

Merle Aug 20 1915-
 Ellis Orange Pennington

my dear sweet little
 niece I must try to write to you for
 I really do enjoy your and Esther's
 letters so much Orange I think you
 are improving fast in writing now
 Dear you must study hard and
 learn all you can while you
 go to school. I wonder what
 you are doing this hot day but I
 guess you have been to Sunday
 school and are talking to your
 fellow this evening well Orange
 we are all well and I hope you are
 all well we are picking cotton

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now have out one bale and a
half have lots more to pick
and the weather is so hot well
I wish you and Father could have
come to see me this summer
but maby you can come
sometime in the future I hope
so any way for I sure would
be glad to see you all well
the children say howdy to you
and wishes you could be with
them so I will close for this
time write soon and a long
letter to your old ugly aunt
who will not forget you
give my love and best wishes
to your mama and little
Brothers

Bettie Matheson

Merle Aug. 20. 1908-

Miss Esther Pennington

Dear niece I will
try to write you a few lines in
answer to your very welcome
letter which came to hand and
found us all well and I hope
these few lines will find you
all well and doing well. Esther
how is your mother getting a
long I hope she is well Esther we
are picking cotton have out about
and a half I think I will make
eight or nine bales but Esther
I think I will make this fall
for Mr. Bob Dick is dead he died

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he died on the 7 of this month with
heart trouble he had not been well
for some time but was up and went
to a bar house on the 5 of this month
well Esther mome has been sick
most of the time this year but the
Dr said there was nothing the
matter with her only her liver
and spleen was enlarged and I
am glad she is not in a bad fix
other ways she is up now and say
she feels better since she took a
course of medicine from the Dr
I think I will make down
in Grimes county but I dont
know yet I will let you know
before I leave are soon after
so you just write to me here
at merle and the letters will

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sent to me I will not get
 off before late in the fall
 no way I guess you are having
 a good time this summer going
 to big meetings and I have not
 heard a sermon that is one
 reason I want to move this
 country is to help and no
 society at all and I want to
 go to preaching sometimes
 at least Esther has ever
 come home well Esther I have
 written all I know but if I could
 see you I no I could tell you
 lots more than I can write
 for the weather is so dry and hot

untill I cant think of nothing but
a cool drink and a shady place
well I will close with love to you
all kiss the little sweet children
for me and dont let them
for get to me if I never see them
any more well write soon
and a long letter to your
old aunt who never will
forget you

Bettie Stathorne