

New Orleans, February 23^d 1846

Dear Uncle

Since my arrival here, I have addressed you several letters, but, I presume, owing to the irregularity of the mails, between here & Louisville, that you have not received them, or you would have written to me, as I believe, I have never known you, to fail in corresponding with your relations & friends. I would have written to you oftener, but I have felt so disheartened, owing to the disappointments, that I have met with in my money matters, and also on account of my being unable to get into business, of any description whatever, that life has appeared, almost as a burthen to me, & I have felt an unwillingness & disinclination to correspond with any person, or even to visit any of my relations here; you, well know, what an effect disappointments & misfortunes, have upon the mind of an individual, as you, yourself, have fully experienced ^{their} ~~the~~ effects during your life. I hope, therefore, that you will not attribute, my failure in corresponding with you, to any want of affection for you, but, to anguish & despondency. You have no doubt seen, by the letters, that Uncle John has received from me, the manner in which, Mr Oxum settled with us, by giving us two mortgaged notes, the one payable, next year, & the other, the year after, but he informed my father, that were it not for his pecuniary embarrassments, he would have been enabled