

or enumerate what important changes
may have taken place during the time
so you need not in future make any more
apologies, but just remember, my gentle, forgiv-
ing disposition" & ~~just~~ write whenever the
spirit moves you, for your letters are always
a source of pleasure. I am sorry to
hear you have had to struggle so hard &
overcome so many difficulties to get along, but
I suppose your success is ample compensation
for all you have undergone; for we must expect
to meet with many hardships & trials, in the
pursuit of our country & you have been blessed
above many others, for there are numbers who
are out of employment, & have failed in every
effort to obtain it & would willingly undergo
almost any privation & hardship to obtain
maintenance for themselves & family. The cry
of hard times & scarcity of money is the
heard from every quarter. Walter speaks very

Charleston Aug 27th/66

Dear Cousin,

Your letter came safely to
hand about a week since, & it has been
so very long since I have had the extreme
pleasure of hearing ~~that~~ I scarcely know
how to go about answering your epistle, or
indeed whether or not I ought to do so, for
you must know there is very little satisfac-
tion in writing to any one, & feeling at
the same time that your letter is to be
received with perfect indifference & indifference
of course it can effect nothing else at
your hands, for you know the old saying
actions speak louder than words - & judging
from the former as regards yourself, I have
a right to think that you would manifest
any degree of pleasure at the reception of

To Albert Washington Spadd from cousin Emma.

1/13/1999
Donated by Michael Crocker
106 Harold St.
Union SC 29379

one of my unimportant epistles - you say
you do not wish me to assume the
role of Menius, but I think I shall, &
choose as the most effective manner of doing
so, a speedy reply, for I am sure it would
please you too well for me to wait nearly
a year, before answering your letter, therefore
I intend to inflict some punishment
by thrusting myself upon your notice at
an earlier date than you either desired or expected
& than I would not like to defer writing
so long, for fear you might be in Brazil at
that time, ^{and} I would like to be the recipient
of one more letter from you before you take
your departure from this country - a few well
chosen epistles at any rate - I often think of
you all & used to wonder ~~what~~ what
could be the cause of your continued silence,
& comfort myself sometimes with the thought
that probably ^{they} ~~my~~ ^{had} never been received, & then

again I imagined you had arrived in the
interceding time, & become entirely oblivious of
the rest of mankind, in the perfect happi-
ness & bliss you enjoyed, with the one you had
chosen as your partner for life, through whose faith
to show your joy & pleasure, & ^{then} to sustain &
comfort you in the hour of adversity & affliction.
I thought however you might have written
& let a holy knave know some thing about it.
I will not pursue the subject any further
but exonerate you from all blame, for if
you did not feel disposed to write, I think
you were perfectly justifiable in not doing so,
& most willingly excuse you on that ground.
I suppose you think an exchange of
letters once a year is sufficient, & a communi-
cation between the two families to keep the
intimacy which they naturally feel in each
other from entirely subsiding, - we can there-
by give an annual account of each other.

be much pleased to have some of you to visit
us - I would like very much to know
in the fall - but Summer is the most
pleasant time to visit Virginia - you can
then go round ~~visit~~ to see all the places
I note in our state - Mount Bridge -
Peaks of Otter &c... & spend a much more
agreeable time, altogether.

I wrote to you last Summer & asked
you please to send me your photograph
which you promised to do & indeed said
you ~~would~~ send the following week, but as it
has never come to hand I think you
must have failed to do so, & I again
make the request - I had a very pretty
album given me last Christmas, & am anxious
to get the photographs of my friends &
relatives whom I wish to occupy a place
there - I would so much like to have

your, & also Cousin Charles if you will
both confer the favor of sending them to
me - I shall certainly expect them, & be
sorely disappointed if they are not received in
a very short time - I was the recip-
ient of a letter a few days ago, & I wish
very much you were near, to assist me in as-
suring, for I really do not know how to proceed -
on portions of it, completely unpleas'd me -
I think probably you might have been able
to enlighten me, & advise me, the best course
to pursue, but having you to consult
I do not any more to apply to, & will have
to rely upon my own judgment, & answer
to the best of my knowledge & ability, but
it will be quite an undertaking -
Percy is indeed quite grown, has been on
the carpet for a year or more - I think
she is very pretty & is the acknowledged

beauty of the family - she still spells her
name with the "B" but after she becomes
more advanced in years, if she still remains sin-
gle I think it probably she will change it to
"C", thinking it will sound so much younger.

Will Cousin Frank & I wait for your patience
no longer, for I know you will be completely
weaned out as you get to the way through
with reading, but I did not intend writing such
a lengthy epistle when I commenced - I shall
look anxiously forward this next year, if
I am in the land of the living, for one of
your long, interesting letters ~~is~~ not to
be disappointed. All our
with us in much love so graciously & with
members of the family -

As was your Cousin
Emma

The presence of the dear departed one, but
I must beg your forgiveness for dwelling so
long upon a subject of in which you were
ful but little concern, but it is of such deep
interest to myself -

Aunt Mary's health
has greatly improved, & she is comparatively
speaking well, tho' as Winter approaches her
~~own~~ disease may show itself again - warm
weather being much more favorable for her
I am extremely obliged for your kind invitation
to visit you this Winter & would like
very much to do so, but fear it will be im-
possible - I have had a most pressing
invitation ^{expressed} to spend this Winter in Ala-
bama, which I would like to accept, being
exceedingly anxious to visit there, but ^{it is}
necessarily compelled to decline - we would