yankees, who are nice refined girls and are kind generally, the other sixteen girls are from Virginia and South Carolina but none that we ever met before. Mrs Semple is unfortunately not appreciated in Baltimore as much as she expected (being a president's daughter) to which fact she is constantly alluding, and our short stay with Miss Kummer showed us a great difference in the management of affairs generally. She tries how ever to be kind but is so out of practice that she does not know how to begin. I am very sorry for her though for she cannot keep her servants and has to work very hard sometimes. We went two days ago to practise, in a large hall set aside for the purpose, our pieces, which are to be played at the Concert. That accompanies the approaching examination.

Feb. 6th. This unfortunate letter has lain in my desk over a week, it has not been forgotten, dearest Grandmama, but we have been so desperately busy, I could not even find time to write Mama a note. Since I commenced this our concert has taken place, it was quite a success I believe altho' of course the pieces were adapted to the age and abilities of the girls, who were mostly very young.

Two days ago we lost our best french teacher, he died of an overdose of chloroform I am sure Mrs Semple will never be able to obtain so talented a person again.

I long so to know of aunt Hattie's safe arrival in Cuba, how will she ever get on with you so far away and no one to help her take care of Tula and all the rest. I trust how ever that she will form some [...] friends there.

I hope my next letter will not be so disconnected. I wished very much to write an entirely new one to day but visitors, such a novelty, interrupted the short time I had hoped to spend with you.

How is Aunt Emmie getting on with her preserves they cannot but be a success. Fannie sends, with me, a great quantity of love to you dear Grandmama, also to Aunt Annie Aunt Emmie Uncle Tom & Uncle Ralphie. I remain your attached & devoted little grand-daughter

Emmie [Johnstone]

⁷ Ambrosio Jose Gonzales would later teach at the Eclectic Institute in 1872.

EGP

White Oak Feb 14th 1869

Thanks dear Emmie for your letter and I will try and surprise you by answering now regularly. Hearing from my friends is now one of the greatest pleasures I have and I also enjoy a chat feeling that I can say what I please to you. I am delighted that Annie enjoyed her little visit it gave us great happiness and I hoped that your Mother and yrself would have been able to go down for a few days and I still hope that before you move to Adams Run you will do so. Willie's wedding in consequence of a business visit to New Orleans has been postponed until April, at present I see no change of my being there, the sea voyage and expense almost too much for me. They are to be married at Church as quietly as possible this is all that I know of the arrangements as yet. Mama has promised to keep a sort of diary for my benefit so far I have recd. but one despatch. I am very anxious to hear of Hattie. I was unwilling for her to go to Cuba just now on acct. of her delicate situation, and the unsettled state of affairs there. I think I told Annie that I wld. not be surprised if they took the General in Charge for it is a miserably suspicious government and at most as impossible as the United States. I am afraid that the Genls. detention in Morro Castle will prove a great annoyance to Hattie tho' he will probably be released in a few days, her being admired in Sav-- or wherever she may go gratifies me very much, but one must know her well to appreciate her at her true value. Please let me know immediately any news that you may receive of them. I have had long and cheerful letters from Mary, she is indeed a wonderful woman and her letters always have a beneficial effect upon us. Wm. Johnstone dined with us last Sunday and said that he heard that Mary had written to his Uncles that it was his intention to look [...] for

[The rest of this letter from Mary P. Manigault to Emily Elliott is missing]

EGP

64 Mount Vernon Place
Febry 20th [1869]

Dearest Mamma

Your letter was most gratefully welcomed by me Yesterday. The news from Hattie was most relieving to My anxiety for her, and I hope now that letters can find their way to You. You may hear with regularity. I trust if the Col was arrested it will serve to make him extra careful of himself in future and Hattie will I hope be benefitted by the change, from her late life of daily care.

Your combined Kindness in so warmly offering Annie the opportunity of recruiting at your little snugery is most grateful to me and Annie seems quite touched by it. She received yesterday the most loving invitation from Sallie Bee and I received at the same time a *very* kind letter from Mr Bee urging me to send Annie to spend several months with Alice and himself and enclosing Annie a draft for a hundred dollars to enable her to go was it not considerate. The same mail brought another letter from Alice promising every care, if I would let her have Annie first and a very kind letter from Mrs Pringle also with a warm invitation. So You see darling Mamma although homeless I am not friendless. I felt with these five letters waging the same thing that I ought to take advantage of the proffered change for Annie and I still hope to do so later but I was disappointed when Dr Binkler said positively it must not be thought of Yet that Annie is not strong enough to go. She must be fed up, and taken great care of -- for the last three days she has taken a quart a day of lager beer and is beginning to take a little more nourishment. People are

very good in sending her nice things -- which so far she has not fancied. The Dr says she can have whatever she wants he is giving her quinine & iron again -- her cough is better in the day, but keeps her awake at night. Dont be anxious about me for now that Cousin Judith has moved quite near I go to and fro without fatigue. it is a great comfort to sleep with Annie and attend to her wants in the morning while the family and servants are busy. Mamie and Eliza come often to see Annie. The Sisters seem very anxious, and want her back but that is a matter to be decided in the future. Elliott spends his evenings in Annies room and of course I see him there. Emma & Fan I have seen for only a few moments at a time for several weeks. Cousin J is as good as she can be. Poor soul her arm is still useless and painful from her fall. Did I tell you that Mrs Rosa Izzard had invited Annie to stay with her, carried her oranges, her daughters took her a beautiful bouquet and to cap the climax -- She drew out of her pocket a pair of Red gloves and Scarf, which had been "wrapped up for me since Christmas." She lives in a handsome home close by -- but talks poor.

I must close for to night dearest Mamma, with fondest love to Sisters, Brothers and Yourself ever Your devoted Mary

EGP

Havana Feby. 27th [1869]

Mrs. A. H. Elliott

My dear Mother

I wrote to you before leaving Charleston. Again, from Sav. from Cedar Keys Fla & upon my arrival here. This will make the fifth letter I have sent you & not one word in reply. I presume that the letter from Sav. which contained my address may not have reached you & send this to the care of your factor hoping it may meet with better success. When I wrote you last I was just recovering from an attack of fever & one of those horrible dumb chills, which used to annoy me but good nursing & Chagres pills got me up again & I am grateful to say that I have had no return . The children have not been so fortunate two bottles of Shal. as well as other pills having failed to cure them we have been obliged to resort to quinine every day to keep them well. They look remarkably well however & are pronounced a "beautiful family." Things here are very sad. Numbers are leaving the Island. I am sorry that so much gold should go to the Yankees-- we do all we can to recommend southern cities if there were good steamers to Charleston & Sav. it would pay well now. G. has given Miss Judith Chefills address to a family who wished to know of a good boarding house in Balt. & will give it to others-- so Mamie's good friend may I hope benefit by this exodus. My husband met some days ago Capt Reid of the "Liberty" who said it was currently reported in the States that he was a prisoner in the "Morro" & that friends in Balt & Charleston had instructed him to find me out & take me back to Bee & Ravenel among them. The origin of this report I suppose to be this-- When we arrived here our passports were taken ashore shortly afterward a message came from Genl Dulce requesting an interview with G. & refusing permission to land to all the passengers until he had seen him. This of course annoyed the Yankees who had come with their wives for the trip, the steamer returning the next day & wished to land as soon as possible. They were soon let off however for all Genl Dulce wanted to know was G's object in visiting the Island at this time & having his assurance & that of a mutual friend that it was to make a support for his family-- he gave him free permission to land at once & ~~has been~~ but the Yanks made up a story to suit themselves & now good bye t'ill I hear from you for if you dont write I must suppose you dont care to hear of me. Better

direct your letter to the care of "Zaldo Fesser & Co" & excuse this shabby letter which I write at night & with an inflamed eye. Much love from Chicks & self to all. Write of M. & M. Manigault the Hugers -- & Bet Burnet & so good bye dear Mama. In my last I told you to look after Mantoue who had a good prospect of having the cotton claim settled in his favor.

Yr aff

Daughter [Hattie]

Enclosed a few stamps to pay for my letters to you. Will send more another time.

EGP

White Oak Feb 28th [1869]

Friday's mail brought me your nice long letter my dear Mrs Elliott, and I cannot tell you how much I enjoyed it for you know how dear yourself and children are to me and all that concerns them is of deep interest to me. I had been relieved about Hattie by Emmie's letter to Mama which she enclosed me, altho I felt sure that *if* the General was in prison it could only be for a few weeks. Still I was very anxious about Hattie, surrounded by Shangus, and under circumstance to aggravate every annoyance. Poor Marys troubles are a great grief indeed "we must deplore our poverty" when one trial after another presents itself which might at least be alleviated by money. I trust that Anne⁸ will pass right thro' Charleston and pay her visit to you first for I do not think the climate there suited to one just recovering from any attack of the lungs, and feel confident that rest, country air, Uncle Tom and Aunt Annes gardening, Emmies housekeeping, and dear Grandmama's society will soon restore her to her usual health. poor child she made a sad mistake in concealing her indisposition from her Mother. You say that "Mamie also has a cough, and a place in the country, when they may [...] is the hope held out by Mary's friends for these dear children" I hope that she is as yet staying with friends for to begin the arduous duties of a Governess or Teacher of any kind would I think be unwise while feeling badly. I regret so much that the inducements that I can hold out to bribe them to visit me, would hardly compensate for the expense and disagreeables of getting here. besides if Anne is nervous I am afraid the neighborhood filled with painful associations would be too severe an ordeal. Since I have been on Santee I have paid no visits expressly to avoid going to Annandale to return Mrs Haywards repeated and enviable calls, but about a fortnight ago I was obliged to go there to return Mrs. Waldo's visit. They urged me to spend the day several times while she was here even offering to drive over for me but going to the house made our pet too, too sad. The furniture is all changed but the piano was standing in the old place and I think I recognized Mary's carpets. The young people seem happy and contented there, and I suppose they are not to be blamed for enjoying their comfortable surroundings as Mr. Johnstone thought he had made a good arrangement for his family in disposing of the place. but what a glorious excuse Mr Trenholm could have given for presenting her with ten or fifteen thousand dollars, but he is neither a liberal or high man. I intend writing to Mary by this mail, but will be delighted if either yourself or Emmie will keep me informed about Hattie and her self for I feel that it is an imposition to ask her to write frequently if only a line and I cannot help feeling very uneasy. It is a comfort to know that Miss Koomer and Miss Chiffille are so attentive and kind. The postponement of Willie's wedding until April of course Mama has written to Emmie, can't you make it convenient to pay them a little visit about that time. Mama urges my going down if only for a

⁸ Anne Johnstone, who died of tuberculosis at the age of nineteen, in Baltimore, on 31 August 1869.

week but the expense, and unnecessary exposure, are greater than I feel authorized to incur for my own gratification. The accts of Arty are not very satisfactory either. Mama writes that he has commenced growing again is desperately thin, and that they are working him very hard, additional reasons for my desiring to go down but I must content myself where I am for the present. Do thank Ralph for the potato seeds, and Tom for the variety. The Marion has not yet arrived but all of our preparations are made and I trust we will succeed better this year with vegetables

[The rest of this letter from Mary P. Manigault to Mrs. Anne H. Elliott is missing]

EGP

Havana March [1869]

Mrs Anne H. Elliott

My Dear Mama

I had the pleasure of receiving your letter of the 16th of last month, about eleven days after it was written. I had written to you but a day or two before the receipt of yours, [...] that it reached you through your factor in Charleston. Letters sent me require a 10 ct postage stamp, & those sent from here have also, to be paid for in "The States"-- so I enclose a few stamps in this & in my last, that the burden of the correspondence may not fall entirely upon you. I am so glad to hear of "The judicious arrangements" made for planting at Oak Lawn & sincerely hope they may prove so at the end of the year. That Tom will also get some employment worthy of his perseverance & energy-- it would give me great pleasure to learn. Tell him I thought much of him when I visited the Market, early last month, every vegetable that is seen at the North & South-- at all seasons I saw there, besides numbers, peculiar to the tropics. Then the fruit, & the fish-- rose colored, sky blue & yellow striped with black, too pretty to be eaten. Potatoes (Irish) brought from Spain, weighing about 2 lbs a piece are sold here at \$1.50 cts per barrel (What would Hoppock think of this--) They are also raised here, as well as celery & cabbage which would do credit to the North, but to another subject. This is "Holy Thursday" & more like Sunday than Sunday is like itself. The fact is The way they keep the Seventh day here is somewhat startling to one from a protestant country. The stores are all open buying & selling go on as usual. The Theatres do a great business, as for many people tis the only day of recreation. The ladies in silks & laces spend a short time at Mass ~~in the~~, at night one hears splendid music on the Plaza de Armas-- but to-day is quiet & to-morrow will be more so, no carriages being allowed. The whole day, a God send to those who live on fashionable streets.

