Dear etephew; Your Kind letter was received this morning, and I hasten to answer the same. He were all glad to hear from you. Failie and benney wele herfectly de lighted. They are both well, und as far as I can learn, they are well satisfied. The only thing in the way, appears to be elleade. The often talk about you and the hest of the family but they wish she was her to go to show with them, and I wish so too but I Know of no way to getben now, unless etter Gates of -Charlotte comes down to see fils mother before bousin John elbbrainey comes down

this offing but if I have no -fore them, I want her come then certain. Uniess you can come down and tring her and you must come down and see Of course we take no offense ut your requests, and are glad to Know that you think of them in that respect But ought to have Knowie Robert that we (vould have attended to that matter. Ges, Robert you and The rest of the friends were Kind enough to let us have the children, and your aunt, as well as myself effect to de the past of parents towards Tune to long as we are per-mitted to live. We have no one else to do for the hope to be

able to raise them accomplished women at home and abroad. They are both enjoying excellent health. You would be astonished to see how well and hearthy they look especially Jenney The has improved loonderfully They ark getting on finely at whool. Flumie is reading and writing and studying Geographyand edvinetics. Jerdney it reading and writing The Charges me hut to forget to tell you that she and Famile Itand head in their respective classes. They are both good girls. I hrevailed upon Flamil to write you a few lines. If she lives, it will not be a great while before she can write you a respectful letter They say you must tell Mother Meade

Nettie and Gran-ma howdy and all the rest of the friends. to you your mother Madgatetie "ind your grandma. Wite often, etothing much in the way of news to write you more than you have. Que country is sun wild with excitement, and we are no larger the United atates. He are two distinct sovements, and what is to be the final result of the affair is only known to an ever wire and over ruling Providence. May Ide turn sils angen from ut and save us from civil war and blood. shed, is my Irayen Iremain Inely yours, Johnather.



Letter from J.J. Prather to his nephew (Jan. 31, 1861) - Transcription

Favetteville, N.C. Jan. 31, 1861

Nephew;

Your kind letter was received this morning, and I hasten to answer the same. We were all glad to hear from you. Fannie and Jenney were perfectly delighted. They are both well, and as far as I can learn, they are well satisfied. The only thing in the way, appears to be Meade. The [They] often talk about you and the rest of the family, but they wish she was her [here] to go to school with them, and I wish so too, but I know of no way to get her now unless Mr. Gates of Charlotte comes down to see his mother before Cousin John MCrainey (?) comes down this Spring, but if I have no chance of getting her down before then, I want her [to] come then certain. Unless you can come down and bring her, and you must come down and see us.

Of course we take no offense at your requests, and are glad to know that you think of them in that respect. But ought to have known, Robert, that we would have attended to that matter. Yes, Robert you and the rest of the friends were kind enough to let us have the children, and your aunt, as well as myself expect to do the part of parents towards them so long as we are permitted to live. We have no one else to do for. We hope to be able to raise them accomplished women at home and abroad.

they are both enjoying excellent health. You would be astonished to see how well and healthy they look especially Jenney. She has improved wonderfully.

They are getting on finely at School. Fannie is reading and writing and studying Geography and Arithmetic. Jenney is reading and writing. She charges me not to forget to tell you that she and Fannie stand head in their respective classes. They are both good girls. I prevailed upon Fannie to write you a few lines. If she lives it will not be a great while before she can write you a respectful letter. They say you must tell Mother, Meade, Nettie and Gran-ma howdy, and all the rest of the friends.

Lizzie joins me in love to you, your mother, Meade, Nettie [1 word] and your grand-ma. Write often.

Nothing much in the way of news to write you more than you have. Our country is run wild with excitement, and we are no longer the United States. We are two distinct Governments, and what is to be the final result of the affair is only known to an ever wise and over-ruling Providence. May he turn his anger from us and save us from civil war and blood-shed, is my prayer.

I remain

Truly yours J.J. Prather

Transcription Convention: [word] after a word indicates the correct spelling of a word misspelled in the original text OR explanatory text; (?) indicates that reading is uncertain; Transcribed by: Josephine S. King, M.A. M.A., July 2001