Baltimore 4. 12. 1869

My dear friend
Saml Bentley.

I went to N. C. 16th ult to attend the examination at Springfield & the Normal First Day School at Snow Camp, with our valued friends Julia Valentine, Anna C Talcott & my sister in law R S Murray. We returned the 27th, & on the 30th I went to New York to engage speakers for the Maryland State Bible Soc Anniversary & select two new teachers for N. Carolina. I returned at night & took a severe general cold - I am very unwell - unfit for thought or labor - have been deferring this letter for ten days past until I fear it is now too late for your Yearly Mtg. You will please accept an imperfect outline from memory for the past year among friends in N. Ca & the Freedmen in Maryland.

We are now about half through our fourth scholastic year in N. Ca. We parted with our late able Supt Jos Moore with regret, but the work has gone on under his successor, Allen Jay, to our entire satisfaction. We commenced in the fall of 1865 with 12 schools & 600 pupils; - 1866, 25 schools, 940 pupils; 1867 - 38 schools, 2143 pupils; 1868, 40 schools & 2586 pupils - our present numbers are 42 schools & 3000 pupils.