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Salem September 15th 1839.

My dear Parents,

I have delayed writing for some time in hopes of receiving a letter from you, but I have been disappointed repeatedly, and I fear the reason of our disappointment is caused, by some member of the family being sick; but I am in hopes the next mail will bring me a letter and deny my suspicians. A great many of the young ladies will leave this fall. I wonder if we will be among the number that leave. Mrs. Deuke says she will accompany us this fall, if you conclude to take us home, as Mrs. Monroe is very anxious for her to spend the winter with her; and I think you requested us to tell her if she would go, you would take her with pleasure. I shall be very glad of her company and I am sure you will be pleased with her. Sister and I have worked a foot-stool apiece since you were here. Sisters was a long stitch called "Turf" and mine a Pea-fowl; they are both

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very pretty, and I think you will be pleased with them.
The weather has been exceedingly dry for a few weeks past; and it is almost too dusty to walk. We were at the Church to-day (the 15th) and heard a most excellent sermon delivered by Mr. Shultz; his text is to be found in the 5th chapter and 4th verse of St. Matthew. "Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted." Caroline Griffin has heard that her father is married: she is not at all reconciled; but I hope time will make a change in her mind. I think Mr. Martin has determined on taking his daughters home this fall: they are very anxious to go to Georgia. I received a letter from Brother Frank last evening. He says he has an appointment for the Commencement in October; but he did not say an appointment of what; I suppose he means that he has to make a speech; if so, I hope he may acquit himself with credit. He said he intended to visit us in December; but I hope we shall go to see him, before he comes to see us. Please ask Aunt Mary and Grand Ma to write to us: Aunt Mary has not answered my last letter yet. What keeps Uncle Bedney from writing? I think he can find time to write now, as the sickly season is nearly over. Our festival is on the 25th of this

month. It is the day on which our Chapel was dedicated. Please write soon and let us know if we will return to Georgia in the fall. Please give my love to Mr. Martin's family, also Uncle Smiths, Aunt Mary and Grand Ma. Sister Catharine and Ella send many kisses to you; and if you please accept of the love and affection of your daughter

Mary Ann.

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