

Cumberland Md

Feby 26th 1861

My dear Cousin Atty
I receive your letter even if
they are seldom received are
read with much pleasure
when they come. And as I
write you letters. And send you
"Frank Leslie". I think you should
not delay so long ^{in writing} to me. But
as you are going to school. and
studying hard. I will take that
for the reason. You ask me if I
am a Northern man. I hardly
know how to answer that question.
But I believe I am a Union man.
I don't like the extreme Northern
or the Southern course that the
people in those two sections

have taken. I must say that
I am in favor of Slavery (even
if Penn^a is my native home) I
think the blacks are better off
in that state than freedom.
I hope you are not an Abolitionist.
You are very long to hear that
I received no Christmas presents.
And that I shall be remembered
to you after this. So I will expect
a very handsome one next Christmas.
Probably a diamond ring, or
"bushels" of something else. I
suppose you know that Mr. Healey
has been in your city for two or
three months attending lectures.
I believe he is expected home
this month. Have you been
so fortunate as to see him.
The report about Miss Gordon's
and Mr. Jones being engaged
to be married, is not new.
But I don't think there is any

trust in N - So yourself - I
dont believe she would have
him. that is my opinion. whether
it is correct or not I cant say.
Mr Roman has been here (off and on)
the greater part of the winter.
He is always very attentive to
Miss Eloise when he is here.
and was in Washington City a
short time ago. I have not heard
of his going to Europe. There is
no news to tell you about C.
It has been very dull this winter.
Only two or three parties. owing
I suppose to the present "Crisis."
Every person is desponding
thinking that the times are growing
darker and darker. And for
our County there is no hope.
I hope you ladies are as much
interested in the settlement of
the present difficulty as we
are. But I suppose you are tired

of reading this political
letter. Mr Black and the
Misses Lowndes left for Washington
last week. I suppose they will
see Mr Lincoln inaugurated.
We have heard from them
and so far are very much
pleased with their visit

Your affectionate Cousin
Sep