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Charlotte Gibson to Ransom E. Aldrich, 2 January 1871

Charlotte Gibson

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A happy New Year to all

Jackson Jan^y. 2^d 1771

My very dear Friend,

I did not think when I parted from you at our house, that it would be ^{so} long before I should write. I took quite a severe cold that lasted for weeks, and altho I was not sick, I found it was as much as I could do comfortably, to write my weekly Atlanta letters.

I learn'd from Mrs. Withington that you were better pleased with your new home than you expected. I rejoice to hear it.

And I cannot but hope you will never regret the change you have made! Parma is not the greatest place in the world; & altho there are many good people there, still, they are not all these, and they have their share of mean ones, as well as other places. I rarely hear from them now.

June Bennett, inform'd me ^{he} was at Parma some weeks ago, and it look'd like Sunday.

Young Ludlow & Marriette Carter were married last week

Ms. Harriet Bennett has been very dangerously sick, & they speak a little better now.

You will miss many of the pleasant things, and conveniences you enjoyed here, but you will soon gather them around you - to appreciate them the more for a temporary privation of them.

Sometimes when I get thinking of you - the changes that have taken place, and your removal from the place where we both had lived so long - it brings sadness to my spirit, to think we may never meet again! Then again, I know the parting cannot be very far off, even if you were here! Seventy seven years, admonish me that the end must be reach'd at no distant day. I am glad you are not inclined to look upon the dark side of life - there is always a "bright lining to the darkest cloud"! I think Lizzie's health will be improved, by a residence at the South, and that will be worth a great deal. I do not know whether they have any preaching in the Presbyterian Church or not. Mr Armstrong can

have things all his own way, now that those bad men, Mr Aldrich and Mr Donnelly have left. The Church will undoubtedly prosper as never before! And still, I love that little Church! it is bound to me by many tender ties, and precious associations!

May God's watchful care be over it in all its trials and tribulations — and may the Spirit of Life quicken its dead branches, that it may bring forth precious fruit — God hasten the day!

I do not know whether R. Landon has moved his family to Jackson yet or not. soon as I learn they are here, I shall go to see them. Miss Eddy did not fulfill her engagement to Mrs Gilbert, which was a great disappointment to her: nor has she even written any reason for not ~~not~~ coming. I was informed she had gone to live with Andrew Buttee!! Singular Taste I should think — Mrs Gilbert is a very

amiable & excellent woman -
I thought I was doing her a kindness
when I was trying to get her a respectable
and pleasant home. I did not see
Mrs Wed. Blake while she was here; it was
while I was kept at home by my cold.
Every one spoke of her, as very pleasant and
unassuming. Now do write and tell me if
you are really contented & how you like it, &
how the children are pleased. and how are
Mr & Mrs Donnelly, and give a "heap" of love to
both, & please tell Mrs D. I wish she would write
& I will answer. And give a great deal of
love to Mr Aldrich, Richard Linnice & Mawie.
May God bless & prosper you all. Farewell
farewell - Ever your true & loving friend.

B. Gibson

P.S. Mattie Jones is very feeble, but more
comfortable for the last two or three weeks.
can come to the table most of the time.
Belle has gone with the baby, & Mrs to Ohio
to visit her friends. The baby is a dear little
creature, & is now quite well.