

Smyrna, May 25, 1853

My dear Neice, It is a long, very long since I have had the happiness of Hearing from you by letter. I want very much to hear from you or to have a letter rom yourself. Sewl Harris has been here on a visit, He told us you were all well a week before he left home. He leaves here tomorrow morning. Great changes have taken place since you left this part of the world. I have broken up housekeeping, and am making my home with Lydia Wild. She has a family of eight children, her eldest son is farming on land joinging his father. He has two daughters, nearly grown, Anna and Amanda, Mary and Ella Davis, John F<sup>r</sup>ancis and Denny are their names. I have forgotten whether or not we ever informed you of the death of my ~~youngest~~ daughter Margaret. She has been dead 5 years. Since I have been part~~of~~<sup>then</sup> of the time with Lydia, and the other part with Mary Jane, but mostly with Lydia as my goods are all there. Rebecca Anne is here on a visit. She has not been to see us before ~~for~~ nearly two years. Her health is thather delicate, but it ~~is~~ better now than some years back. She lives 85 miles from us when at home. She has no children living, They Talk of going to Vieginia t live, Mary Jane and myself went to see her two years ago for the first time. For me it was quite a journey.

My dar Niece, What great joy it would afford me to one more behold your face in this part of the world. I have hoped you would visit your old native land and those of your friends that are yet living who would rejoice to see you. I assure you nothing would give me greater pleasure than to see you here, Dearest Niece. I have seen many troubles since the death of your Uncle. I could tell you a volume could I see you. Sewel H. invited me to go out there with him, he said he would conduct me to yur door, but this for me would be too great an undertaking for one of my years. I heard some weeks ago from Aunt Marion's family, I believe they were all well but I never see her. We don't know much about your Aunt E. Blackistone's children. I suppose you have heard that Samuel Griffin's son John has been married two years, Samuel Griffin's health is somewhat delicate. Mrs. Harris and her daughter are getting along very well. I believe Elizabeth is considered a very good farmer and manager. She ha two sons and two daughters.

Dear Niece, I would be glad to know whether my sister is yeat living and how she is

& how her children are doing. Sewel informed me of the marriage of Willard. This we had not heard before, he says you look as young as ever, do my dear Niece make us a visit. I should be happy to see you, but I must make haste as the night is advancing and finish my letter as Sewel is to call for it in the morning to take to you and we must be up soon. The time has been limited for writing as you ~~may~~ discover from the manner it is written. It is made up with blots and mistakes, but you will excuse I hope. I have forgot that Maria Blummer it was wished me to ask you concerning her mother, if you knew any thing of her if you would be so good as tell her when you anser this letter which I hope you will as I shall look often.

Closing,  
Jane Spruance