

12-21-1857

Jeremiah Gage to Mary Gage (21 December 1857)

Jeremiah Gage

Mary Margaret Gage Sanders

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Oxford Missip
Dec. 21st 1837

My Dear Sister

As I have a leisure moment just now, I will employ it, by making a few enquiries of you about the state of affairs at home, and the transactions & occurrences of the surrounding neighbourhood. You may expect this to be a very mixed letter, for I am going to write just as things come to my mind. How did you like the appearance of things when you got home, or I should rather have said (where home use to be.)

I reckon you were tolerably well prepared to meet it; as you had learned the extent of the damage done. No language could half describe the appearance of things as they really were, I felt for two or three days after I got home, as though I was not at home, — you no doubt had the same feeling, but

I guess it has all worn away, and you have
at last become accustomed to the rains.

I received a paper from McMillan to day con-
taining a description of the Richland Brass
Band, — on the top of the paper he wrote that
there had been two or three parties in the borders
of Richland, I cannot imagine who feels rich
enough these hard times to give a party,

The boys gave a party here called "hard times"
the boys dressed in their coarsest, plainest clothes,
and the ladies in their every day calicoes —

They had a rich time of it — danced until
one o'clock, there was a storm party at the

"Intersity," or in language plainer to you,
Union female college, on the 18th. The boys are
allowed to see them only during Christmas hol-
idays, and you may depend upon it they
are making good use of that time,

About eight were down to see the "Intersity"
last night, and more than as many more
are going tomorrow night, I have a notion of going,

what do you think of it? I saw Miss Anderson at the
party, but did not get acquainted with her,

James Walton got a letter from Owen Byrd
this morning, stating that Miss Betty Mitchell
had been dancing. It is a pity she could not re-
frain from dancing; but I think it almost as
well to dance as to be forever wishing to; I cannot
see for the life of one what could induce her, — there
is no one about Richland that she would greatly desire
to dance with, — no place suitable for dancing
, besides the music you have is not worth dancing
after. If she could hear as good music as some
of the boys here can play, I would not be surprised.
I am getting sleepy, and have written all the fool-
ishness I can think of. I have not received but one
letter from Pa since I returned, — am anxious
to hear from him but if you nor him either will
write I can't help it; I will have to keep expec-
ting and be disappointed. If you can at any
time find leisure to write to me I would be pleased
to hear from you. I will write to Pa once every
eight days whether I hear a word from home or
not. Love to all, } Your affectionate Brother
If Pa has received my circular, please send it; Jessie
for I would like to see it. If it has got lost write me what place
I stood in the class



Miss Mary M Gage
Richland
Holmes Co. -
Miss