



W. J. Deussen Esq.

Laying in

San Francisco

Santo Domingo Springs  
W. P. Hotel

7th Jan 9 1878

My dear friend,  
Your letter of 27th ult. came to hand  
yesterday, and I regret to have found it - that we  
should not meet during my sojourn in the north.  
It is very uncertain what route we may take on our  
journey home. I think however, it will either be by  
the way of the Lakes - or by Sea.

I am not fully conversant with you in Mexico, but  
to see it in detail must be at home - and perhaps the  
to 8 - may be seen in the above. This opinion I  
expressed to you long since. I am satisfied,  
that to see it in the full value of the same quality  
- and to see the various specimens to see many, is likely  
to disappoint the reader.

In regard to the Brooks' specimens, my intention  
was that if shipped by steam, they should be  
signed to S. B. Baker Esq. - but that if  
they were not shipped before the 1st of Dec. the  
probability of shipping afterwards - if the same was  
true - as it was likely to be, they might be de-  
livered by mail - if not received - as the case  
was in that case, it would be better to send them  
by land; & if sent there, they could be delivered at  
my home in the plantation 15 miles below Mexico -  
as it may require some weeks to see them.  
John Deussen would attend to the care of them.

I have been much disappointed in the result  
of the election in S.C. though I yet think Kentucky  
is scarcely more certain for Clay than that state.  
I give the effects of the abolition vote in this state.  
I wish I if it should be sent again to Mr. C. it will  
certainly defeat his election. I am sure, Calhoun  
cannot get it. I own thought of these votes & their  
weight upon the friends of Calhoun & Mr. C. that the double  
would go for Clay. I have however, from sections of  
S. Carolina - more than that will vote not for  
the vote. On the contrary, that the vote of Carolina  
will be sent for the nomination of the Convention,  
to be shown to every.

I presume you have seen the South papers  
which at the Anti-Slavery meeting in London. This  
impression upon the spirit of the difference in  
the apprehension prosperity of the free states, as compared  
with the slave states, is not, on the other, and  
appears to me, to prove the much. In comparing  
the spirit of the free states, the same spirit might  
be said to show the advantage of Republicanism over  
Monarchical Govt. & for the one can doubt  
that the difference in the welfare & prosperity of  
the country on ~~the~~ each side of the Atlantic, that  
of America, is decidedly in favor of the American.  
But there is no difference in the apprehension prosperity  
of the states in the world, until you come to Virginia.  
I who grows and care has & more in the future, are  
exceptions to all rules.

The same has. News few, has been such a pleasure.  
The word has been in common. but I don't think the  
conclusion has been so agreeable & entirely not as well  
in the '39, when Mr. Clay was here. Mr. Calhoun is now  
here, looking somewhat more cheerful - but to be  
serving.

The anti-slavery has rather regains confidence & has  
seemingly improved. The same part of the '39, I think  
has been neglected with care. - I think the result  
of this election next year, will exhibit a falling  
off in comparison with this, of fully 200,000 bales  
of cotton. Florida takes the attention of  
the world, and seems to be the only one in greater  
prosperity. For this spring there seems to be some banks  
in mind. - It will seem to be followed by  
an early frost. & in that case, the crop of 1843,  
may not reach 1800,000 bales. Would not such a  
crop - have a large surplus of raw & the paper?  
If the surplus in the U.S. <sup>last</sup> year, was sufficient  
for a crop of 2,000,000, surely present prospects  
can't be maintained, if the present crop is  
600,000 bales short of last year. Specimens seem will  
be manufactured this year than last, and certainly  
some hemp will be produced, this last year.

Regards for Mrs. Deane -  
I wish Mrs. Deane by some for some weeks to be long  
to say. I expect to start for the West about 1<sup>st</sup> Sept.  
& to pass a week or there at Lexington.  
I am yours for Wm. Deane

Wells, H. 3. 1847

My Dear friend

I hasten to reply to your letter of 23. Oct. I have nothing of Mr. Robertson's property - except your general report. It is (K. K. K.) located on the Laforests - in the land there, are generally seen in large numbers by the 6000 - in fact, inside most areas - usually in the form of the culture, and in the land - when the present. One new species of land (the tree - decay of the canopy to give too long - but the land, the specimens of the wood - are not naturally felt. But as the land, I wish to say, it was not to be improved by any degree of labour - to produce a fine crop. I am not able to say, when the Mr. Robertson's land is there in fact - but I am inclined to think it is.

A sugar plantation, that will produce an annual average crop of 500 lb. of sugar, ought to be cultivated at an expense, not exceeding 7000 \$ per acre. 500 lb. of sugar, with the usual product of molasses, - may be sold at 3/4 c. for the gross & 8 c. for the net - to produce 28000 \$ of 7000 \$ is deducted for the expenses - the net product is 16,000 \$ which would be a 12% per cent interest of 133,000 \$.

But I have no idea, that Mr. Robertson's property could be bought for less than 100,000 \$ I have seen many other mortgages, in it, besides those for molasses, and the parties interested, could hardly consent to a sale at a very great sacrifice.

To make 500 lb. of sugar - an acre would require 90 effective hands - besides, Cooks, & others - labour -

13

J. D. Munroe Esq

Livington

Kentucky



There is an objection to the land, located on the highway & back of the Mill Pt. in the vicinity of getting the water to market & the surplus - here.

If Mr. P's place makes 500 L.L. he must have given 30 to 100 effective hands - & not less than 150 slaves. For 2/3 is a large allowance for effective in any season. If he has 150 negroes he ought to have 2500 acres of land - and if his sugar leaves behind for taxes, and complete of their feed, & the land ought to be worth 20% more to the negroes. 350,000 \$ he had. This is a large hand & requires to a say 10,000 \$ and the other have also on the place ought to be worth 10,000 \$.

