

Miss Mittie Gibson,  
Lexington.

Belle Air,  
Oct. 20th 1878.

My dear Mittie:-

I thought I would  
write to you as I don't have to go  
to school to day. What are you  
studying? I am studying Fifth  
Reader Third Geography, Robinson's  
Arithmetic, third part, and also  
Mental Arithmetic. I am taking  
music lessons, Mary is teaching me



and I practice a half an hour every day; how long do you practice a day? I expect you know all the notes. Jennie Shelby sent me a bag of Chestnuts the other day and they were just splendid, and I ought to have sent you some, for I could have sent you them by Papa. You must send me your picture and some of your hair and I will send you some of mine. Fannie said that she and you went Chestnut hunting yesterday, out to the old place where you lived before; and how many did you gather? Do you ever ride horse-back now?

I havnt taken a horse-back ride since last summer and then I would ride just as far as Uncle Eds on Mary Walker. Are you going to have your hair cut off any more? I want to see it so much before you have it cut. I expect I will have mine cut off to morrow.

Write to me soon. God bye,  
Your affectionate cousin,  
Florence M. Shelby.