I am *too* sorry to hear of Mamies troubles but trust Annie is well or nearly so ere this. I hope that she will spend March & April with you, change of climate in the first attack is most important. Do give much love to Mary & her children for me. I should be very glad to hear from her. Sister also suffering from Neuralgia I very much regret to hear of-- it always was a matter of surprise to me Mrs. H's allowing her to leave on such a terrible day. Many persons believe that neuralgia is caused by Malaria. I have not had a touch since I had the fever & was cured. I trust A's will disappear with the warm weather which you must now be having. T'is very warm here at midday but the mornings & evenings are always cool with delightful breezes.

Bands of music pass here daily & lots of soldiers a great delight to the children. Havana has been the scene of great excitement t'is very quiet now. I had a fine view of the Capt Genl his body guard & a large number of troops he was inspecting, two days since. Poor Genl Dulce he certainly has a hard time of it & looks worn & ill-- but I have no intention of writing on politics.

Pedro Guiteras is in much grief having lost his second married daughter Elvira. Benigno Gener has his eldest son in prison in the Cabanas taken in a schooner which was bringing arms from Nassau. He is in great distress not knowing what his fate may be. I understand that neither Pedro or Benigno, have anything to do with the present revolution. Aldama is on his plantation with his family. T'is the general belief that he has contributed largely to the movement-- & the feeling against him is intense. His palace here was only saved by the coolness & presence of mind of Pepe Alfonso who happened to be here at the time, but the portion belonging to his son in law Del Monte (a well known abolitionist) was severely dealt with. You want to hear of the boys? They have been free from fever since taking quinine which I have reduced to 2 qrs daily & will soon stop with altogether. They look well but would be the better for country air. Tulita, poor little darling, has out grown her strength I think & it appears that she is still suffering from her two summers in the pine lands-- she is very much noticed by her relatives. They find her the image of her father's younger sister who was very much beloved. Benigno wins all hearts & is a universal favourite, he *is* a fascinating little dare devil gives more trouble than all the rest together, he is quite fat & white & is often taken for a girl. One of his aunts servants makes an idol of him making him some present (fortunately wholesome) every day-- & repeating his wonderful speeches & ways as dotingly as Kate could do. When he gets in a tantrum she begs the children to let him have his way "& not to mind his ill treatment"-- As for his Aunt, something nice to eat, is with her, a sovereign cure for all his naughtiness. The Step grandmother of the chicks & their uncles & another Aunt who lives in Hav. are charmed with them & they have spent several days there, much to their delight. Alfonso reads fairly now, & writes (on the slate) a very good hand he takes to Cuban ways & cookery & his delight at the splendid oxen (which are raised here) & the beautiful horses & equipages which are constantly passing is very great. I spent a delightful day in "The Cerro" last week, with the family of the Pizarros (of the old Nobility) charming people. The wife is from Belgium & speaks English, her daughter speaks it like an Englishwoman. They live in a palace (to me) such spacious halls, marble floors, beautiful vases & adornments from Italy. The building very large & of two stories-- enclosed the fountain & gardens quite a novelty to me. T'is very nice to be rich in this country.

Good Friday

Yesterday was a great day here all no vehicles being allowed from 5 in the afternoon until ten o'clock. The streets were filled with people most of them ladies in splendid costumes all going to visit the churches which are brilliantly illuminated & adorned. The soldiers too with arms reversed-- & the officers from Spain in splendid ~~costumes~~ uniforms added to the novelty & beauty of the scene. We all went to two of the churches near by & the chicks were highly delighted-- in spite of the immense crowd. The silence & decorum were most impressed.

Pray excuse this greasy letter I did not discover the condition of the paper until too late to rewrite. I trust that a letter of yours is on its way to me with good news of all-- & with much love from the children & self to you all I remain dear Mama yr affate

Daughter

P.S. I am sorry you did not receive my Savannah epistle. I spent there a most delightful week My relatives & my husbands friends were quite devoted & we were receiving attentions to the very last.

H.R.G.

EGP

Havana April 14th [1869]

How much I thank you Dearest Mamie for your sweet affectionate letter, full of interest to us all. Since leaving Carolina I have heard but once & that letter was written as long ago as the 16th of Feby. Mama told me then of Annies illness & not having heard again I felt very anxious. I rejoice to hear of the dear child's improvement, & trust that her visit to Oak Lawn will restore her health & bring back her rosy cheeks. I can appreciate your anxieties my dear Sister for we have been in much trouble about our little girl. She has been *very* sick & most distressing cough with frequent fever, reduced her so much, that we were miserable about her. She is now much better & improving daily, her cough troubles her but little & she has a good appetite. Benigno too has been quite sick but is well again, his constitution has not been injured by those terrible fevers. I wish you could see him he is so different from the ugly little baby you remember, & his intelligence & attractive ways make him a great darling, with ladies, particularly-- in his great fondness for society he resembles his grandfather. The boys have grown a great deal & are helpful & affectionate I wish I could say that they were *well* but Alfonso has had a return of fever & I fear the others will not be more fortunate. I had hoped that the climate & four grains of quinine each day would have rid them of their tormenting fevers but I have been disappointed & it seems we are always to feel the effects of our residence in the Pine Land. The children read a great deal of history & are acquiring Spanish rapidly. Alfonso is taught by his brothers & Narto delighted with the intelligence & docility of Tulita has taken her as a pupil. We are most anxious for country air for the children & hope to move soon to the immediate neighborhood of Matanzas. The number of healthy locations in *this* neighborhood, where he could have placed us in summer, made Gonzie most desirous of obtaining employment in Havana-- but his advertisement & the influence of friends have been of no avail & nothing can be found-- he has heard lately of a vacancy in a college in Matanzas, which it is probable he will obtain, his friends are anxious to have him settle there & without doubt will find some employment for him. Were it not for this unfortunate revolution we should long ere this have been comfortably settled, but under present circumstances a very little would content us, provided the children could get well-- but poverty & sickness are hard to bear, but I wont croak ~~any more~~ to you dear Mamie. You have so many troubles of your own & bear them so [...]. When next you write tell me of each of the children. Remember me to Miss Hannah. I hope she is getting on well. Do you ever hear from Miss Hinckle? I was so glad to hear of Mary Manigault & her little ones. Should you write to her please give her much love from me.

H. R. Gonzales

Thanks for your remembrance of G's aunt. She has been an invalid for some time & laments her loneliness upon the departure of the family. The little children & herself are quite devoted although neither can understand a word she or him says.

EGP

64 Mt Vernon Place
25th April [1869]

Dearest Mamma

My letter will I know be acceptable this time for I enclose one from Hattie received Yesterday. You will be glad to get news so recent although it is not cheering to hear of the poor boys continuing sick. I will write to Hattie and give her a Virginians receipt for the cure of chill & fever which he had for nine Years. he is a splendid specimen now of health, and the remedy

can do no harm, being only red pepper & whiskey. Have You the direction Hattie sends me?
Messers Zaldo Fesser & Co para Mrs A J Gonzales Havana

Capt Reed is so busy too have not seen him -- but he sent Cousin Judith all sorts of fruits & vegetables and promised a visit. Annie is dressed up to day in a new suit (prepared when expecting to go South) and shows her extreme delicacy poor child more than ever -- in the present state of cousin Judith's household -- She has quite a resource in a nice Boston lady who is closely related to the Sears Appletons & Amory's -- her name is Mrs Dr. Montand (so pronounced) I do not know how it is spelt. She has been South for health and is delaying here until the spring changes are over. She is very refined and seems to sympathise with Southerners. Cousin J never leaves Allie who is ill in the 4th story. Sophia keeps house in a stragglng way and leaves the table often to cry over Allie, who is I think a shade better but very ill, and the Dr says 8 weeks longer at least it will take to get him out of bed -- different gentlemen sit up at night to help him. Cousin S requiring aid to manage him he is so delirious from the excessive quantity of anodyne. Elliott took his turn night before last. Yesterday Emma & Fan had their monthly holiday but as it began only at 12 oclock, I was engaged here, and could see them only for a moment on their way to the Convent to visit Mamie who is very homesick. They took Edith and the Sisters have kept her and wish her to spend to night also -- but I will send Elliott for her as I feel sure she does not wish to remain -- and lose her good marks [...]. Mrs Pennington paid Annie a long visit a few days ago. (So those were Oaklawn flowers brought by her little boy for Annie's pleasure) poor Emmie does not look at all improved by her trip South -- has lost ten pounds. I think they may all go to Europe this summer to stay several years which will be a great loss to us.

Good bye darling Mamma love to Sisters & brothers and an abundance for Your dear Self -- how I wish I could see You all
Your loving Mary

EGP

Havana April 29th [1869]

Dearest Mama

I had the great pleasure of reading yesterday your three letters which Zuldo & Fesser had quietly retained at their office although their chief clerk is here almost every day, they never informed him of their arrival. I will give you his address & for the future I hope to receive your communications with greater expedition. I had heard of you, but once since your letter of Feb. 2, Mamie having been kind enough to write me, in the midst of all her trials, a very sweet letter-- she mentioned having just heard from you & that you were all well. I told her in my reply of my trials with sickness & particularly of Tulitas attack which caused us so much unhappiness. She is now quite well -- cherry pectoral & a Tea of "Cordial flowers" much used here having completed her cure. How much I regret to find by your letter of the 8th that poor Annie [Johnstone] will not be able to visit Oak Lawn. I fear her case is more serious than you seem inclined to believe but the waters of the Rock Bridge Alum have restored to health many more seriously ill. I remember a Miss Bingham of N.G. who had been almost given up by her physician & yet became strong & well before she left those springs. I do trust Annie will recover sufficiently to enable her to visit them when I am sure she will experience benefit-- she must not be discouraged if she does not at once feel better from taking the waters. I have heard invalids complain that they seemed at first to aggravate the disease, but they found out their mistake after

persevering in their use. We are all pretty well. This month until the 21th was delightfully cool so cool that my thick dresses were quite agreeable in the evenings. T'is now warm but such sea breezes as we have at nights & such moonlights ~~you~~ I never imagined anything more beautiful. Havana has been very gay lately the arrival of the volunteers from Catalonia having been the occasion of great festivities in their honors. The houses & streets were beautifully decorated & at nights brilliantly illuminated cal lights-- chinese lamps-- flowers-- music & fireworks. The chicks enjoyed it extremely-- & I found I was still young enough to be amused. My health has improved a great deal lately from a strong Tonic I have been taking-- plenty of wine at breakfast & dinner I find too very beneficial. Is it possible I have not spoken to you of the delightful fruit? Fried bananas for breakfast *boiled* for dinner are served here as regularly as rice & homeny & if you had ever eaten them in this way you would not care for them uncooked. The oranges have been delightful Pine apples, Cubans say, are not eatable till August. The sugar cane is most refreshing & wholesome & the chicks enjoy it a great deal. You must excuse the horrible letters I send you I hope to do better in future. We leave the day after tomorrow for Matanzas & I am very busy making preparations for the move-- have staid away from dinner today in order to have the time to write this, which does not mean that I have sacrificed a meal but only taken it in a quarter of the usual time allotted to said meal.

We will stay for a few days with the Ximenos, our good friends & I will try & write you from their house. You must not feel uneasy at not hearing regularly, for I expect to be very busy getting to rights housekeeping &c Lola was pleased at your message & desires her thanks & "memorial." Such a beautiful dress & exquisite fan as the old Lady presented me with a few days since I should like you to have seen. Dress *making* here is extremely reasonable so much so that I could afford to have two dresses made for Tula, which with a lovely little hat was sent her by a lady from Matanzas. The little girl is a great darling & deservedly so. She is gentle, intelligent & most affectionate perfectly obedient & very pretty. She speaks constantly of Gd Mama & uses the fan you gave her to fan me with every day She sends you many messages about her dolls &c which I have not now time to give. I have not yet told you that Gonzie has occupation engaged in Matanzas, as professor of English & french in a government institute classes in another college & lessons if he will have the time very good for these troublous times & I am much pleased at his having so quiet an occupation. The country has been in a terrible condition but things are much better since Genl Dulce & the Volunteers have come to an understanding. A brother in law of the Capt Genl was one of those he was obliged to send away. I have seen more of civil war *here*, than in the four years at the South. Lola has never had children, which no doubt the large family of grand nephews & nieces who live on her think a fortunate circumstance. She, like everyone else is a sufferer by the condition of things nobody wants to pay. Ruis has nine houses without tenants & has great difficulties in obtaining rents from those that are inhabited he is very kind & friendly exerting himself to find a place for G. but in vain-- has very particular friends have left the Island. The boys send much love Brosio will write when he "feels settled" Mr. Lafitte will pay taxes on S.H. *this* year.

Much love to all in much haste Yr affate.

daughter [Hattie]

Will try & answer your questions from Matanzas. G. much obliged for your remembrances.

