

and stay a good long time. I want
to see you all so much. I would
like to have had some of that cake,
you and Mary Ellen, made the
other day, you did better, than
I could have done. Who is going
to be your May Queen? I don't suppose
we will have any, Rosa Day is going
to be Queen, at Aunt Heis, and
Eddie Pierce King. It is getting late,
so I draw my letter to a close.

All join me in love to you, I
will write to your mother, as soon
as I possibly can, but I ought to
have written to her first, as she
is the oldest, but just hear, she must
excuse me. Tell Brother, and
Daddy, and Mary Ellen, to write
soon, and Lewis if he can, and
you must answer this soon.
Good bye, Love to all the family,
his Son, and Lewis for me.
Write soon.

Your affectionate Aunt,
Maria C. Collins.

Ingleside, April 23rd 1809.

My Dearest Niece,

I received your kind
letter, and was delighted to hear
from you, as it seemed you were
never going to, I am ashamed
of not answering your letter, but
attending to school, and other
things, I have not had the
opportunity. Collins had his party
last Tuesday, there were seventy
odd invited, and we had a
delightful time too, every one
seemed to enjoy themselves, the
table was beautiful, they had
an orange pyramid in the cen-
ter, candies, and cakes around
it, and at one end, an Ice
Cream Dolphin, at the other Orange
Ice, beside nuts, raisins, and
dates, and everything delightful