Absent friend Aurelia,

It is now five o'clock and I have once more seated myself to pencil a few words to my absent but dear friend,

I received your letter dated the 18<sup>th</sup> on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and was glad to hear that you once more enjoyed the sweet embrace of your husband.

Barely four weeks has passed since last we met, and to me it seems like months. Would that you were here tonight I guess we would go to the sulphur spring or a strawberring or something. I think we would enjoy sitting in the shade alone and have a social chit chat on matters and things in general.

And now for the weddings.

Married at the Christian or chapel house on Sunday June the 18<sup>th</sup> by the Rev. Mr. Phelps Mr. Benjamin Wheat to Miss Elizabeth Mathes both of Ellington. (Wheat headed early)

Also on the 20 instant by the Rev. William Waithe at the residence of his Mother Mr. Franklin Fulles to Miss Martha Poturn[sp?] of the same place Mades will marry.

It is quarterly meeting today there was quite a turnout and I suppose if the truth was known they thought more of seeing the 2 brides than of hearing what the Preacher said. Perhaps I judge other folks by myself.

There are great times here now fixing for the fourth. The Gemplars[sp?] are a going to have a ??? in the grove. Three other ??? meets with us Gates is going to have a dance and there is a going to be a great fireworks in the evening.

Mr. Baldwin Jule[?] Mary and Jane Brown has been to the falls I suspect they have seen great things but I wont please them well enough to asking about it. (??? ???)

I am now alone. Mother and Thomas has gone ones in the barn[?] lot to see the little cold. Father has done to mills and all the live thing I can see is my old white cow shewing his cud, you will think this quite a variety[?] in this letter speaking of going to the falls, cows, wedding, but no matter there is nothing like getting a letter from an old friend whether good or bad.

Diantha is well. I stayed with her last Friday night Mrs. Palmer has gone to Randolph to stay a week or two. Mary Palmer has got a boy Real. I am quite tired and I think I will bring my letter to a close you must excuse me for writing with a pencil for I had no ink in the house and I thought I had rather write with this than break my promise and wait two of three weeks as you did what a ????.

There was a funeral in this place last Tuesday. Mr. Dejane he died with a cancer his age was 61 years.

Real don't fail to write as soon as you receive this. Nothing more at present but remain your affectionate friend Aurelia (twin sisters) Sovina.

N.B. Five dollars is fine for sleeping with maidish Becka[?] Write immediately.