EGP

[*The sides of this letter are torn*]

Pueblo Nuevo⁹
[May 18, 1869]

Dearest Mama,

Nearly a fortnight has
away since my arrival & my promised
not written! I have been lazy & can
do better in future. I [...] you
leaving Havana & sent the lit[...]
care of Hoppock. We are
with Matanzas & its people
new & quick portion of the
hotel as they are called here kept & almost reasonable rates &
at us to stay here for the next
[...]ted of going to keep house
I should have been [...]
servants & a foreign tongue
assist me. his duties taking
whole morning. The climate of C[...]
to that of Havana. W[...]
cool breezes all day long & the
that I am obliged to keep
no flannel gowns. The sea is q[...]
They enjoy a scamper on the beach
up chills extremely. Gs friends are
to his children & admire them.
Brosio thinks it very singular that
[...]tty should be found about him
left their house where they
have request that
go each day & spend it
so that I have never
home, for they have at seven
& return at night, sometimes
You can imagine their
[...]isits when I tell you that they have
beautiful establishment, exquisite
library shelves & a fine
all sorts of animals are dome[...]
white rabbits, peacocks, a monkey
Then english is spoken
there being three american
herself speaking it rem[...]
have been *so* kind to us that
my writing so much about
fitted out the *three* boys with
site & with so much interest
quite delightful. Mrs. X. se[...]
sending for the tailor to give
Mr. X.¹⁰ giving himself all sorts

⁹ Pueblo Nuevo was the town opposite the city of Matanzas, across the San Juan River, united by an iron hanging bridge.

get them the proper kind
 [...]rosio was presented with
 1 doz. hand, 11 socks, beautiful
 buttons & hat. They are
 very good to their poor relations
 charitable to the lower class who re[...]
 [...]tant supplies of provisions & money
 Adelaida Guiteras. Cartera, is pre[...]
 “one of my best friends” she has been
 to the children. Dr. Cartera the phy[...]
 has put his services entirely at
 is a comfort in case the chicks
 sometimes by his profession, 12
 two days. You will be glad
 the children are not considered
 I have been assured by
 South Carolinians that there is no da[...]
 do not take the fever. I trust this may be
 under present circumstances going
 impossible & useless
 would not be safe to go at
 woman who keeps this house
 an excellent creature & is a
 [...]dy has been on the island
 [...]land engineers on the
 down confederate & his
 the boarders, *he* cleve[...]
 This is a great place for
 stand [...]

is most picturesque.
 beautiful hills with the sea
 make a most lovely pict[...]
 from Havana. I found
 [...]ant by thinking of the gar[...]
 seem to regret my [...] letters
 must try & [...] see some
 Aunt Anita to *me* seemed as lo[...]
 but her family & friends said she had
 a great deal in the last year. Her in[...]
 spirit & true Christianity. I could
 admire. All her boys have good
 they seemed [...] for mo[...]
 hiring their place & threatening
 is prettier than she ever was.
 charming little window. George
 Elliott’s picture. Ralph
 funny. John quite han[...]
 [...]ose has a very good position
 Maria, while she must have her
 probably causing her parents much
 [...]proved too great a care to Ellen

¹⁰ José Manuel Ximeno, Gonzales’ former schoolmate.

who is engaged to Lucy Huger had
 Mr. R. Haversham to help take care of his
 Hamilton Lamb not dead as supposed
 [...] to a rich Yankee banker in St. Louis (To
 [...] quite reformed & very
 friend expects to make
 [...] ages. Her father sold his crop
 last year. They have
 Mr. C. would be delight[...]
 Annie--her husband says
 tell me who the P[...]
 a Miss Michel of Charleston
 to Adams Run & Walterboro
 fancy[...]
 was at the South during the
 we have much in common
 Pray in your next tell me
 Annie Johnstone. I do trust
 pray send Mamie my love
 at your spending the summer
 is no help for it. Alfonso's fever
 he has been taking sage & wine
 have had no returns of fever. Gertrude
 anxiety she is *so* liable to cold &
 hopeful this may pass away during
 meantime we have to take all care
 plenty of english reading. News
 the illustrated Lonston New
 Roman history in Mr. X.'s library
 much love to you, their aunts
 deal from myself. I must
 mu head can not well carry two languages.

May 18th

Too late for last mail which leaves Havana on Saturday.

All well.

EGP

Oak Lawn 23rd May [1869]

I had the pleasure of receiving on the 15th of this month your letter my dearest Hattie of
 the 29th April-- its contents gave me much happiness & my spirits have recovered from their
 painful depression. Your silence, after hearing (through your Sister) of Tulita's illness & of the
 boys renewed attacks of fever rendered me miserable = *I mean* to be patient, as you have warned
 me not to expect a regular correspondence on your part = I do hope however that you will have
 had it in your power to write (as you thought you might) from the house at Matanzas of your
 good friends & that my happiness may be renewed & increased by the intelligence of your
 welfare & comfort. T'is a charming picture you send me of my sweet little Pet, you must try &
 not spoil her. does she sing now & how is her voice & her utterance too? Is not Nigno,
 surprisingly Musical? When I suggested his name why did you agree to my mistake perhaps tho'
 you have *now* the opportunity for complementing the friend who bestowed *those just gifts*. Tell
 Alfonso I am happy that he can read. did he learn suddenly as he once enquired if he might? he
 must "hurry up" & write me a little note, lest I die without having seen his improvement. Their

father will no doubt go into his business of teaching with his accustomed energy and the education of his own sons will be now secured, will it not? Tell me every *little* thing where you write (domestic I mean) What you eat drink & wear & what [...] Remember how old I am & that such items have much interest for me. What a dream is life. 75 years ago, on this day & at this place my Mother was married and you my youngest child can remember her. 52 years ago on this day also, your mother was married and of the friends & relatives who were then present none remain but myself & one "other." I will not indulge myself further in retrospection. at your expense my dear Hattie I will give you the usual account of our surroundings & of your Sisters family in Baltimore. She writes to me every Sunday & Wednesday & frequently on the intermediate Friday -- her hopes & fears for her daughters recovery have been fluctuating 'till now. When I grieve to perceive that she thinks a change of climate for Annie would not tend to her restoration. She wishes that we would all see her. She is so lovely & patient & has been so hopeful. A friend in the House [...] Mrs [...] of Boston distressed her by informing her that she was desperately ill & should know it. This lady wept bitterly afterwards wrote a kind note to yr. Sister & enclosed forty dollars to spend for Annie. On her return to Boston she carried Mary's silver ware to have raffled for her on the 16th June. Yr Sister will remove to Mrs Pennington's House for the three months of vacation, where she will be so glad to have her whole family including Elliott & Miss H. her housekeeping I hope will be assisted by the Penns & Miss K. possibly who leave for Europe on that day. Elliott is worked exceedingly hard, detained till ten at nights & required to be present on the wharves at five in the mornings. On [...] of the Truck Green Peas & Strawberries an influx of wh. is to be [...] till July. Some young men have such remunerating pay for their services in Savh we wd. like to obtain a position there for him thro Archy Cole perhaps. Mamies cough is a bronchial affection the Doctor says. She has no appetite & coughs distressingly. Thro the advice, probably of the ArchBishop, her Premiums & Medals are to be awarded to her altho removed before graduation from the Convent. *She* is with the Pens now & Annie at Mrs Thebalds (They are a young couple with a lovely baby). Yr sister sleeps there with Annie. Yr. Sister has had to send Elisa J. home to her parents to recover from *her* illness at the Convent & now she is taking care of Wms daughter Belle who has been sick with a [...] fever, at a Methodist school. Mr J expects his daughters at Santee on vacation & Mary has transferred to him the offer Miss Mason from Europe has sent her, of a rich Boston widow, who desires to have two Southern girls to educate & reside with her. Anne supposes it may be Mrs Sumner & a gross widow she is called. Motte Alston has five daughters in Balt who are being educated on [...], till he makes a crop in Alabama. *he* tells yr sister this. I've just heard from Mary Man & from Mrs Huger also, who are rejoiced at yr last accounts. Whilst her Mother is expecting to see Me in Charleston. She says that for many reasons she has determined to remove to South Isld. & that her trip to the [...] will [...] as it did last summer in [...]. The proceeds of their crop not permitting that indulgence; her baby is teething & has a painful rising under its ear & Huger has nettle rash & the fleas give him no peace! Mary is happy however in a bountiful garden & 30 young & thriving turkies -- her host and removes with her to S I -- but her turkies are to remain at the plantation. She is a dear girl & appreciates my writing to her of you & Mary so much, that I will continue in these long days to give her yr news to [...] I receive it. I cannot remember whether I have transmitted to you the outside news I hear, so pray excuse this time sd. I repeat. Well, Mary Vanderhorst is engaged to young Lewis, & Eliza Rhett is not to young Roman. tis supposed she has not abandoned her nest to be Mad. Genl. Beauregard & Ella Aiken Rhett has a son! [...] on that [...]. Ruth Brisbane has obtained another five thousand for her Patent

of a Bedstead with a Crib attachment -- & with this 10,000 she has given her sister Julia a farm & set her brothers up in business. She had a [...] for drawing & one night she was considering how she sd. make money this idea struck her -- she got up -- made a drawing of it -- wh. she presented to the Patent Office -- so successfully -- we hear (thru Miss Hinkle) that Mrs T R S E had written to Miss Mason in Europe of the *judicious* arrangements wh had been made for her family -- in this region. No intelligence of his family reaches yr brother -- he is not miserable in consequence -- & still likes delight in his vegetable productions. His green Peas & Potatoes are the very finest I ever saw. This is the first warm day we've had this Spring tho still not enough for me to step out & direct the labor in the gardens wh I am obtaining for those cast off parts & jackets you left me for this very purpose. The cotton has grown more during the last 24 hours than for some weeks -- and s[houl]d. we have rain tonight R will be happy. The crop very ready for it. it is ploughed & hard & without a spec of grass, so to speak, and the mules, himself & laborers are to take a universal rest & holiday tomorrow or till it rains [...] the cold -- The storms & high winds. The crops in the up country are almost blasted. Our litter has been supplied several times -- but we have the best stand we can hear of. We have fine strawberries, tho' only sufficient in quantity for us five.¹¹ Such a fine blackberry season was never known & amongst other good things we are indebted to them for. We [...] im the nicest table wine by preparing them into the horrid Commissary Whiskey, it becomes a nicer beverage than Claret -- & better too than Cherry -- it is so wholesome we think that it combined with the quinine we take is making us feel so well at present. My nerves can stand without complaining the cry of two cats & their Kittens, & a cage of young birds wh. Emmie with Charlie Browns amateur assistance expects to raise for sale. To day she had composed two beautiful crosses -- ordered by the stewardess for the adornment of a Church -- wh. she is to be remunerated for in Ice. We have no money nor a prospect of any -- but we are very pleasantly conditioned at this time with servants. Sarah is taking quinine with us in order to keep well -- & has not yet consented to [...] while -- & our labourers are docile & well behaved. The poor Whites in this vicinity are stirring however & my sympathies are enlisted the [...] for them as we have no corn to spare. The colored people do not ever vote now for the Yankees. Flat Rock is not popular this season I believe -- no Tenant has offered for our house, and Mr Lowndes & the Parsonage both furnished are also [...]. Mr. Drayton is detained in Charleston, his daughters with measles. Yr brother desires his best regards to your Husband & informs him of his having killed a fine Buck at his old stand. To yr. self he gives his warmest love -- he remembers the pleasant days you spent with him the past [...] He thinks finally too of the boys whenever he crosses the Cyprus hedge & wishes they cd. have been there a few eves since when Aunt Emmie accompanied him & took 40 fish in a few moments. The fish have [...] the neighborhood [...] some caught 90 Pick Deveaux White has become a handsome fine looking boy. Brosio has not left a blue Jay in a [...] in [...] and the red birds are scared -- old Puss is [...] our [...] for the [...]. She nightly brings in a young rabbit to her kittens wh. her [...] eldest son (who has never been known to hunt even a mouse for himself -- quietly takes away from his mother & young relatives. Brosio wd. have corrected this [...] in his [...] had he been long enough with him.

Rosie has not yet [...] our Dairy -- but Ruby is sufficient for our support. She is so docile & attaching I wish that my gdchildren had such an attached to their domestic circle. Why Tulita might Pet her. Kiss this darling child for me. I am anxious to know what language Benigno

¹¹ Mrs. Ann Elliott and her offspring Thomas, Ralph, Emmy and Ann.

speaks. I hope that Nanno has a new style of Fandango -- & that he is more happy than he used to be. I always think of him with great love & interest. Your sisters & brothers send you all their best remembrances & their warmest love. Annie's health has improved tho she suffers from Neuralgia pains -- an increase of them from cold & from fatigue she is sure to experience. Emmie is every thing to our household & her health I am happy to say is very good.

The mail has no letters for me to day & I am disappointed that Brosio has not written to tell me whether I am the godmother of a Lola or a [...]. [...] you will explain. Well I plead my age.

Please add my regards & remembrances to your brothers & present them to your Husband with best wishes for his happiness and success in his congenial occupation of Professor as we wish. Accept for yourself my dearest Hattie all the affection of which my [...] is possible.

Yr fondly attached Mother

The boys may be interested to hear that Pansy has grown to be a pretty young cow.

Emmie has a beautiful garden of Flowers. Seeds born in Paris bloom here charmingly. Our [...] drought however is trying even in this soil & the [...] is laborious. When a certain plant blooms E intends sending Mrs Lafite yr friend a nice bouquet. My last to you was forwarded by him in Zaldo's care.

