

Dear Bell Mercer January 13 1858

I take the pleasure in writing these few lines to you hoping they will find you and your little Eli in good health as leaves me at present to inform you that I received your letter this day and was very glad to hear from you I have made my mind up to stay with Mr Griffith but that you are willing to stay here at Mercer he is going to build me a New House on the McCain lot near the Creek between the town and the Creek and to get every thing Nice and Comfortable I am going to buy me a good Hog and salt him down ready for summer and I can get plenty of Wheat to make bread I shall have a garden and a Cow and a pig and I will get Chickens I will not say no more at present but Mr Backenridge has nothing to do with me in concerning my work we are all well at Mercer

So no more at present from  
your most Affectionate H B H  
H J H

Send to me soon