

Letter to Nancy S. Smith, of States-Ville, Wilson Co., Tenn., ( she was Nancy Strother Flood, 2nd child of Thomas)

From George W. Pearce, of Ripley, Miss. ( son of Lucy Flood, who was 6th child of Thomas Flood), postmarked 29 Dec., 1849 .

Dear Aunt, I recd your kind letter 24 instance has been recd, & let me here assure you that it all times affords me pleasure to receive a letter from & to hear from my relations. I have just recd a letter from Uncle John Flood ( John Jefferson, 7th child of Thomas Flood), and he tells me that he has not heard from you in several years. He informs me of all his misfortunes. Since Aunt Frances died, he has veen married twice. After Aunt Frances died, he lived 18 months, and married Miss Mary Ellen Prewitt, lived with her less than a year & lost her & a beautiful little daughter. He writes that he then became almost melancholly & his friends recommended travelling. He took a trip through some of the Eastern states, to Washington City & then to Va. Spent some 2 months with Uncle Henry Flood ( Thomas Henry, 5th child of Thomas Flood), and he says after he returned home, in the Fall of 1847, in the Spring of 1848, he went to Hinds County, in this state, near Jackson, to see a Miss Mary G. Mills, and while he was there they were engaged to me married & was married on the 18 day Octr 1848. So Ant, you see that he has passed through a great deal, in a short time, but he has the society of an intelligent & amible wife and \_\_\_\_\_by children, Thomas Henry, who will be 15 years old the 10 day of January next and is a clerk, in a holesale and retail store in Bounswich, on the Mo River, 40 miles from where he lives. Robert will be 13 the 7 of August. Next, Martha will be 10 next Octr & Fanny 8 in nex February. Aunt, I give you this news for your own satisfaction, for I know you would like to hear from your brother & family and I will now tell you about Uncle Henry & family but I will mend my pen first. Uncle Henry has his second wife. Her name was Dorothy B Gilchrist and Uncle John sais she is truly an admiable and excellent Lady. She has neither Brother or Sister. His eldest Daughter, Mary Elisabeth Strother, several years ago married Henry Delaware Flood, only son of Dr. Flood, a well educated inteligent gentleman & now a member of the Va. legislator. Sarah Patrick, his second daughter, married Thomas Sidney Bocock ( son of of Mary Flood, dau of John Flood II, and wife Mary Fuqua), now a member in Congress & one of the most talented gentlemen of his age, in the state. His son John Henry is about 19, and very promising. Fanny ( Frances Walker Flood, who later married Nicholas Flood Bocock, another son of Mary Flood & John Thomas Bocock) is about 14, his youngest daughter, handsome & promising & Tom Walker, his youngest son is about 10, a fine child & I have told you all I know about Uncle Henry & Uncle John and family. Now I will proceed to tell you something about cousin, Henry Michie ( son of Elizabeth Judith, 3rd child of Thomas). I recd a letter from him on the tenth of this month, they are all well & Aunt Elisabeth has enjoyed good health for some two or three years. Cousin Strother Flood\*, is living with Aunt Elisabeth. Cousin Lucindy Flood\* is married and living in Ark., Green County, I believe, but do not know the name of the post office. Where Cousin John J.\* and William\* live, I know not, but I think in Arkinssas. I wrote to Cousin Henry Michie and told him to write word, and let me know where they live and as soon as he writes me word, I will write you a letter and let know all about

them. Uncle John informs me that Aunt Mary Stockard ( 1st child of Thomas) lives near him and two of her children- a son and daughter. They are well. I will now tell you something about home, and home folks. Father & Mother have 8 children living and one dead. Nancy Elisabeth died in her 6 year. I will now tell you all the childrens ages. Thomas Robert is 25 next February. I was 23 the \_\_\_\_\_ of this month. Frances H. R. will be 20 \_\_\_\_\_ day of May, John J. will be 19 next April, French Strother was 16 last July. Mary Flucher was 10 years old last April. Mother has named another for you - Nancy Elisabeth was seven years old in Sept. Sarah Anilizer was five years old the eleventh of Sept. I have nothing else worth writen. I want you to write me word where cousin Thomas Smith is, and his nearest Post Office, and give me Cousin James nearest P.O. and tell me all about my cousins, and give them all my best respects and love. Father sends you all \_\_\_\_\_(looks like "Houdy"). Mother sends her love to you & family. The children sends you all their love. Tom and Harry (probably slaves) are both well and two of the best boys in the State. I have wrote you a lengthy Epistle, with a bad pen, and a great hurry, for I have a Methodes Preacher one cide and Mother and the children on the other, and Father in the corner, all hurrying me, so good night.

\* These are probably the children of Robert Bowling Flood ( 3rd child of Thomas) & wife Mary D. \_\_\_\_\_. who disapeared, after the 1840 census, in Tenn., and probably were both dead. Elinor Flood, age 15, was probably another child, as she was living with Lucinda, in Ark. 1850 census. Emily Flood, age 12, with the Pearce family, in 1850, was probably Robert & Mary Flood's 6th child, leaving only the youngest daughter unaccounted for.

I have added some punctuation marks & Capital letters, to make the letter easier to read, but have not changed any of the spelling.