EGP

[May 1869]

I have engaged an excellent nurse, black, a slave & one who speaks English perfectly. My infants wardrobe is considered too hot for this country. Mrs X. has presented me with the contents of her "canasto" such linen cambries & embroideries, beautiful shoes, lace caps, bibs & embroidered diapers-- of the finest lawn "only what we had for our next" Hattie" it will save you the trouble of making them." The good lady said when I thanked her--

Strictly private remember dear Mama.

EGP

Pueblo Nuevo June 8th [1869]
9th

Mrs. A. H. Elliott
Dearest Mama

You will not be sorry to hear again from me & as the boys are *extremely anxious* to obtain the magazines you wrote of. I write at once to say that they will be delighted to subscribe to Mayne Reid & only hope that this letter will be in time to allow of their being sent out by Capt Reid. Your letter was just one month in reaching me. I hope you have received the letter I sent you just before leaving Havana & two dispatched from this. The last telling you of the new baby-- quite a darling she is, although she has had so many predecessors & although not the "perfect beauty" she was when one hour old-- she is still quite pretty & pronounced by every one a "splendid baby" she is not yet three weeks & looks certainly two months-- indeed her french Maumer says she looks *five* months! & others less interested say the same. My famous black nurse Flora Barckley, was ill when I required her & failed me, but I have in her place an excellent Maumer, who was brought as a slave from Providence & retains her gulla English to perfection-- her "Missis" sounds natural & very pleasant. I am well & quite comfortable if they shut you up they certainly do not starve you on these interesting occasions, & the quantity of eatables & drinkables I had demolished before Rosebud was ten days old would have made

Harriett M. tear her wool with horror. I believe Brosio did not tell you Baby's name although she was named before his letter left. I have called her Anita & as I dont suppose you would care to have the name "Hutchinson" added, & as she is entitled by Spanish law to my family name I have thought of ~~giving~~ calling her as her second name Rosita, to please Tulita who is devoted to her little sister. A child with one name only is not to be met with in this country-- & they have usually the name of the Saint upon whose day they were born but I dont fancy calling my girl "Sucorro" she was born on the day of "Our Lady of Succor"^{1,2}-- The boys send much love they are well & getting quite fat, in their white linen suits & fine straw hats they look so pretty I wish you could see [them]. Tulita is *very* thin & pale if we could afford to take her to the baths of "Madruga" I believe she would improve as it is she is merry & has a good appetite but every one remarks upon her delicate appearance & ascribe it to the same cause that Tom & Mrs Huger did ~~would~~ but of which the poor child is quite innocent. Since our *last* revolution everything has been quiet, but no one knows when it may be necessary to quit the country. We can make a living here Gonzie teaches now seven hours a day at the colleges three hours only are required but he gives many private lessons & he is so much considered & teaching here is considered so highly that it is pleasant, although ~~tis~~ hard work. I only hope we may be able to remain here, to begin life elsewhere would be too trying. What an idea you have of my capabilities dear Mama to suppose that I could teach 65 girls. My arithmetic & grammar do not warrant it & to be settled =The number of foreigners who [*torn*] here without dread of yellow fever. The women very seldom get [*torn*] death by it is almost unheard of. Dont fret about us I beg, & with much love I remain Yr affectionate H.

Much love to sisters & bro[thers] congratulations to Annie on Rosa's prospects. G. desires his regards. The M[*torn*] papers [*torn*] of the prospects of the South the fine crop etc. Tell me if there is truth in it.

EGP

A list of Articles of Plate placed in a Trunk on this day the 26th June 1869--

One Urn in three pieces -- Weight 8 1/4 pounds
One chocolate kettle in two pieces Weight 5 1/4 pounds
One coffee pot -- (One Tea pot 2. pound in use) -- 2 3/4 pounds
One set Castors--(with the glass crusts) weight -- 2 3/4 pounds
One waiter --- 3 pounds
(Sugar dish in use) Milk pot (Tea pot in use) -- 4 pounds
Rummers and waiters 2 1/2 pounds
Six table spoons -- 1 1/2 pounds
One Silver Pitcher -- 12 gold spoons -- and
two cake Baskets -- are also in the Trunk.
Two bottle stands
One Fish Trowel

EGP

Oak Lawn June 29th [1869]

¹² Anita Rosita Gonzales, later known as Harriett Rutledge Elliott Gonzales, was born in Matanzas on 21 May 1869.

My darling Hattie

We were overjoyed at the charming intelligence we received yesterday through Brosio's letter & yours. They reached me by the same mail and my anxieties for the past month having been so happily terminated I cannot feel sufficiently grateful to God for his infinite Mercies. We are so glad that you have another little daughter -- that she is pretty & a blond like yrself. I am pleased also that you have given her My Name & whilst dear little Tulita should be indulged in calling her pet Rosita I advice for the sake of Euphony that you name her Rosa instead. I thank Brosie very much for his sweet description of the Baby's beauties (but has she Tulita's or Benigno's mouth) & in the interesting items of its novel treatment. Sarah remarks what a rich country that must be! to bathe a baby in wine and to feed it on Honey of Roses & oil of Almonds-- in lieu of a Sugar bag and [...]. Have you put these lace caps on her? They will improve her beauty but her habit of wearing caps is injurious. Will the Mauma be yr permanent nurse-- tell me all about every thing in yr domestic arrangements. I sincerely hope you may remain in tranquility at Matanzas where you are so pleasantly situated. I am grateful to have your intelligence on the subject of yellow fever & I trust in God it may be correct, for I have been made miserable at reading of the virulent cases, direct from Matanzas, at Key West & Fortress Monroe & Tybee. I should indeed delight in seeing the dear children so nicely dressed. As soon as you can afford it please send me all of their likenesses. I often revive the memories of the past by looking at those we have, wh. I keep in my Cap bra. How do you dress Nigno now? I sd. be pleased to have the recollection of him in his one garment under the A. R. House erased by a present picture of him in a civilized condition. What do the Cubans say of yr. looks-- do they think you a Blond? or do they like some of yr Charleston acquaintance say that you look wain. I wonder at Beles Mathis neglect of you -- We never hear a word of that portion of our family, but through Mary occasionally-- but Emmie knowing that Carrie loves you intends to write her & give her your recent happy news. She communicated it yesterday to Bet Burnet & Mrs Huger to when she was writing -- and I to Mary -- with the commission for the Magazine, for the boys. I hope it will be in time for Captn Reids trip & should it not-- some other well recommended book for youths will be added to the Magazines. I thank you for giving me the pleasuring excuse for writing to Aunt Meita. I certainly will. She is so nice. I am reading new with great interest an English work wh with a note recommending it to yr Sisters. She sent in a package of books & pamphlets Mary put up for her cousins. These have been quite a Godsend in this hot weather even yr brothers are reading some of these with avidity. Such as good novels -- with poor Rob Elliotts name in 60. You enquire of the prospects of the South. Short cotton is selling for 34 ½ cts. There is very little of it in the country & trips have been backwards-- but the intense drought & heat has made the cotton grow well -- it is now blossoming & quite clear of grass. Rail roads are progressing in many parts of the Country. This will be completed in Decr. when we can in exchange for some [...] some plants to the Elliotts. [...] having a greater variety than [...]. The Southerners are taking hold of the idea of having Chinese labourers -- not that the Negroes do not work back now -- but there are too few of them. The black women work in the field now. This dry June has been favourable for their own crops, wh. are creditably [...]. The dry has become seriously distressing (suiting the cotton) but nothing else -- our beautiful patch of rice must be lost, sd. we have no rain in 2 or 3 days. The pond is dry. The large Spring is disagreeable & we have to drink the water from the long life -- wh. is very good. We have the hottest day yet -- last wk. in Charleston the thermometer stood at 88 at eight o'clock. I cannot say that we have yet suffered from hot nights. Mosquitoes have almost disappeared & fleas & bats have not been

felt or seen this Season. The June fly is our only annoyance & however occupied I have to brush them away unceasingly. Do you keep in the shade & how do you preserve yr complexion? How do you dress the baby -- does she wear flannel? What kind of bed do you sleep in? do you use Nets? have you Mosquitoes? Tell My dear Brosio that I shall write to him in a week hence. Nannan is at present in fine health. No Neuralgia pains. Her last attack was cured by quinine & Morphine on two consecutive nights. She will not be persuaded to leave E & self, as proposed by Mary. Your husband remarked last Summer that it was cooler in Cuba than at Adams Run. I most sincerely trust that you will have found it so. The heat is terrific at this moment & the South Western breeze having again sprung up. We can entertain no hope of a rain. We have Cantelopes & a promise of extra watermelons. Some figs -- no peaches or apples. Having to send to the village for stamps & E. writes to Mrs Legare Brosio's news. She remarks Sallie has not forgotten the little lively hibe who used to enliven the gloom of Adams Run & is quite delighted that they are now almost as many in their family circle as ours, and Knowing that Extracts from Mary's letters will be acceptable to you I shall enclose you a part of one of the 16th as well as her news up to the 23d. "We have been in Convention here = On Monday there was a Musical Examination of Miss K's scholars (at wh. Edith acquitted herself so well that she got a prize) Yesterday, some 100 scholars, old & young assembled there to receive the reward of their labors in the shape of prizes & medals. Miss K. as well as her pupils dressed in white assembled at 10 o'clock. The distribution lasted 'till 12 when the multitude were feasted with cakes ices & [...]. *Edith* came off with eight prizes, and the 1st grade for excellency and of course was very happy. I left Annie abt 10 to witness the affair from a quiet corner. On my return to her I found that she had been driven by Dr. Theobald to say good bye to Mrs K and she felt better from the drive" 20th We have been keeping house here for 3 days & get on very comfortably. We have Mrs Pen's niece waitress -- who markets [...] and attends to every thing down stairs & as we have 4 bed rooms in suite in the 2nd story a nice bath room wh. is in constant requisition in this extremely hot weather. Elliott & Stuart lodge in a large room in the 3d story & have a vacant room next a lumber room & servants rooms finish that story-- downstairs we have parlor library and dining room all in a row so that there is a draught thro' -- A wide alley runs on one side & Milk & Ice wagons deliver their freight at the alley gate. Some gardens & vacant lots give a little more space around than most city houses have. In the library where I am writing there is an Aquarium with gold & silver fish & little terrapins from Georgia, also a China tub with a young Alligator from Florida. These afford much pleasure to Edith & I've given you this picture of our abode because I want you to persuade Anne to come share it with us. A little change will do her good-- it can sincerely be as warm as Oak Lawn & she can live in the bath if she likes when it is hot. We shall not be annoyed with visitors &&& The fare by [...] is \$15, and if Annie will only come I will send it from our term money wh. will soon come from Bostring and this will afford me infinite pleasure. Try & persuade her please." 23rd. I have been so busy all day helping Belle make a dress to put in [...] on leaving, that I have just remembered my letter to you. Annie & Belle have gone to take a little drive with a Lady who came last night to invite Annie & self-- poor Annie has fever but seemed to want to go. So I let her. She varys sometimes better and then coughs very much as she has done all day. I am again trying sandwiches of raw beef greatly to her disgust poor child her appetite is a little better. I took her to the Depot yesterday to meet Lilly & this poor Alexandrie. The little things have grown very much & are very nice children. The 3 girls will leave tomorrow in the Maryland (they have arrived safely in Charleston I see) I have recvd. yr Barrel wh. is a most valuable addition to our stores. I enclose a letter recd.

yesterday from Mrs Rawlins Lowndes. She sent a check for \$50-- you see we are helped on all sides. A copy of her note I must also give you dear Hattie there are ladies still in the land it appears. "Dear Mrs J = Mr R. Lowndes with his family arrived a few days since from Charleston, Richard & Sue looking better than I had expected to see them, the girls well but thin & pale; if our country life & air does as much for them, as they have for Julia Lowndes, we shall send them home in the Autumn with restored roses, & as plump as their own rice birds. From Sue I learn that the schools in Baltimore close for the months of July & August & that you propose for the time occupying Mrs Penningtons house collecting yr children all you. As a country woman & housekeeper I wished to send for yr. storeroom some little reminders from the farm. But Sue who is always [...] & practical in the advice she gives, says the selection will be much better made by yrself, encourages me to send the enclosed check, will you do me the great kindness to use it. Just now my house is quite full from the different members of the family who have assembled in it-- but later in the season if I can make them comfortable I shall remind you of a half promise made last winter to trust yr. daughters to me, & trust that this mountain region may prove a restorative to yr eldest daughter whose health I am grieved to hear is not strong. They will have pleasure in seeing their Southern friends & it will be a happiness to me to have them. With kind remembrances from Mr. Lds. believe me dear Mrs. Jne. Yrs. Sincerely & & Staatsburgh" Mrs. Drayton reports from Flat Rock that Julia had been quite sick after the measles. Ellie took them on the journey & Mrs. D and Margaret had times of it. Cousin Judith is looking wretchedly and her house is empty."

Enclosed is a slip from the "Old Guard"-- if practicable wd. you like to receive some numbers of it? A story is being published in it by Gelman Simns wh. shd. astonish the Boys = Have had no tidings since I wrote to you of Mary Man. I fear her babies are not thriving at South Island.

