



Bongonia Feb 27 1861

My dear Child

The last letter we have read from you was written just after your return from Summerville, I was glad to hear that you and the baby are well and that your husband was with you — I do not know why but I never liked those river craft trips there may be no changes of life, but I have a dread of water —

You can meet no disappointment my child that I do not feel with you — I know well how hard it is to bear a trifling loss in the way of money when our plans are deranged thereby —

Mother has been at a great loss to know what to say or how to act as regards your coming here —

I could help you to come and would gladly do any thing that

you and your husband with,
He could make a support
here, I know that he could
but it is not easy to earn a
living by ones exertions anywhere
I have feared to take the responsibility
of ever suggesting that is maybe
he will for you to come to this
country with the intention of remaining
It is better for those who
must act to decide for them
selves.

I cannot help thinking
and writing about seeing you
it is troubling me of my peace
of mind to live here separated
as we now are
If I know that my son
has decided that it was
best to live in N. Carolina
and did not wish nor expect
to come here I should then
try to school my self to

submit to my fate
but while it is constantly in my
mind that there is a prospect of your
coming and that it is possible that
you may have near me & can all
barricade the hope entirely
and am working and planning
daily with the hope before me
as a teacher to the weary travelers,
I have not my home
on my hands and heart, and
I must work on until I get
the building finished and
make my payments and if
you are all here by that time
(the first of May) my chief
effort shall be to earn the
money to go on to Carolina to
see you and bring you home with
me. I am in earnest
child & never talk of doing
things that I never expect to
do. I can work yet,

and will keep on with it. I do
what I have set out to accom-
plish. That is if life lasts.

He will have a nice
home where you can be as
comfortable as where you are
now — Mother has some
ambition too daughter as well
as energy — I am not
content to live badly — and wish
for the comforts and elegances of life
for the use of your children, and
more than any self —
I wish to have something get
it to you.

I have said as much to
your husband about coming here
as I think ought to say — I
will help him all I can every
where — and with pleasure
He said you have a right to
regard as yours.

There is nothing doing