

Records on exhibition in the West  
Marking & not making and making copies of the  
for the use of the various members of the  
Or work has been done and not one word from  
"Pavilion House" Savannah 5/9/57.

1166  
My dear Sister,

Another fine morning has risen upon us,  
and now that I have partaken of a good breakfast feel  
in a condition to note some of the incidents of yesterday,  
quite an eventful time in the past week's history!

5th day, was too dull and rainy to admit of our contemplated  
ride, so my kind and efficient coadjutors Ann & Anna  
were driven over to the livery stable, where they made an  
agreement for a carriage to call for us the next morn  
at 9 o'clock, if the weather proved suitable. It came  
<sup>late</sup> very punctually; a barouche with an inclined back  
to the back seat; and what with the sandy streets,  
and roads made probably more compact by the late  
rain, and a luscious air retaining its freshness up to our  
return, never do I remember having an easier ride.

I did not leave it for 2 hours, and returning did not  
feel greatly exhausted, but deemed it most prudent  
to lie immediately down taking dinner in that  
<sup>convenient</sup> position; and now after a fair night feel as well as usual!



In passing along the streets few of them being paved  
we were struck with their extreme cleanliness, it is an  
exceedingly rural place, and thus combined city and  
country. Calling at the Pulaski House we obtained  
gratuitously a permit to visit Buonaventura Cemetery,  
the same person being proprietor of both, a man of wealth,  
and I suppose the relative of the Loyds; distance about  
5 miles. I imagine a vigorous growth of Jersey Pine, with  
their sandy soil, translated to a more southern climate  
indicated by an intermingling of several new forms of  
vegetable life, and thou wilt have tolerably fair ~~idea~~  
idea of the country we traversed. On entering the Cemetery  
we passed through a rude rustic gateway, and presenting  
our tickets to a colored woman in care, were soon ushered  
into <sup>several</sup> isles of Live Oak, arched in moss hanging in  
rich and graceful profusion from their branches—  
They were not wholly dispoiled of their foliage, but  
the moss, specimens of which we send, usurped in great  
measure their place. We happily were in advance of  
the people, and whilst my companions alighted to  
ramble about, Peter drove me through these beautiful  
avenues, where at ease I could indulge my lounging  
propensities. To me the most astonishing thing to  
realize was that 8° of South latitude, had brought



us to the verge of the Palms! for here in their stately  
grandeur were standing two Palmetto Palms! apparently  
some 30 feet high, with their naked straight trunks  
and bunch of Palmetto leaves at top. Peter thought  
there was a Nonpariel ~~one~~, but upon getting a boy  
who went with us to gather flowers to ~~study~~ <sup>show</sup> it, we failed  
in seeing it, <sup>fly</sup> one of the birds we heard, he said was  
a mocking bird. This is a wild place very little ground  
(there being an undergrowth of bushes)  
cleared except the roads and a few burial lots, we  
did not ascertain its extent but at the extreme end  
a fine water view presents which Peter told us was  
Augustine Creek. On route, were the Scrub and Cabbage  
Palmettos so novel to our northern eye, each clearly  
defined in its character, yet showing a close affinity  
with the other, these with the wavy moss not fastened  
but floating gracefully on the breeze like feathers,  
added a most striking feature to the scene, occasionally  
a Trumpet Creeper would show itself with its bright  
coral blossoms, and now and then a Magnolia,  
but I saw none of the latter in bloom, it is rather  
early for them; and up to this time have not noticed  
an orange or lemon tree; ~~two or three~~ one or two  
vegetable gardens tended to relieve the general  
stagnation; and but for the Cotton lying at the



wharfs, we might well wonder what was the support  
of the country, even the butter served at this house  
comes to a considerable extent from the north!

pasturage is miserable, and but little effort seems  
to be taken to enrich the soil or make it practically  
available. Were we in N. J. <sup>grape</sup> Corn and Sweet Potatoes might  
be grown, but the stimulus of the whip is a poor incentive  
to industry, but I forbear enlarging on this subject, excepting  
to add, that contact with "the peculiar institution" has  
thus not tended to draw my sympathies.

The thermometer standing in the room is about 73°  
near 11 1/2 o'clock; thus far we have been surprised  
at its uniformity, I have made very little change in  
my dress, and my kind friend Dr. Wistar has no  
reason yet to dread the relaxing character of the  
climate. Yesterday on one occasion we met a steam  
having quite an ocean perfume, which mingling with  
the Pine air ought to be salubrious one would think.

Anna is most assiduous & persevering in the flower  
line, botanizing, pressing &c; and I believe is now out  
with E to gather some; so that we have the advantage  
of a practical botanist in our Corps. Ann participates  
in her zeal ~~so that~~ <sup>and</sup> I hope to be profited by the industry  
of others. Anna has been preparing tin boxes for Charlie  
to take home by the Key State to day, so that you  
may form some idea of this floral region, but do  
not make do free with the Pride of India, as it is said  
to be poisonous. I fear Aunt Susan's Cactus is nothing  
more than the Pucky Pear, but as she has hitherto been  
so successful in raising that tribe, thought this would  
have a value derived from the locality. This morn we  
had a call from a half breed Seminole, or it may be the white  
blood predominated in her veins, I bought a Palmetto basket  
of her. The Captain has just called, he hopes that the influence  
of his friends may induce his board not to accept his  
resignation; he pointed out from my window a Magnolia  
grandifolia in bloom. With much love to all thy affec<sup>t</sup> Sister Dr. White