Like a little Stupe says I wish *we* had too a little sister to pet, at wh. I [...] with more earnestness than any of Mr. Bellingers Congregation "The Lord deliver us." The draught is truly distressing on this pine land soil. The days are very warm here-- but we have had but one distressing night as yet. Mosquito *nets* are indispensable. Sallie, Emmie, Mamie & Alice all beg to have their kind remembrances & Congratulations sent to the little Cubans! 30th June.

I will write every fortnight in future. [...] you [...] me & write every 10 days. Remember that I am living in [...] and you in [...] & besides you have so many interesting [...] for me in your dear self & darling with the love & congratulations of your Sisters & brothers to you all chicks -- and my heartfilled gratitude to God for your recovery I am [...] my dear Daughter your loving Mother

EGP

Pueblo Nuevo July 9th [1869]

Dearest Mama

Your last letter, 28th May, reached me about eleven days after it was written & gave me much pleasure from its cheerful tone-- & most agreeable items. I trust that you all continue well & comfortable & that you find Oak Lawn an agreeable residence or more endurable than Adams Run. I hope that my letters have reached you. I send them still to the care of Hoppock-- whom I am glad to learn continues your good friend. We are all well, my big Baby growing still bigger & as good & amiable as possible she sleeps charmingly & gives no trouble, my health is better than it has been for a long time & she has a most bountiful dairy at her command. The boys are

looking quite well & have grown fat on early rising & school. They leave this with their father at 5 1/2 in the morning. They to their school & he to his classes & return to a 10 o'clock breakfast-- when their work is over for the day. Their father seldom gets home before 4 o'clock. Nothing but Spanish is spoken in their school & they are obliged of course to learn all their lessons in that tongue. They are getting on well & have improved much in writing Alfonso is learning to read Spanish! He distinguishes himself by the quantity of ink he manages to get on his pants, ~~he~~ & is made uneasy by the 'cross eyes' of his teacher "he is looking at *him* when he appears to be looking at another boy--" he has lots of friends among the little boys & being separated from his brothers is obliged to speak Spanish. I must not forget to say that the boys do not fast the four hours they are in school. They have their coffee or tea & wheat bread before leaving every day-- & a nice breakfast on their return-- good Spanish wine included-- We have lunch also, dinner is at 5 1/2 ~~o'clock~~ No supper-- but bread tea & coffee to be had at all times. A most liberal house this is & very reasonable. We have a table to ourselves & the lady from New Orleans & ourselves have almost undisturbed possession of the very cool sitting room. The boarders being all men they are at work all day & the children scamper about to their hearts content having literally the run of the house. So far I am delighted with the climate the nights are charming a blanket is necessary for comfort it always becomes so cool towards morning-- in the afternoon we often stroll to the Sea side a delightful walk-- beautiful villas surrounded by gardens of lovely flowers & trees some of which have clusters of gorgeous blossoms. Some of our friends have gone to their Summer residences in the Cumbre, some have left the country & others are going-- Antonio Guiteras has left his wife nine children & prospects to go to Spain ~~to see~~ after his seventeen year old boy, who has been banished & condemned to two years hard labor-- he hopes to have his sentence changed & that he may be allowed to pursue his education during his banishment. Pedro's daughters expect to join him next month will return in the fall if the Island is tranquil. I go very seldom to Matanzas, last Sunday was an exception. We had in the afternoon a procession in honor of St. John patron Saint of Nuevo Pueblo. The Military took a conspicuous part in the ceremonies-- bands of Music & citizens bearing lighted candles-- & St. John on a platform borne on the shoulders of four men surrounded by flowers & a very fine lamb at his feet-- looked benign & made a great sensation, particularly among the darkies who fired off a number of crackers in his honor. We had a fine view of all these proceedings from our windows in the evening we drove to the Plaza, Matanzas-- walked among the crowds of well behaved well dressed people, took an ice cream in Lola's cafe 'The Louvre' she does not keep it but rents it, heard good music, paid a visit to some friends & drove home-- unusual dissipation for me. The city is healthy, no case of fever even among the shipping-- this from the best authority. T'is possible we may go in the country for a short time during vacation but a move with such a family I can scarcely contemplate with pleasure. I am quite comfortable where I am with fine rooms & a bath always at command & do not care to move for a short time only. So when you write thank Mamie for her letter of the 30th May. Tell her it came in very good time via New York. I rejoice to learn of Annie's improvement. Tell Mamie I will write her whenever I can find the time. I have had at least fifty interruptions since I began this letter which will account to you for its elegance & neatness. I have done as you desired & told you some of the little things you desired to hear of. With much love to each & all I must now close Anita is calling me & the boys are chattering & adding to the confusion. Ever yr aff.

daughter

I have just received your letter of the 18th ult. trust your anxieties have been relieved ere

this by the receipt of my letters. I am sorry that you “feel certain that I will fall a victim to the fever’ for my dear Mother t’is impossible to remove to the country. We are dependent upon my husbands teaching for our daily bread & in these unsettled times I could not with my helpless family live there without him. Necessity knows no law “surely you must feel the force of this spending your summer upon an unhealthy plantation. Should I entreat you to go to Flat Rock, what would you say dear Mama. I grieve for your anxieties & ~~will try~~ hope as fervently as yourself that we may escape the fever, ever yr aff

Hattie

An excellent nurse lives in this house.

EGP

Pueblo Nuevo, Aug. 1st [1869]

Mrs. Anne H. Elliott

Dearest Mama,

Your pleasant letter of the 27th June was duly received & gave me much pleasure. I have only time now for a short letter as I hope to dispatch this at once in order that it may reach Havana in time for the steamer which leaves every Saturday evening. We all continue well. I have not seen the children look so well for two years & I am fat & feel strong & well. Little Ana Rosa is a never ending source of delight to us all. I have *heard* of good babies but never had one before. She smiles & kicks & is perfectly happy lying on a cot for hours & sleeps six hours every night without waking-- a baby after my own heart! She has large eyes but they are getting dark & are more like Tula’s than m[*torn*]. Her mouth is not small but [*torn*] shaped. Two daughters with pretty mouths was more than I could expect. Tula says she feels so happy since she has had a little sister. Tis a pretty sight to see her talking to the baby, promising her toys and telling her how nicely they will play together. Anita cooing intelligibly [*sic*] in response -- but enough of babies-- you will say! You want to know what we sleep on? Very large cots with all the fixings of bedsteads, head boards, posts & pretty muslin curtains are looped up in the day & serve as mosquito bars at night, twice down pillows embroidered cases & embroideries around the lower part of the cot, which is furnished with light blankets & [*torn*] of the finest linen! The floors are dark brown tiles, smooth & very neat. They are washed often with large sponges & dry immediately. The windows are enormous. My room opens into that of the children’s so we have a draught-- by day & night. Our window is on the street which is very gray in the evenings but theirs is nearest the sun & opens on the yard. This house is built upon solid rock some seven feet from the ground. This is a great advantage here for we avoid the dust & gain the breeze. We are living luxuriously, at least it would be considered so at the South but I miss okra soup which strange to say is not made here, where there is material for it all the year round. We have meats of all kinds very [*torn*] (Which I did not expect in Cuba). The [*torn*] is the most delicate meat here & is eaten at this season with pleasure. The fish is delightful & a vegetable which has just come in, would delight Tom. Tis the Aguacate¹³ or vegetable marrow. Tis a sensation, is eaten as a salad & deserves its name. You have no doubt read of it in Dr. Nordeman. Pine apples are brought in town by the wagon loads. We have any quantity of them. Mangoes are delightful but are thought not to be wholesome for foreigners-- so I restrain the young ones. Cocoanut sweetment (such as Annie liked so much) Guava much more delightful than what is exported.

¹³ Avocado.

Lime & orange sweetners we have constantly as dessert. The orange is preserved in leaves & are entire free from bitter although then retain their full flavour. Ice is not dear & lemons dirt cheap. We have every evening iced lemonade for all, but Anita. It costs 5 cts. Sherry cobblers of the best materials are sold in Havana for the same price. No wonder the Yankees love to live here! Cafe's abound & cool drinks can be had at all hours. by the way did you open your last letter at the side? if not it was done in the office in Hav. & I am glad they found the piece about Genl. Jordan!¹⁴ I appreciated it very much. every thing here is very quiet & if he has had any success the Spaniards don't seem to know it. You ask what the Cubans think of my looks & say some of my acquaintances in Charleston said I looked "wan." I dare say I did look very badly there. Wonder some of them did not think of coming to see me & showing some sympathy when my children were so ill but unless you are a candidate for the widows home or the orphan asylum you find but little sympathy in that charitable city (some exceptions of course). I am a poor hand at selling of compliments paid me, but for your satisfaction I will say that in Hav. I was supposed to be 18 & Gs friends think me superior to my picture. that will do for one letter. I think I take after Papa & will always look young even with a grey head. Give my love to dear Mamie when you write. I sent her such a shabby letter two weeks ago. She seems to be trying simple remedies for poor Annie. I have tried with great effect on Tula a syrup of the silver skinned onion, cut it in slices (the raw onion) sprinkle with loaf sugar & allow to remain 4 hours then strain for use. I have used it often for Tula. sweet oil upon flannel laid upon the throat is also an alleviation. I feel the greatest sympathy for Mamie, but I fear to express it in my letters to her lest poor Annie should see how very sick we think her. I have been better than my word & written a long letter such as it is. I know you will be glad to hear that we continue well. A great deal of love to sisters & brothers. How much quinine do you have to take to keep off the fever? I do hope you will all escape it this season. Brosio says he feels rather sorry to part from his old friend but you may be sure I am not. he is looking well & handsome now. They have holiday this month, which I am glad of, it will save them some hot walks. They do very well at school but have to learn lots of catechism & sacred history.

Good bye dear Mama. I shall rejoice to hear of your continued welfare. Your promised letter to B. has not arrived.

Hattie

EGP

Pueblo Nuevo August 12th [1869]

My dear Grandmama

I thank you very much for your letter of the 18th July it was as lively as I could desire & very interesting to us all. I know you will be glad to hear that we are all well & I think if "Yellow Jack" had intended to visit us he would have done so long ago. as it is the cuban summer agrees with us all. Narto is rosy. Tulita plump. Alphonso & Benigno fat. I am *prime* and Mama, well she looks like the mother of such a fine family! Our holydays have just come & will last only two weeks. We are in school four hours each day from six to ten. The building is located in Matanzas very near the "San Juan" river & we have the full benefit of the breeze. We learn

¹⁴ Former Confederate General Thomas Jordan had been contracted for one year by the Cuban Junta in New York to fight for Cuban independence. He landed the Perrit expedition in Cuba on 11 May 1869, with over one hundred volunteers, eighty of them Americans.

Geography, Grammar, History, religion, sacred history, cathecism, reading, writing & Arithmetic, all in Spanish. We begin french with Papa next week. we are not sufficiently advanced in our studies to enter the college in which he teaches, but we hope to get in by next winter. We like our school & some of our school fellows very much. some fights the boys have had but they came off victorious & are now on good terms with every one. Our little pet Anita you could not *help* loving. she is so good, sweet & mery. Nan Nan knows how fond I am of babys & will understand how much I love our little darling. Tula & Mino are not at all jealous but join in petting her. she wears a little linen cambric chemise reaching to her feet with sleeves & yoke of embroidery that is all that babies wear in this country. She has pretty night gowns of muslin & white satin, black satin, & embroidered pink silk shoes, but she seldom wears shoes at all.

I am very glad to hear how many prizes Edith has won at school & what a nice clever girl she is. I have not seen many little girls here, nearly all of Papas friends are in the country now & we very seldom see them. Mr. Ximeno has two children, Jose Manuel, 5 years old & Lola Maria¹⁵ 2 years only. Alfonso is very fond of her. So many children here have American nurses they can all speak english. all the big people want to learn from Papa. one young man comes once a week 30 miles to take his lesson from Papa, he is so anxious to learn. Narto says tell Uncle Tom he has not danced the fandango since he came to Cuba. he is looking well & handsome & is as mischievous as ever! Alfonsos school mates told him yesterday he wrote very well. Alfonso was so pleased. We wish uncle Tom could come out here. He could make money just by his tomatoes, vegetables sell very well indeed & such tomatoes as uncle Toms are not to be found.

