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Erie
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CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2012.02.001

Ashboro NC
Feby 24/1879

My dear Marie: I came here today
and found your letter waiting for
me. I am almost sorry to say, that the pros-
pect for business looks very unfavorable.
I trust, in a vague way, made it a
sort of test as to what I would do, say-
ing to myself, that if it did not look
well, at the opening of the Circuit I would
go away and if it did, I would stay.

I don't know how it will be yet, how-
ever, and may find that the slaves
even worse than I could desire & if I
have forgotten to thank you for those
sweet letters you have sent me
every day it is not because I have
failed to appreciate them & if you
could see the childlike eagerness
with which I wait for and expect them
I suppose you would laugh at me.
I was disappointed in the money I an-
ticipated last week, but think it will
be waiting for me at R. when I go
back & at least a portion of it. I am
afraid that Guilford and Chatham Courts
will delay my coming to you, but
will make it as speedy as I can.

Sister ~~on~~ just right & she foresees - the
coming little rainy, that I shall be
so glad to see her, that I shall let
her do just as she pleases when I
come. She need have no fear of
that - She will have a grand time
being society there and I shan't all-
ow any Mammoth or Auntie to break
a finger or way a chin at her
while I am there &

I suppose you are right to
worry about that reading, but
if you knew how hungry I
had gotten you would hardly
blame me. I had hardly read
a story since I could remember
before - And, really, it did not seem
as if I had read more than five
teen minutes when I got
through -

I have been powerful care-
ful and intend to be & Of course,
I must do my work and I do
not look to less than 16 hrs a
day of such work for the future.
You ought to see how easily and
pleasantly I sit at the desk for
such an amount of labor & I don't
get sleepy at all & I don't know
but having a wife would make
me so but I never get sleepy
at all now, and get sleep es-
pecially the minute I lay down &

If I stay, do you know my plan? I
intend to open an office in R. Get
up at 8.30; breakfast till 9 - look
over exchanges & mail until 9.30 or
10. Go to my office at 10 - dine at
5 (or go to see you and recreate until 5 p.m.
per, as the case may be). Go to the Meoship-
per office at 8 - and stay until 1 - then
go to bed & How do you like it? From
5 to 8 - I am going to see to you and recre-
ation &

The prospect of Greensboro is ex-
cellent. The recent railroad bill has
made it certain that the Stagville
R.R. will be there pretty soon and the
Mt. Airy R.R. built & this will make
it, the R.R. center of the region and
give it an impetus which it already
begins to feel &

I cannot write more now
as it is late and I have several
letters to prepare for the mail
tomorrow morning at 6 -

Kiss the darling - See you
all - your son

John