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## Mrs. Peel Cannon to Dr. Silver, 22 October 1959

Esther C. Cannon

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R.F.D. #4  
Holly Springs, Mississippi  
October 22, 1959

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am still most grateful to you for coming to talk to our UDC chapter yesterday. The several who commented to me were very complimentary, and I fail to see how any one of reasonable intelligence could have been offended. I kept expecting you to drop a real bomb -- and during the few moments I was sinking through the floor when you pulled out my letters, promised myself never to write you another. You had me primed to fear the worst.

Now, my only regret is that the ladies clapped me out of the second paragraph of my introduction. I wanted to remind them of our debt to you on the diary deal.

And that reminds me I have been meaning to tell you that I have come into possession of a page torn out of the diary, dated "Saturday, Sept. 14th, in camp West of Leesburg", which I judge was in 1861 and belongs on page 58 of the book. I'm just now making out "Friday, Sept. 13th" entry on the back of the page. I hate for you to have to do the book over.

Also have a letter written to Robert Moore, I think, by one of his sisters while he was in service, and another item or two that perhaps should be filed with the original notebooks. The UDC state historian told Mrs. Woods that we should have placed the dairy with the Department of Archives in Jackson instead of the University Library -- for safer keeping. Any comment?

I aim to take good care of the volume I highjacked from you yesterday, and will return it not later than next week. Maybe under the same cover I will send you the diary page, which seems to me should be taped into the proper notebook.

Thank you for the fine compliment you paid me.

Sincerely,

*Esther C. Cannon*

Mrs. Peel Cannon

In case you misunderstood: The ladies who slipped out early were scheduled to attend a competitive social function across town. Glen Fant's mother was first, and most apologetic.

and I went back into  
the room, but I got worse  
so I thought it best to leave.

It was a pleasure to  
hear Doctor Silver, though  
I wish he had divided the  
time more evenly between  
his two subjects. His  
knowledge of Southern  
history is simply over-  
whelming. I felt like  
Goldsmith's country bumpkins  
with the village schoolmaster:

"And still they gazed, and still  
the wonder grew  
That one small head could  
carry all he knew."

The University is  
fortunate to have him.

Love,  
Mell Owen

I'm OK today.

Unsolicited Testimonial from  
UDC member.

Please read and destroy.

Esther Cannon