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106 years ago.

(Letter addressed to Mrs. Elizabeth Wiseman, Sutherland Springs
Bexar County, Texas.)

Starkville, Mississippi

March 6th 1852

Dear Sister, I received your kind letter a few days ago. We were all glad to hear from you but sorry to know you suffered so much when you were confined. We are all well at present but Susanah. She has had a rising under her arm. It has been there for three months. We are afraid she will lose the use of her arm. The friends are all well as far as I know. Elizabeth is not well. We have not heard from her in nearly a week. Jane was confined on the last day of February. She has a fine son. It weighed 12 pounds. She came off as well as she generally does. She is able to be up and about. Nancy Watt has lost two Negroes, a boy and a woman Charity. Her property was divided. Peter and Irving got their part. The Negroes that died belonged to the three young children. Irving has moved to where his father lives. Peter lives where he did last year. It is very healthy here. David Montgomery and David Curry has a great deal of sickness. Every one of the Negroes is sick with winter fever. D. Montgomery lost two. We have had a very dry winter. Old settlers say they never saw it as dry at this season. We have had no big rains at all. Most every person is planting corn. We have had a very cold winter and the wheat are very backward. You did not say whether your breast was rising again or not. You must write every particular. How you are fixed and how you are satisfied. Mother says you write whether you have got pork or not and what you had to give. You must be sure to write often. Mary has got a fine child. A good many say it favors your little Sarah. You said we must come and eat turkey. I wish we could but I think it is very uncertain when we will eat together again. Dear Sister don't think that we have forgotten you for there is not a day but we talk of you and wonder what you are doing. Mother is very much distressed about you and says she can't feel reconciled, but so it is. You must write. That will be some satisfaction to hear from you. I wrote to you this day three weeks ago. Jane and Mr. Ware wrote. I will write often. Your father and mother brothers and sisters (send) their love to you and Mr. Wiseman and children. We got the seed and hair you sent. You must kiss the baby for me and write what you will call it. Nothing more but remain

Your affectionate sister
till death so farewell,

Nancy B. McDowell to E. and W. Wiseman

105 years ago