

Leathenwood Va Feb 19th /61

My Dear Uncle

As I suppose you are
~~very~~ anxious to hear from home about
now, I have concluded to drop a few
lines. Aunt Matilda requests me to write
for her as she has a very sore finger &
which prevents her from writing by this mail

She & Miss Addie are getting on very well
house keeping, & are happy to say that all are
quite well. The weather has been very cloudy
& disagreeable with some rain since you
left. Though the the people in the neighborhood
are ploughing some at this time,

Mr Urquhart says he is getting on very
well with his plantation business, turning plow
beds, ploughing &c, & and hopes to have the farm
all right by the time you return,

We regret to inform you that Jacob B Gravely
son of Capt John, lost his wife a short time ago.
She died very suddenly, but we did not
ascertain the nature of the disease



we have heard of no other deaths or sickness
I beg pardon, there has been one other, & that
was Mr Bently Jones, who died a few days ago.
I think he was confined to his bed & very
ill about the time you left.

We have not been able as yet to hear
from any of the proceedings of the convention
except the 1st & 2^d days. We think you
have made an excellent selection for
President, though Mr Southall would
have suited admirably for that office.
What few secessionists that are left
look very much "down in the mouth." They
seemed to have disappeared like ~~caterpillars~~
Caterpillars in autumn, & I understand
there was scarcely one to be found at
last Henry Court. I understand Mr
Hughes Gillard says he was a "Union man"
all the time, but for his life he couldn't
get the "drotted" Franklin people, as he calls
them, to understand him. It is quite
natural for a man to talk so after finding



Secessionism so badly defeated,
You will present my highest regards
to Mr Wm G. Goggin, as he is a very
particular friend of mine, I am
glad to find that he is a member of the convention
I understand Capt. Mitchell is down amongst
you all for the purpose of trying to influence
some of the members toward secession,
But I think that body is composed of
too good material to be carried much
off the track by him, I think they are
men not to be influenced much by
fanatics & reckless politicians, but enough.
Aunt Matilda looked with eager expectations
for a letter by yesterday's mail, but excused
by saying she thinks you are so much
interested in the affairs of the convention
to write at present, She says if you all do
not adjourn before the 1st March, that she
will come down about then, She sends
her love & says write soon. Miss Addie also
sends her compliments to you, all are
well in the neighborhood.
Your aff. Nephew P. B. Gravely

