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March 22 inst 1909

Miss Esther Pennington

My Dear Sweet friend and family I will Try To answer your most welcom letter which come To hand about Three weekes ago but I did not have any Postage So I beg you To forgive me for not writing Sooner I was So glad To hear from you all and glad you all are getting along all right I hope you will do well and have good health. well Esther darling we are all well at this time I have Planted my garden at last I never saw So much

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wet weather in my life all
the farmers are behind
with their Plowing and Plant-
ing we have about 16 acre
of corn planted and part
of it is up and some
cotton land ready to
plant I have 30 little
chickens and three hens
setting I am going to try
to raise some turkeys
this year Well E Thredle
Dallas Staped here Feather
day and he said everybody
was well at Independence
and Brother McDaniels and
family is still there

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and will Preach there this
~~year I don't think he will~~
have much Preaching at
merle for the People dont
want to pay him much and
he Can't come over here and
Preach for nothing well
Mr Smith and Miss Vesey
got married about christmas
some time I hope you Brother
Elmer will come home and
stay with yall I think
it would be better for him
than to stay at Beaumont
Esther I have no news to
write for it has rained so
much until I have not

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keep a hair
say your
left arm
may be good
and take
and take care
of yourself
& possibly
Kiss mother
Your aunt
Bettie
Nathan

been any where and the roads are almost impassable now but I hope it will stop raining now for a while you must write to me and tell me all the news for I know you are so close to all your kinfolks that you must have a nice time but dont forget your old lonely aunt away down here I wish I could come to see you all but I will not be able for a long time to come and bring your cousins and I cant leave them. Give my love to your mother and little sister and brothers but