Mr Bryan returned last week, looks very <beadly> badly; he did not enjoy his health in Raleigh. I would advise him to leave the low country. brother John was much pleased to see me he expressed great desire to see you.

I am sorry to hear of William's indisposition, but am happy to learn he had nothing of the croup I feel greatly obliged to Mrs Warrenton for her extreme care and attention, I am very sorry to hear you have not the teacher I feel distressed at the idea of my dear children being so backward in their education and so far behind other children of the same age.

Mama had a splinded tea party last thoursday evening where I saw a great assemblage of bells and fine dressing music on the Pianno by Miss Betsy Graham,[1] & Miss Susan Gaston[2] one of the sweetest looking girls I ever saw though not handsom I was requested to play, but pled an excuse. Ma requested me to tell you she regretted not having the pleasure of your company. Mr Roberts[3] said your presents would have heightened his pleasure vastly, but he stands as a good man but not sincere therefore I did not believe him altogether, the widow I mentioned in my last looked very languishing as one might expect, I received as much enjoyment as I could sepperated from my dear Husband and children, believe me when I tell you such amusements have very little pleasure for me though you may say I am not in the habit, as you have an excuse always for my good feelings, and perhaps that may be the case, I was the only lady in the room without curles except one or two old women, and got a severe reprimand from Mary for not wearing a wreath of flowers on my head which she sent me for the purpose, I wish to live not for the pleasures this world presents, but for my husband first and family &— James is quite well, and very mischievous. Henry looks tolerable but does not grow he is not near as large as Mary's child. Almost every person I see exclaims at my increased size. I have fattened very much since I came. Ma has so many nice nic, nacks, I attribute it to that.

I wish your plan with your Mother may succeed well without increasing your trouble very much—I approve [*torn*] however—I fear your increased business will ca[*u*]se you [*torn*] yourself more than ever; John has 600 acres of land where he lives he intends raising cotton & having a store a mile from his dwelling, with a clerk, where he intends doing extensive business. he seems perfectly devoted to his wife he seems scarcely to think of any thing else. Ma joins me in love to you—remember me to Mrs. Warrenton and your Mother kiss the dear children for me. and believe me ever

your affectionate wife
Ann B Pettigrew