

Solitude Texas.

Jan. 4. 1871

Dear Friends.

Your kind and more  
than welcome letter was received  
yesterday, and you have no idea  
dear Wallie how glad I  
was to get it. I read it twice  
last night and once ~~in~~ this  
morning and there is no telling  
how many more times it  
may be read. I am going  
to be very prompt in  
answering all ~~the~~ my friends  
letter this year, and yours is  
the first, but that is nothing  
uncommon, for your letters  
have been first with me

for several years. Do you remember Sallie the first letters that I ever wrote to you, I sent it by Fese, and it seems but a few days ago, but there has been many changes since then. I got a letter from Frank last week, he told me that Fese was married, and said that some body else that I know up there would marry soon, I can't imagine who it is. Frank wrote word that Mr. Coby Smith was going to move to Franks the first of this month, and Aunt Sallie wanted me to come up with them, but the weather has been so cold I could not go to Dallas to see about going. I would like so much to go and stay with her at least

two months, but I would be lonesome there without you Sallie I know, for I have tried it. I would miss you and Addison more than any if I was there, I went to Seine yesterday and tried to make up a club for the Monitor, but I made a failure and started home with the intention of sending for it myself Saturday, and come by the office and got your letter I would be very fond of the Monitor as presents from you and Addison, but Sallie, Addison sent it to me one year, and I hate for him to send it again. I will let you know before I start. Well, if I ever go, I will tell you a good

now very anxious to see you again  
and very sorry you are not here  
now. I hope you will come soon  
as you are very welcome and we  
will have a good time together.  
I am very sorry for you  
dear children I see you.

Brother Shance preached at  
all last week, but I was sick  
and did not get to hear, but  
two sabbaths. Rhoda goes  
to hear him all the time  
and seems to be delighted  
with his preaching. I am  
almost afraid <sup>to</sup> hope, but I  
sometimes think that she  
may yet be made to see  
the right way. Bettie is  
going to sister Mary's this to  
stay a month. Rhoda is going  
to Wise Co. with her next, but  
I don't know whether they will  
come to the Ford, or not yet, if  
they do you find it old,  
I would go to if I knew I could  
come to see you. Please excuse all  
of this and write soon,