Please give much love to my Aunts & Uncles for us all & write again to your very affectionate Grandson

Ambrosio Jose Gonzales

EGP

August 14th [1869]

Yours of the 26th ult. has reached me my dearest Mother & I am truly glad to find that you all continue well & have had some respite from the dreadful heat you have experienced. Yesterday was the first day that we have been without a fine breeze but this morning I found a blanket, as comfortable as usual. The rains we have every day keep the air cool & the distressing day heat so common at the South we seldom experience. A case of sun stroke is never heard of. I thank you very much for the letters you were kind enough to copy for me. Although believing poor Annie Johnstone seriously ill, I was unprepared to hear that her case was hopeless. Poor Mamie! I can not sufficiently admire her calmness & resignation & sympathise most deeply with her sorrow. Did you ever hear Mama of a remedy for consumption (used now with success in New Orleans) [...] I think it is called, made in the arm and kept constantly open. A trying remedy tis true but sure to prolong life if used in time. I heard of it from my Confederate acquaintance who in her own family has had a life saved by it. I am quite sorry to find how sick my friend Carrie M. is thought to be. She was looking very delicate when I saw her last winter & told me

¹⁵ Dolores "Lola" María Ximeno y Cruz, who later became a distinguished socialite, acclaimed for her 700-page memoirs, *Aquello Tiempos...Memorias de Lola María*, I (Havana: El Universo, 1928), in which she mentions Ambrosio José Gonzales.

she had never been well since the birth of her little boy. I have no doubt Mary P. prefers taking care of Carrie to remaining with Cousin Caroline whose selfishness & self indulgence I have heard of from most unprejudiced persons. I have no doubt that she is at the bottom of Margaret's broken engagement. She may not have liked parting with her only sound child! but I must not be [...]. I sent you a long letter about the first of the month & will try & keep you informed every fortnight of our welfare, at least during the yellow fever season. My husband has many invitations to visit his friends in the country but he won't consent to leave us for even a day or two. There are vacations now in both colleges but he still retains his private lessons. If it had not been for the Civil War teaching would be a most profitable employment. Do you remember the black streiped cracker bonnet made for me by my sisters (theirs are just like it) well Mrs. Ximino is sporting it in the Cumbie & is quite delighted with its perfections! She was uneasy about her complexion & I prescribed a sun bonnet & elduflower water with great success. She is a clever handsome woman quite independent for a Cuban, drives her children out herself & digs about her plants & waters them with her own hands. They have been tremendously rich but endorsing for friends has [...] them of late. Adelaida has presented Pedro¹⁶ with a godson, so late in the season that I hardly think she will go on to him, they are in the Cumbia now, but you may not be interested in my chat so good bye for the present dear Mama. I will write of the chicks in my next. Love to you all. yr. affectionate

H.

G. desires his regards.

EGP

Saturday 14th Augt. [1869]

My Dearest Hattie

I had yesterday the happiness to receive your most pleasant letter of the 1st of this month, and you must excuse me for remarking that on account of its nursery details your letter was even more acceptable than usual to me. I am quite consoled now for my separation from you, to *know* that you are well, and living in comfort is the *one* satisfaction of my life & the reestablishment of the children's health makes me happier than I can express. A sweet baby is always a blessing to a house-- and Anita as you describe her must be a delight! Do you know that I remember Nartho as being just such a good baby, how he must prance at having to team those [...], they used to cost the [*torn*] girls at my school many tears. You have not yet told me the [*torn*] babies hair nor how many shades lighter in complexion than Tulita. [*torn*] she wear long dresses? is Nigno as handsome & as mischivous as ever? does he speak Spanish do not let me hear that Tulita's hesitancy of speech continues if she has recovered from it as I hope with her improved health. The darling! I shall be grateful you perceive by further Nursery details. I really do rejoice in *your* enjoyment of cool drinks delicious fruits fine fish && The fruit season with us I believe is over & I have seen 2 Peaches 7 Pears 3 bunches of Grapes & a plate of Figs -- our Melons & fig Sables excepting Tomatoes have all come to an untimely end and with the exception of Shrimps once, & a Fawn, we have not had anything to eat. Bosu & Rubys supplies of milk is a great item in our living-- but they occasion us much care from the difficulty we have in procuring water for them. The drought continues distressingly. We cannot obtain water for bathing or washing

¹⁶ Adelaida and her brother Pedro Guiteras. He attended the wedding of Hattie and Gonzie at Oak Lawn in 1856.

purposes. We procure it for drinking from Major King's well. Our blackberry wine is a welcome [...] to us at this time -- had we made 30 instead of 6 gallons!! The [...] but there is always a but in our [...] obtained. We shall not make a bushel of rice & very little corn, & but a few potatoes. The brown rust is damaging the green seed cotton at the Cypress. The black seed or Sea Ild. cotton wh. is planted all around us & at Town Hill is splendid the finest to be seen anywhere but there are only 50 acres of it. The alarm of Caterpillar has subsided. The expenses incurred in the cultivation of this place renders it impossible to pay Hoppock his advances and I think that I shall insist upon his foreclosing the mortgage this year that I may determine on some other mode of life for my daughters & self for we have [no me]ans of support & cannot pay the Taxes wh. are ninety [instead] of 13 dollars on this place & 33 instead of 12 on the C[heeha] Property. Our free labor is too much coaxed and they do too little work. The Celestials will soon be pouring into this State as well as other States. Mr Townshend expects a lot of them I hear & in Savh. I see that 300 are soon to arrive. I confess to having a repugnance to them-- but suppose that I may not live to see them. [...] says the [...] of the Chinese the Whites & the Negroes, will scare the [...]. Let me tell you before I forget it my darling. Your Sisters say that I made a sad mistake in saying it indeed I did say it, that your friends in Charleston thought that you were looking wane the last winter. I know theyll not have done so for all of their letters -- up to one just recvd by Cornelia speaking of your loveliness & charmingly youthful appearance. Yr. Sisters suggest that I confounded something they were alluding to that was said at Flat Rock when you were there by one of the Hugers that you were looking ghastly -- to wh. remark the Pinckneys did not assent. Everyone seems selfishly absorbed in their own struggles for existence and in this war I account for the neglect of wh. I do not [...] of your acquaintances in town. Cornelia for instance has just written a reply to my note & present of vegetables sent her in May. She says that when Sunday comes she is glad to rest, that it is stitch stitch & stitch with her all the week. She says that Lissie is looking so well! that Rhett was heard to say he had a splendid wife & he cannot live very longer. In asking Bet Burnet if in Charleston they like us were exempt from flies & mosquitoes, She replies that in addition to these nuisances they have fleas & frogs & She tells of some weddings present & future [torn] to Ned Wells-- handsome presents from his [torn] & Mrs Charles Loundes [...] of the [torn]. In the discomfiture of his [...] name. Mrs Banderhurst & Johnnie Lewis 10 years her Junr. The wedding at Elen Rhett's & Mrs Aiken are at the North -- Then Leger Hutchinson he is over too -- is to marry Mrs Hassey a widow of 35 with a grown up daughter. She is poor & teaches in a public school. The young Men she says are organising a Shooting club for pheasant. This is the first indication of spirit She does not say [...]. Monday 16th -- I am happy dearest Hattie to resume my chat this morning [...] as it was of the failing light. You enquire how many grms of Quinine we take to keep off fever *three* every night in a mouthful of whiskey. We scarcely realize being in the country -- the air is so sweet -- the [...] cool spell we had before & after the eclipse of the sun deceived us into the idea that the summer was past -- the last night known was the warmest of the season & at this moment I feel [...] of August in former times -- Our workers say the dangerous time is ahead of us viz from the 20th August to the 31st October -- but I believe in quinine taken as we do -- the *abuse* of it may produce dimness of sight & other ill consequences -- I heard the testimony of Dr. Fishbourne yesterday in favor of its efficacy -- Dr Prentis who marries his sister has been living 2 years on the plantation & with a large family of children have not had an indisposition -- They commenced giving to their baby when 3 weeks old-- She is now at two years of age a ludicrously object of fat size & health -- We hear of no fevers any where -- Mrs James Legare writes that her

strength has been over taxed from nursing Mrs Wm. Simmons who having brought her son from Charleston with measles -- had been critically ill with them herself that she had been avoided as tho' she had the Plague -- having not even a Servant near her. Mrs Ls little girls & herself attended her without assistance. Mrs S. is so imprudent -- her recovery cannot be counted upon -- enough you will say on this topick [*sic*] -- I hope to give you before closing this the latest intelligence from our dear Mary -- My grdaughters & Elliott have been writing in her stead (as I requested) in order to spare her that much trouble. She appeared to have been made nervous by her anxieties lest Annie should be made un[*torn*] having the Photographist to take her likeness -- he succeeded however [*torn*] her much trouble-- poor child -- the cool weather has been [*torn*]age to her instead of the hoped for benefit -- her dose of Ano[*torn*] wh. She cannot sleep has had to be doubled-- Dr Leads her Pastor administered the Communion before he left for a months absence & his substitute Mr Russel of Washington visits Annie. Elliott says his mother is looking & feeling badly -- that all of the girls are unwell & *he* has a severe cold. Is there a probability of any opening for Mamie in Cuba as a Teacher. She graduated so handsomely & cd. teach English -- German -- French -- Music & t -- her health has been broken down by harsh Study at the Convent -- and she will require a change of climate to enable her to work -- Annies Paintings have been purchased by Mr Colvin a friend of As & M & presented by him to Annie. She has given her last to Edith as a stimulus to her -- I regret this for I do not think painting advisable for Mary's children -- the other Pictures she gives to her Mother & [...] -- they now hang in her room & Mary hopes to show them to us some day-- Mamie writes to you by Capt Reid & sent Nicholas Nickleby & 7 nos of the Magazine (wh. we are glad the boys will have in their holidays) We regret to find that Anti Southern stories are to be found in this Magazine & the Day Book [...] & afterwards stated the objection wh. the girls make -- the boys had best See both sides perhaps -- They have two dollars more -- what book or books wd they wish? Oliver Twist? I of course did not open my envelope at the side & Jordan's Successes fill the papers -- he is in fine spirits, has possession of two Sea Ports-- by wh. he can get in arms -- The U S Cabinet say they will soon recognize Cuba as a belligerent power -- I write to you this day 3 weeks & to Brosio a fortnight before -- I enclose a piece of Party for Nanno & a Fight for Alfonso.

The delay of the messenger to the mail brings me to the time nearly when I must close however I shall chat on hoping still to give later news from Yr Sister. She sent us by Mr Fowles who had gone there to bring his Sister home a trunk [wi]th rubbish as She called its to trade for eggs & chickens. Many of [*torn*]ticles consisting of sacks & dresses are additions to Yr Sisters wardrobe [*torn*] a specimen of jewelry. She sent a [...] breastpin wh. our wasting Mam[*torn*] agreed to give three dollars for. Alas not for [...] Chloe but for a [*torn*] let him have it for 2 dollars. Then we are getting our shrubberies in order for the [...] Annie sent each of us. Some of her presents -- Cologne -- Sherry wine -- lime syrup & sugar plums.

I have copied a part of Mamies letter that you may be in possession of all our information. Another hemorrhage will soon occur -- When our sweet child will be in Heaven! a happy release from this world of trouble. With the warmest love of your Sisters to yourself & the dear children -- I am ever My darling Hattie your fond & affectionate Mother

Kiss the children & tell them all how constantly I think of them. Why will the boys not send me a message of remembrance.

Pillsbury is Mayor in Charleston. The colored Aldermen & the [...] their meetings very [...].

Robert Kinsey who stole our turkies some years ago -- presented your Sister with a paper

asking her to read & tell him the meaning of it -- it was a summons to him to attend at Walterboro for Novr. as a Grand Juror. This [...] are coming nearer to us.

Sarah is still the most satisfactory servant we have -- She appreciates her position knowing that when sick she will be cared for. She is [...] to dress comfortably & never requires [...] present -- She has been [...] by the interposition of her Pastor & at his desire to her husband Mr White -- and [torn] / know nothing of his weekly visits to her -- tell [torn] that Deveaux is having [...] to go to Texas with them -- his [torn] often finds him in the Mule Stable -- Tell Nanno I wish to know who is *his* favorite [...]? is he not looking handsome as well as Brosio? How are his teeth looking -- I see the curd of milk clobber I suppose removed [...] immediately from the Fat-- Brosio may be pleased to hear that his Aunt Annie has just cut a beautiful wisdom tooth -- the tooth that Solomons filled for her is perfect on its appearance & usefulness. The [...] of him was a happy thought. I do wish you had known of him. You will excuse this [...] won't you -- I cannot write a letter you know -- I can only chat with you -- Im reading a good Book loaned & recommended to yr Sister by Aunt Meeta. I think of you all the time & shall if to be present in Baltimore send you a copy -- it would have been so beneficial to me when young -- I [...] read without any but a [...] idea of the subject. This writer explains what is necessary for your future happiness in the most attractive style.

EGP

Baltimore, August 31st 1869

My dear Grandmama,

It is a painful subject upon which I have to write you this evening. In the next room lies a beautiful figure, clad in her burial-clothes, and sleeping her last deep sleep.

Her fond and broken-hearted Mother and sisters, sit around her mourning and weeping over the remains of their loved one, so sadly taken from them at such a tender age.

They have asked me to leave them there ant to tell you the cause of their sorrow and grief.

I am nervous, but shall write you all I can.

Annie began to fail, very decidedly, yesterday morning, and breathed with great difficulty from that time to the last. The Doctor told me she could not last long and prepared us for the termination of her long sufferings. She was conscious until within a few moments of her death.

[...] some time after she could no longer speak. Mama spoke to her until she could not hear and she then, looking upwards with a longing eye, smiled most sweetly several times. She seemed to pass away in pain, yet with the sweetest and most patient expression of countenance.

