

Middletown, Goliad Co, Texas
December the 22nd, 1862

Dear Aunt,

It has been a long time since I wrote to you, but it is not because I have forgotten you, for I think of you all often. I have been looking for a letter from some of you for a long time. Well, I got a letter from John day before yesterday. It was written in October. He was well. He was in Arkansas. He asked about Grandma and Pap he said if he knew where to write to he would write to them. I have not answered it yet but I will in a few days. Well, I believe I have no news worth writing. I am in such a hurrah I hardly know how to write anyway as Dr. Paxton (Ponton?) is going to start early in the morning and it is nearly dark now, we are looking for George every day – he wanted us to send him a horse but we could not get anybody to go. I am afraid he will not get to come home at all.

Sue said she answered your last letter and has not heard from you since. We have not heard from any of you nor Grandma and Pap.... You must excuse this letter as I am so troubled about George. He wants to come home so bad not any worse than we want him to come. Henry Shaper had it planned out for he and Martha and George and myself to all go over to see you Christmas if George had come. But I guess we will not get to go at all. Please excuse this and I will do beter in future. Answer this soon. Give my love to all the family and Grandma and Pap. We are all well and hoping this will find you the same. I subscribe myself Your niece,

Mary (Jones)

Addressed: Mrs. Susan Butts
Lavaca, Texas
Care of Dr. Paxton (Ponton?)