

Celbave Lx. July 24/68

Dear Sallie,

When I left you I never thought about it being possible for me to get a letter to you before you would return and therefore said nothing about writing. I saw Fannie however the other day just after she had recd. your letter telling her to write directing to Springfield and I therefore conclude to risk it:

You know how fortunate we were in getting conveyance from Dallas home. Such friends are indeed well-springs along life's weary journey. I returned the week a few days ago and went to "Solitude". I staid there from Sunday evening to Monday evening.

It is not necessary to tell you how
I was delighted with the visit; I
need only say that Fannie was
at home and well and you will
know that the time passes smoothly
and rapidly by. There is a charm
Sallie, within that family circle which
I can't wholly define. I never was
at a place where I was made
so fully to forget every care
and live in the real enjoyment
of the present. Your appreciation
of Fannie's merits and selection
of her for a friend and confidante
confirms and strengthens my
opinion of your good judgment, for
with all sincerity I can say she is
the second in my estimation.

I never knew the company of such
as Fannie, (but God knows there are
few such) without having my feelings
thoughts, and whole being purified.

It was the consideration of such a
female character that thus inspired the
poet; "Not she with traitorous kiss her dearest
Not she denied him with unholy tongue,
She when apostles shrank, could danger brave
Last at the cross & first at the grave".

We found the sick improving except
Sister Ida; she is severely and sorely
afflicted. I fear I am not going
to bear your abuse very bravely.

The time will drag heavily on until
your return and my return to Bonham.
We will try to take Fannie with us
to the meeting and I feel warranted
in saying that you may expect to find
her with Aunt Sallie when you
return. I shall anxiously look
for a letter from you every mail
I intend to tell James to write but
in the confusion of parting forgot
it. I never I will help
Uncle Charley next session again

As I don't know that I can do
any better elsewhere. I can't get
my consent to teach school here
if I could get one.

Much else I would say if I
were with you but for the present
Good-bye. May God bless and
preserve you, is my prayer.

My love to your
family.

Most affectionately,
A. Clark.