One of the last things she said to Mama was "be calm" which showed most plainly what her feelings were at the time. She had prayers and hymns read and sung to her incessantly this morning, and expected to be called away to Heaven sooner, even thou her summons came [...] a resignation and to the will of God and such utmost confidence in his goodness & greatness as Annie expressed, is a greater comfort to her dear and loving Mother, than anything else can be.

She requested that I should take her remains to Flat Rock and place them near our Father's, and, if nothing prevents, I shall start from here tomorrow afternoon, reaching Columbia on Friday morning, and continuing the journey immediately.

Mama & the girls are trying to comfort each other and I trust will find relief from their great grief.

With love to all

Your's most affectly
Grandson
Elliott¹⁷

EGP

Pueblo Nuevo Sep. 3d [1869]

Dearest Mama,

Your letter of the 16th ult. reached me some days ago. I rejoice to find that you all continue well. The dry season without doubt has caused the extreme healthfulness of the country but how distressing the drought must be! I am grieved to hear of the lost provision crop & the probable loss of the cotton -- everything seems to go against the poor South-- it makes me very sad to hear of the probability of your leaving your old home dear Mama-- but I sincerely trust it may not come to that-- something must turn up. Mrs. B. my confederate acquaintance says that if you took "the oath" your property they are obliged to return to you & if you went to Washington it would be done. I seldom see a northern paper, the Herald is very much taken on the Island but I do not care to read its falsehoods. Should we remain here we will take the Daybreak. For the last ten days I have been much occupied in taking care of the children several of whom have been quite sick with hot fevers & colds. This has prevented my usual letters but I trust the delay has not been sufficient to cause you anxiety. Tula had a severe indisposition (indigestion) with burning fever for twenty four hours. Calomel & Do[...] powders broke the fever & checked the disease, but she was entirely restored by taking ice water, which acted like magic [...] her & making her sleep sweetly. She is now alright-- looking delicate but more hearty from her attack. Benigno & Alfonso the other invalids are doing well-- fevers & colds are very prevalent & I am glad poor Tula escaped the last. We have had the younger ones vaccinated lately & they are getting over it nicely, since the small pox was so terrible here two years ago. The Government has done everything to prevent the disease from spreading. A calf with the pox was imported from Belgium at a cost of \$12,000 dollars every week a fresh animal is inoculated & so my babies received it fresh from the bosom of a fine young heifer. I hope dear Mama I am domestic enough to please you. Tula stammers sometimes when she is nervous. When talking to the little ones she never does I trust when she grows older it will disappear altogether. The boys school will open in a few days. They have enjoyed Nicholas Nickleby very much. The number of "Onward" that I have read was deciding beyond my boys. The love & jealousy of a planter for a mulatto girl pictures of nigs being punished-- The young lady of the house looking on [...] thin. The South is adm[...] that she need not expect again such magnanimous treatment from her northern brothers but will instead [...] halter! The work is written in bad style, profane & boastful in the extreme! I'm afraid [...] was paid something for [...] it. The boys beg that no more of them shall be got, as they understand from Mamie's letters that she had not subscribed for the rest of the year. When they have determined what books they want for the \$2.00 remaining Brosio will write & tell you. If I can find the time I write to Mamie by this mail, her letter & the magazines were twenty days in reaching me. Regarding the probability of Mamies getting a place as governess here tis impossible to say now should the country become [...] as I trust it may, she would no doubt do well but does she know Spanish? she could not teach here unless she understood it. Should we remain in Cuba & go to housekeeping, in the winter M. could come &

¹⁷ Elliott Johnstone was twenty years old. His sister died at the age of nineteen.

stay with us-- & with her facility for language she might master this, & get a position suitable to her. There is more wealth in Hav. but it would be so lonely for poor Mamie there. We shall be on the look-out, but you know the difficulties! To show you the conditions of the country-- Miguel Aldama left with all his family some time ago his property has been confiscated & his brother in law Pepin Alfonso gave three thousand to the Volunteers & has pledged himself to give a thousand a month as long as the war lasts! Millions of dollars have left the Island & people are still running away. Mrs. Poujaud came from the Cumbre to visit me last week with her cousin Miss Sanches. Jeff Davis staid with Mr. Sanches on his visit to the Island they are strong Confederates very wealthy & clever people. Mrs. P. said "did I not tell you that those accustomed to Charleston & its neighborhood would not get yellow fever." She says she has suffered much more from heat in Charleston than here. Excuse my elegant expressions dear Mama. The mother of so many little worries can hardly write well-- precious darlings I would not part with them for all the comfort & quiet in the world! Poor Mamie how hard it does seem that her children should be taken from her! There is something very touching in her own & Annies resignation.

Tis late & I must close with much love from the chicks & myself to you all

Yr ever affectionate

Hattie

You seldom mention Tom!

They boys (including) Alfonso are anxious to return to school. They send thanks for the pieces you enclosed. Narto has very pretty teeth. Have I answered all the questions?

EGP

[The first part of this letter from Mary Barnwell Elliott to her mother is missing]

9th

I feel as if I cannot write to any one but Yourselves. With best love to Sisters & brothers--

I am darling Mother Your affectionate but submissive

Daughter

13th Sepr [1869]

I had copied your Sister's letter for you my dearest Hattie & intended sending it by todays mail, hoping also to acknowledge the receipt of a letter due now by your dear Self -- failing in this & being unexpectedly the recipient of several letters this mornng. I shall detain this, making additions wh. may prove interesting to you. Your Sister has enclosed me two likenesses of her darling, one of wh. has an expression of suffering -- the other has a strong family resemblance -- to Callie Emmie & to yourself, Yr brothers think -- but to Cousin Charlotte Cuthbert most of all. Your Sister writes that Mamie suffers from her eyes so often that the Drs. say she must rest them this winter, & not teach. So it is pretty well decided that she will spend the winter among friends at the South, and of course you will see her. [...] & Alice R. have both invited her and altho' Alice expects an addition in Octr She invites Mamie to return with Mr R. who will be here on the 1st. Emma has had influenza for a week Dr Smith is attending her, but she is up with a good appetite, Dr Chisolm is very good in visiting Mamie whose chief regret is that she cannot help in the week to be down for Emma & Fan who will return this day week to Mrs Semples. Miss Koomer is expected every day, her school reopens also on the 16th I do not know if she wants me again altho' I feel no uneasiness at all abt it. I have heard three times from my dear Elliott, but not beyond Columbia. Every one is kind to us, and we will be taken care of. I

am taking bitters & trying to get up my strength. Miss Hannah quite well & devoted &&&.

Piedmont Sepr 6th

My dear Aunt,

We were startled to hear this mornng. that Elliott Johnstone arrived at Mr Drayton's with his Sisters remains, & that we were invited to attend her funeral services at past twelve o'clock. My thoughts are so full of the subject this afternoon that it is a relief to me to write, and I thought that you wd. be interested in all I could tell. When I saw that poor lonely boy standing with bowed head, by Annie's coffin, all the kindred blood in my heart warmed towards him--in times of trouble relationship does seem to come out more strongly. No doubt you already know all particulars of Annies last hours. I hope to learn far more, when I see Mr Drayton again, but I know she has made peace with God, and met her last enemy bravely. Elliott & his cousin Frank Johnstone came yesterday (Sunday) afternoon in a hack from Greenville. I saw him for a short time before the service began, & was grieved to see him with hollowed cheeks -- but it wd. hardly be [...] after so painful a journey. The day was very gloomy but I think evry member of the community who cd. possibly attend was present Even poor cousin [...] I met toiling along the road, leaning in Dr. Kings arm. The coffin stood before the well known [...], strewed with white flowers, chiefly lilies from the Draytons, he read the service with a voice & heart full of sympathy. Julia & Ellen sang "Jesus Savior of my Soul" & then we moved to the Church yard -- Elliott & F. J., Savage Trenholm & Julian Lewis T & A[...] Memminger, acted as Pall bearers Maria Carry & I followed with the Draytons. Marie carried a white wreath for her cousins grave & seemed much affected. Do you remember Aunt Ann that these two were baptised together in the old Church nineteen years ago." The grave was dug in a line with G W J's but leaving a small space between. At the conclusion of the service Mr D. read the prayer for those in affliction & many a heart lifted up a petition for the absent Mother I am sure, but I was glad she did not hear the hollow sound of the falling earth. God keep her, as he has, & does, & will.

Elliott drove Carry to the Draytons where we stopped a few minutes, and took leave of him, for I am sorry to say he leaves this very afternoon by way of Spartanburgh, for a glimpse of the [...] Johnstones on their way back. All the community are full of sympathy for Cousin Mary-- the Draytons really seem devoted friends.

EGP

[25 September 1869]

[*First part missing*]

Another sad occurrence has been a cause of intense grief to me, & sympathy to the community -- the death of Genl. Gonzales' wife. She was Harriet Rutledge Elliott. But a very few days before, I saw her blooming & lovely -- our friendship was daily increasing -- & I took L. to see her. She spoke of what a good Christian She had become & in the sweetest laughing manner, told me, that besides nursing her own baby (3 months old) she was nursing a Yankee woman's *twins*, who lived in the same hotel. Then she dwelt much on her fear of the *Yellow fever*; a few days after, three of her children were down with it -- they recovered, but she was taken, & already worn out, she was sick but two days, when she vomited -- at once realizing her disease she fell into a convulsion from fright, & in the second, she died. They were in misery tho' her husband begins to make a livelihood by teaching. Poor man! His grief is most touching! but he stood before her corpse, & said in a firm voice to the Dr. who returned surprised to find her dead, "There you see her, born in affluence, reared in affluence, & died in misery, without

feeling the transition.” He has had to distribute the children to such kind friends, as could take them. He ordered the little boy, sent to me. It broke my heart, to have to decline, but my husband went & explained how we were situated otherwise we would have taken them *all*, they are so fond of me, & so well brought up. Our good Dr. has taken a dear little fellow of 3 years & the little girl 5 years. They are *sick* & are fitting up the children nicely.

Mrs. G. was only 29 years old. She was so lively & amiable, & such cheerful resignation to her circumstances. She recounted to me her troubles during the war. In fine the circumstance is most melancholy, & has saddened me in the extreme.”

I send you this extract from a letter dated 25th of Sept. from Jane’s friend Mrs. Poujand, who lives with her husband’s uncle, Mr. Sanchez. I thought
[*The rest is missing*]

EGP

Charleston Oct 17th [1869]

I received your letter of yesterday this morning my dear Emily, & am glad to hear that you all continue well, for I must say that we have all felt anxious about you all Summer the risk of remaining on the plantation [*torn*] great, & you all have got off so well this time, that I fear you will become even more venturesome in future. Mary has [*torn*] yet [*torn*] I hope to see her this coming week. I fear [*torn*] be a Montpelier after all, as I hear William Johnstone has two children very sick at the present time, & Mary says [*torn*] is out, but that his condition is very unsatisfactory. I will however enclose you Mary’s last letter, & you will see for yourself all about her &c.

I regret to hear that you have not heard lately from Hattie & am not surprised at your anxiety, for the climate of Matanzas is one to which they all are unacclimated, & yellow fever is a terrible scourge, but may God help us all!

As regards the slab at Magnolia, Mr. Huger & all that I have spoken to agree, that it had better be postponed a while, matters & things are in a very unsettled condition, & in case of any row between the races, the negroes & yankees would delight in obliterating all traces of those who have names of any consequence, or that would be generally know. The resting places of our darlings have only private marks & nothing would induce us to make them too public -- as regards Callie’s watch, please do not raffle, or get rid of it on any account, unless it may be necessary to dispose of it for food. She valued it so much that I should hate to see it go out of the family. if these wretched negroes & Yankees can be kept in order we will all be better off in a very few years & then we can act more as we please. The Ogeechees are \$2 a jar Miss Burnett got a jar of grapes also for you they are also \$2 per jar. They are made by Miss Martha Barnwell of Beaufort. I do not think there are any fig preserves at the [*torn*]epository, but some beautiful Haw Jelly & Myrtle [*torn*] the prettiest I have ever seen, & also some plums [*torn*] will send if you want them, all of these you can take on my recommendation, & are the best of their kinds.

I have no news of any interest to tell you, if nothing happens to present I expect to go to N.O. on a short visit, & will probably leave on the 1st of next month. One of Mr Hugers neices [*sic*] Emma Huger goes with me. I expect to be back by the middle of Dec, to Ella Wilkinson’s wedding & to be in time for another catastrophe which comes off some time in Jan & Willie is already nervous lest I should remain absent too long. You know Mammass are always wanted in time of trouble.

Give a great deal of love to your Mother & Sister for me I think of you all constantly &

wish more than ever that you were near us.
Always your affectionate friend

C Huger

Tear up Mary's letter after reading it.

EGP

22d Oct. [1869] Balt.

My dearest Sister

What is this terrible news that has just reached me. Can it be true? I had just read my darling Mother's letter of the 20th in which she shows perfect ignorance of the cruel report which Elliott brought me a little while ago. *Is it so*, that our lovely sister has fallen a victim to yellow fever? I would not write this but that I am sure you will have heard the report before this will reach you. God help you all if it be a reality. I have felt that I should never see Hattie again but I did not dream of this.

