



Miss Nettie Lyons,
Portonsville,
Woodford County,
Kentucky.

Letter to
May mother from
only for me

happy. We have not
yet, and I do
not know now that
we will, I don't
take your questions
as the prompting of
curiosity, but allow
you to ask me what
I tell you please.
Mr Alexander joins
me in love,
Beech Hill N. Va
August 2 1872

I have been
wanting to write to you ever since
you welcome letter reached us, but
each time I have made up my
mind to it, I would find some
new idea had just written, so I
would think I must wait a few days
until something new would occur,
that I might have the pleasure
of relating something marvellous,
But I have waited in vain, for
things still goes on in the same
old monotonous way at Beech Hill,
Mr Alexander & Lucretia attend to their
duties, reads a little, Mr A - talks
to Tom, and David plays with Abe,
While I get out my machine sew
sew some, read a while, work on

my quilt until I am tired of that,
throw it all aside, then go in the
store and talk awhile, or just anything
-g & kill time. It grieves me to
think of what an idle useless life
I am living. How differently I was
spending my time one year ago.

But I must not let my mind run
off on to sad things, for I have been
struggling with the blues all day.

I was down to see Billie
last week, she looks very badly,

Mary was here yesterday, says she
is better, Ollie Gates is staying with
them now, they say she does very
well, I hope she will continue

to stay with them, Mamie was there
the day I was, I was so amused
at Willie. In her quiet way she

told Mamie what Mary said about
her taking Minnie's machine, and
that she (Mary) mislaid it very
much herself, for when she had

stitching to do Minnie could do
it faster,

We have had so much rain
since you left, Mr. Long was two
weeks threshing his wheat on that
account, the machine is now at

Mans, one of course Minnie and
Billie are up to their eyes in
work, and you know the quarterly
meeting begins tomorrow, but I
don't think there will be many
in attendance,

Mr. Pritchard and his
Dolly (of whose separation I suppose
some of them have written) sit
down, him at Billie Edwards, and

she at her father's, I am anxious
to see if he will come to church
and sit in his usual seat

next Sunday, I have shelter from
her in which he enquired very
kindly for you, the wife of you
is much, your room looks so

I send you those apron patterns
by this mail

dreary without you, for even when
you were not here we had the
pleasure and entertainment of looking
for you. Do write me often Nettie,
and if I am a little slow to answer
don't think it neglect, or for want
of interest in you. No if you really
understood my past friendship for
and interest in you you would
never let in a lifetime a trifling shake
your confidence in me. Yet I have
not done for you the half I would
like to have done.

Tell Susie her
mammy's still flourishes, and kiss
that little Nettie for me,

Just the same

Your Auntie

Dear Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the matter of the
of the same, and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.
I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. M. Smith

I still hope to get some one. I doubt whether Mr. Devereaux or the first so he will want to go to our house, so he told me he was coming, and he could not be away very long, owing to it being a busy time during what, & cutting corn, you may expect me, certainly, by the 28th if I am not hindered by law. But, there is no boat running now but my small boat, I hope there will be a rise in the river by that time, if I should start a week sooner, I will know it by the time I write of it. If Mr. Devereaux will I want Sally to go, for I want him to go with me, this can be arranged after he gets there, also all the Hutchinsons, should we not go to Louisville, I could arrange with the Stage Company to wait on them, or get a conveyance at a living rate, to do so, which I would prefer to the stage.

^{Saturday 5th}
you did not tell me whether you intended to have Rosa there. Mr. L. and I talked over the matter. He thought he would go and see her while I was visiting your mother, unless she will, or that I would rather there would be no one there, except the family, and your mother, sister and brother, if it meets your approbation. Rosa wrote to Eva that she expected to bring you and Miss A. back to us in two or three weeks. If the river continues low, we may start so as to get there Saturday, then he can go to Salina on Sunday, and be here Tuesday, being thing looks as fair for him then as he could wish. I am anxious for him to go with us, if Sally goes, tell me how you think this would do, and if it would suit you, I would rather you would not tell them of the time, as it might vary a day or two, if it does, though it will be sooner than you have mentioned.

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You mistake my language when
you ask me, to Read. Rom. 6th = 4-45th verse
Peter 21st verse 3^d Chapt. — and tell you
if I think "Baptism is worth nothing,"
I know it is one of the sacraments,
and should be obeyed, but you will
not deny I think that it is often
made a hobby for the purpose of
Prosecuting, Your assertion that "Heirs,
believed only strengthen the position
of the Preacher, they lacked the Faith
that Produced obedience, and Trust
of what avail would Baptism be
to them, admitting they believed, all
believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of
God, even infidelity itself. Yet
how can they be justified without
Faith. — I think in regard to the
verse in Romans, "That to be Baptized
into Christ, is to receive the doctrine
of Christ Crucified, and to receive
Baptism as a proof of the genuineness
of that Faith, And the obligation
to live according to its precepts
I also believe that this Baptism

represent our death to sin and
our obligation to walk in newness
of life, without which of what use
can it or any other rite be, admitting
that this verse has reference to immersion
I can ^{not} conceive that, alone would save
me. But then, ^{and} some of the finest
Bible expositors, who, I think differently
differing among the ancients was
considered the most noble kind of
death, then our commentators
who think the Apostle refers to this
It certainly does mean, that is our
death to sin I think does refer
that your reference to Peter 3^d and
2^d verse, was very unfortunate
for I do not think there is a
shadow of Comfort, to immersionists
not-me, It is plain I think
that this verse has reference to
Noah, was it the deluge itself
or the ark, or the being saved
Peter knew as the waters of the Flood.

Could not have saved Noah, and
his family, had they not made
use of the ark. So the act of
Baptism saves no one, it
but shows the action of the Holy Spirit
and is typical ^{to baptize} of purification
The ark was surely not immersed
in the water, had this been true
they all must have perished. It
was borne upon the water, and
sprinkled by the rain that
fell from Heaven, I do not think
that either this or that mode
can be of any avail to our
salvation, but the answer of a
good Conscience toward God,
the internal evidence, and
external proof, that the soul
is purified, And we are enabled
to walk in newness of life
Is your patience exhausted, must
and will you ^{not} go a mile ^{and} think how
foolish he was to put on paper.