Write soon to your
deeply distressed

Sister [Mary Barnwell Elliott]

EGP

Saturday 23d Oct [1869]

My darling Mother

A letter from Mamie, confirms the dreadful news which reached me yesterday and your home circle has [...] been plunged in such grief -- that only those whose hearts have been *torn* can understand. To tell you how I grieve with you and *for* you all is impossible to *attempt* to comfort you is equally impossible. *To try* and believe that Our father in Heaven -- Who gave this previous daughter to You for a time has taken her back to himself -- from all the care and amity of her life -- and that *tho we* mourn. She is infinitely happy -- is all that is left You. We must think of our lovely and beloved daughters -- as Angels hand in hand -- waiting to welcome us -- to the rest which will be eternal -- take comfort dearest Mother & Sisters -- and bow in submission -- how I wish that I could get to You -- but it is not possible -- try and write to me, for I shall be so anxious to hear of You, after this heavy stroke.

When I can I will write to Col. Gonzales -- to tender him my sympathy -- for I well know he needs it -- and to ask about the dear children. We must be thankful they have found such tender careful friends, and hope for the opportunity some day of taking them to our hearts. God bless & comfort You all My darling Mother -- Your devoted

Mary

EGP

Charleston, Oct. 28 [1869]

My dear Aunt,

The rumors which we have heard during the last week, have probably before this assurance a positive form to you. Some definite accounts I suppose must have reached you from Cuba, & given you the mournful satisfaction of knowing how those we love have passed away.

I feel much sorrow for the early death of your sweet & affectionate daughter, & for the helpless condition of her motherless children. And I feel a deep sympathy for you & your

daughters, knowing how your hearts have wrapped up in that dear child.

I find a great change in my feelings respecting the death of friends. For the aged I feel no sorrow in their departure. This world looks so much monduary, & heaven so much lighter, that I can not mourn the loss of any who seem fitted for the change.

But when one so young & blooming is taken from the midst of family & friends, we must now mourn her loss. I loved Hattie very much, & always felt her sweet & affectionate manner, & I pray God to guide, watch over, & protect those little ones left in this world of sin. May He be their guardian & their God. May his love shield them, & his favor defend them from temporal & spiritual ill.

And I pray him to comfort your hearts under this trial, & help you to say "Thy will be done. Thus remains a rest to the people of God blessed be God, a rest from sin & sorrow, & pain when God will wipe away all tears from our eyes."

Our earthy sorrows may be sanctified to an everlasting gain.

"In heaven (says an old writer) I shall thank God for all things, chiefly for our afflictions, chiefly for what was most severe."

That this may our blessed experience is the sincere prayer of
yrs very affectly.

C. C. Pinckney

Sally desires her affectionate regards, & sympathy in your sorrow.

EGP

64 Mt. Vernon Place
October 30th [1869]

My darling Mother

Your letter reached me to day - and I cannot tell you how my heart aches for *you all*. It was cruel to have heard such news, in such a way - but the reality in itself buries all thought of the *manner* and Oh the waking up to such realities is so dreadful. You must believe that everyone of your pangs is shared by me my darlings and if I could I would do anything in the world to comfort you. When I can collect my senses I will write as You wish me to, to the poor father. I did write a week ago to him, but only to offer my sympathy and ask for especial news of the dear little children. Besides all of this dreadful trouble I have been so *unnerved* by *seeing* the intense suffering of my poor Emma, that I feel fit for nothing. Three days ago I went to ask after Fannie and herself, and Mrs. L. informed me that Emma was not well. I went up to her room to find her gasping for breath, and for ten hours I have *never* seen any one so suffering the worst attack of asthma I have ever seen. I have been with her for three days, and the Dr. has given her severe remedies. She is now much better but very weak, and I am so disheartened. I asked the Dr. if there was any choice between this climate and Charleston and he said no, so I much expect her to suffer through the winter.

From Mamie I have not heard for a week, but will not anticipate anything wrong.

Elliott is looking better and the rest well.

Good night my darling Mother and Sisters how I wish I was near You to *show* instead of telling You of my sorrow for Your heart sorrows. Oh that *I* could comfort You, but there is only *One* who can, and to Him I pray unceasingly for You. Love to my Brothers

Your devoted Mary

EGP

Savannah Nov 5th [1869]
Friday Night

[To Emily Elliott]
My dear dear Cousin

I heard a few hours ago unexpectedly in the streets such an awful piece of intelligence -- that I sit right down & write to you -- trusting this may be some mistake for it is too terrible to be true. that our sweet our beautiful Hattie had died of Yellow fever in Cuba. God in heaven grant there may be a mistake as there was about the imprisonment of Gen Gonzales.

Think of those six little children the dear little things we were so fond of in the short time we knew them -- & Hattie -- Emmy I cant believe it. You must write & tell me. Your grief & that of Annes & Aunt Ann's should it be true I cannot contemplate -- but only compare it & what we felt when Cholera tore off in one night our Phoebe. Ah this is a sad & weary world & our only hope is that Christ has a home prepared for our beloved ones & that with Him there is rest & peace.

Your loving cousin
Leila [Habersham]

GFP [Translation]

JURISDICTION OF Matanzas

REGISTERED TO NO. 160

THE GOVERNOR
OF THIS JURISDICTION

Grants free and safe passport to Mr. Ambrosio José Gonzales y Rufin native of the United States -- residing here -- status widower -- profession professor -- to go to the United States embarking by the Port of Havana in a vessel available to him.

Matanzas eleventh of Novr. of 1869.

PERSONAL DESCRIPTION

Height *regular*

Age *50 years*

Color *good*

Hair/brows *grey*

Forehead *regular*

Eyes *brown*

Nose/mouth *regular*

Beard *thick*

Worth 8 Escudos

His sons accompany him Ambrosio native of the United States of 12 years, Gertrudis of ditto of 4 years, Benigno of 3 years and Ana of five months.

Signature of the bearer
Ambrosio José Gonzales

The Brigadier Governor
Juan N. Noriel
The Secretary of Government
Francisco Cornado y Delicado

NOTE. The present document will be null and will not have value or any effect, if it lacks the

seal or stamp assigned by the government of H.[er] M.[ajesty]
It will also be void when the date is amended having disposed that they are printed with the
current year.

EGP

Savannah
Friday 19th [November 1869]

Dearest Emmy

Gen Gonzales & the children are here-- at least 4 of the children Narto & Alfonso are left in Cuba with one of the Gen's friends. The Gen asked me to write & say that they would be with you on Tuesday morning & asked you to send to the Depot for them. The baby is a dear little thing. I have it until Sunday morning when they leave here. The children are all in the room with me when I write & send love poor little darlings. I feel for you more than I can tell

yours in haste

Leila [Habersham]

EGP

Charleston Nov 19th 1869.

Hoping dear Emmie, from day to day to hear thro' Mamie some particulars directly received from Cuba I have postponed writing, feeling that I could only add our grief to yours, which is poor comfort to each and all. Last night however Arthur Huger (Purser of the City Point) came in and told me that he left Gen Gonzales and some of the children in Savannah, yesterday morning, the General had a thro' ticket, his intention bring to bring [sic] the children to your Mother, but determined to stop in Sav until the next boat, which will reach here on Sunday eveng. Arthur said the Gen seemed so over come upon seeing him that he cld. not bear to make any inquiries, even as to the number of children with him, he says tho' that he is sure of three, and that there was an infant besides but that whether it is our little darling or that of a Mrs Hernandez who came on in the Genl's care he is not quite sure, but it is a great consolation to me to know that these little ones will be once more among us, and *if* the elder boys are left behind I'm sure it will be but for a time, this news means and unsatisfactory as it is brings a dim ray of sunshine to me and I know how great the whip will be to your Mother Annie and self, for dear Emmie to tell you the [...] my greatest grief has been for these dear little expatriated babies, who to us are sacred legacies. Hattie has exchanged a world of trouble and distrust for one of Glory and Everlasting happiness. I long to hear something of you all, but until now have not had the courage to put my painful thoughts into words. Mama left us the morning Mamie went up to you, we heard from her day before yesterday. She had reached New Orleans the day before, had not yet seen Grandmama who was on the plantation, and whom I fear she will find fearfully changed. Mr Frank Johnstone was her escort, and I only hope she will be as well taken care of on her return. I leave next week for Santee and expect Papa and Belle to go up with me. Papa needs change but at the last moment he may back out. every one here seems dull and depressed, so much so that I regard my return to the country with pleasure but leaving Arty behind and not very strong will is a trial. The sedentary life he leads is calculated to tell on one so young. Arthur Huger who is now sitting by me says I must not say too positively that the Genl will be here on Sunday as he may have said that he would come on the next trip of the City Point, which will be in on Thursday tho he understood him to say the next ship thereby meaning the Dictator, so with much love to each

and all, dear Emmie, in which Papa and the rest unite and hoping soon to hear from you.

I remain Your sincerely attached friend

M.P.M.

EGP

Sunday Evening [21 November 1869]

My Dear Emmie,

Your letter being delayed, longer than usual, has *just* reached me & I hasten to answer it, hoping it will not be too late for tomorrows mail. Mrs Arthur Manigault mentioned to me on Friday afternoon “that Col Gonzales with three of the children had reached Savannah” She heard this “from Arthur Huger”, who is purser on the Steamer, “said they had got through tickets for Charleston” and would probably come in the next steamer, so I trust you will see them very soon. Mr Huger said Miss Hernandez was with the party, and *had a baby* with her, which Mrs Manigault thinks was probably your *little treasure*. The extract of the letter which Mamie Johnstone must have showed you, was so different from your dear Hatties account in all her letters, that the inconsistency immediately struck me so that for *my* part I did *not* believe it, on at any note had no doubt, but the account in that letter was much exaggerated, for this reason did not mention about the “misery” poverty feeling how dreadfully distressing it would be to you.

I thought some steamer may have arrived from Savannah to day, hearing that one was due, so Barnwell proposed to go & see Mr Salas who we heard lately knew Col G well & perhaps could tell us if they had come. Mr Salas was not at home, but the ladies asked Barnwell in, said he had not arrived, then told him that Mrs Salas, sister in law, had nursed the children & their dear Mother, that she was fatigued, and worn out by anxiety and *perfect devotion* to the children. She said they were getting on *very comfortably* and had every *luxury & necessary*, that Col Gonzales was getting a salary of three thousand dollars, and the boys were at school. Mrs Man says Mr Huger did *not* see the two eldest boys, “thinks they are probably still at the school.” Mrs Man told me this, when I asked her if she knew, when the children came to ask Brosio to come & see me. I was disappointed to hear it, being sure the *poor* fellow would be so glad to come back to you all.

I *thought* the extract of the letter Mamie had was to Jane Mitchell, but Mrs S told me, *that* letter was to Mrs Michel from her daughter, I am having heard the sad [...] knowing that Mrs Poujand constantly wrote, inquired, and got the extract of that letter from her. Since which time Jane got a letter about the children which I wrote you of. Aunty really has had quite a sharp attack resembling very much pneumonia, & for two days I thought she was almost ill, but is now up again, she has not been so sick for years. I feared your dear Mother, would be much worn by anxiety, & sorrow, such blows *must* leave their traces, for I know how much you were all [...] up in your [...]. Do give my love to Mamie Johnstone it must be a pleasure for her to be with you, for I think it is very gratifying to be with those we love, and feel with even in sorrow and trial, Mancina & Aunty unite with me in a great deal of love, hoping to hear from you before very long & that you will soon see the children.

Affectionately Yours

E[bet] Burnet

The Charleston *Courier*
22 November 1869, 4

PASSENGERS.

Per steamer Dictator, from Palatka, via Jacksonville, Fernandina and Savannah-- General Halleck and Staff, General Gonzales and 2 children, Miss La Fond, ...

EGP

Oak Lawn Dec. 3d [1869]

My dear Nano,

As it is five weeks since I have seen you I know you are anxious to hear of our Journey & its safe termination. We did not leave Matanzas untill three days after you left for Mr. Dalcour's we spent one night with aunt Lola in Havana & the next day we left in the Steamship Savana. Early the next morning we got to Key west where we spent one day. we were then two days at sea without seeing land untill we got to Tampa where we spent a day & the next morning arrived at Cedar Keys on the steamer when at the wharfe I caught five fish. In Savana we staid at the Marshall house & spent two days with cousin Leila who took care of Anita and was very kind to us. I went to the spent two days with cousin Leila who took care of Anita and was very kind to us. I went to the theater with Charlie Habersham & enjoyed myselfe. we spend two days in Charleston with cousin Mary Manigault. now we are at Oak Lawn safe & sound tell Alfonso that Anita is quite well & fat & much prettier than before. Tula has been sick for the last three days but she is much better now. Grandma, Nanan & Emmy, Uncles Ralph & Tom are all well cousin Mamie is staying here now & she is so good & sweet I know you would be glad to see her tell Alfonso that old Picket & Giny are fat & well but Rit has been sold & Uncle Ralph has two sorrel mules

[The rest is missing]