It is going to estimate, the average cost, at 60¢ of the effective field hand. I can assure that some planters make more than 40¢ - there are 60¢ of the effective hand. But, I would not myself be concerned, with less than 60¢ of the hand - and the property under my own management.

But my good friend, I would not advise you to think of ever leaving his work, as free labor, in less than 8 months of the year - as the property, no more ought to own double property, without having a present surplus. And again, I am satisfied, larger estates are more likely to decline than to increase in value, in the next few years. Even as the property can be bought now - I doubt not, it will be lower, in few years hence.

I will make enquiries in regard to Mr. P's property & if I can get any particulars will let you know. I write in haste. Respectfully yours, D. B. Williams

DL

Henry J. Deane Esq

Lexington

Kentucky



Richmond Aug 29 1843

My dear friend  
I have your letter of 18th inst and  
am glad to see you are satisfied of 15c

I don't think Mr. Day can make contracts on  
his old scale feasible. The expense has been  
to be 15c - when hemp is at 4c for 12 lbs. to  
to be a fall - 1 1/2 c - as hemp may vary in  
price it has been so

Now if 7c to be offered on the cost of manufacturing  
the bearing bagging - & that 2 lbs are required for  
a 7c - then each 5<sup>th</sup> of bagging ought to cost - when hemp is  
at 4c for 12 lbs. - 16 2/3 per 7c. And if hemp is at  
3c for 12 lbs. then it ought to be delivered at 12 1/2c.  
But if the bagging manufacturers set 7c to be 7c for  
making & delivery bagging - in addition to profit of  
the two - they will do better - in fact to be better than  
the other planter.

I think with you, that stock will come up - to  
what in your plan. I don't think the amount of  
realize more than. I don't think the wishes to secure  
30,000 to us for business estate - for 5 years at 8 per  
cent. The security would be considered. I don't think  
such a great amount of debt you better - than a purchase  
of property. Unless you could live on, as near to it.  
1843. will want 10,000 \$ in August - 10,000 \$ in Oct. & 10,000  
in Nov. - and will pay the interest in 1<sup>st</sup> of every year  
year - for three years. 1/3 of the same debt to the 1<sup>st</sup> of the  
4<sup>th</sup> 1/2. I don't think the 5<sup>th</sup> to be the 2<sup>nd</sup> class, the 6<sup>th</sup>. I don't think  
you of it. If I had the funds, I would take no loan.

I have written it since since Miss. Sec<sup>r</sup> at the  
purpose 20 years hence.

You have in the 14<sup>th</sup> & will be in  
New York on 17<sup>th</sup> July. It is here till Jan 5<sup>th</sup>  
to 15<sup>th</sup> August. I should be very happy  
to see you in the North.

Yours quite truly

Ch. D. ...

17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31

March 21<sup>st</sup> 1843

My dear friend

I have just rec<sup>d</sup> the enclosed copy from Mr. Foster. I would not buy the property at any price, - as it would seem to be, by the Gov's grant.

Mr. Foster writes in a tract the 1<sup>st</sup> of February last no idea of selling any part of the estate.

I have in the year 1841. Bought of the 15<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> in which he proposes to sell to me his children's share - for 80,000 \$ - proposed as follows -

- 37,500 \$ to the heirs of the 1<sup>st</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 44
- 7,000 \$ to the children of the 1<sup>st</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 44
- 10,500 \$ to the Louisiana
- 11,000 \$ in cash.

and 14,700 \$ in 12 years with 40 cent<sup>s</sup> the 1<sup>st</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 44 80,000 \$ - one year 1<sup>st</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1844

Proposed to be delivered 1<sup>st</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1844.

The property consists in a tract of land about 4500 acres a good brick sugar house & Pinery. with sugar Cabin - house - he has a fine stock of cattle. with 7000 \$ of slaves. - seems under the superintendance of one of the best managers in the State - whose services can be turned for years at a fair compensation."

I believe the slave value last year 400 h. b. - and ought to reach 350 on an average, carrying 12 can. at 3/4 c<sup>t</sup> for sugar & 10% for molasses the cost is 2500 \$ 14,000. 4500 ought to pay the amount of interest leaving 3500 \$ for net income

50

J. D. ...  
Laying  
Providence



The debt to the Union & Co. Bank may be paid in three Bonds, which can now be bought in London, at 50<sup>th</sup> in the dollar.

They would receive the debt - to about 50,000<sup>th</sup> Cash. And I think the security - at that time would yield us int. of 15 per cent per ann.

If the debt in five years has not increased it would be the best purchase I have had of lately. From my experience - I could not have a plantation on which there was much loss.

But my good friend - I say again - would you care spend 1/2 the price on the slaves - I would by no means advise you to invest the five years money.

Mr. & Mrs. have a very desirable plantation on the coast. which they are selling because it will be sold. There is scarcely one plantation in the town - that will not sell just now. My very friend, who would advise 50,000<sup>th</sup> in cash.

I write in haste

Your very sincerely friend

Edmund Burke

I have a letter from Mr. G. to Mr. Burke, in which he says. "The good business did not expect his usual sagacity, when he advised a contract for buying & selling at hand on 50 per cent. Now to this I might say. That I did not know my reputation for sagacity, had heard my friend

Mr. G. said 2<sup>d</sup>. I cannot see why it has stopped by declaring a contract as such to be a security it be as Mr. Elliott says - the price was to rise before, as the price of hemp was above what was then paid - was 5<sup>th</sup> per 100<sup>th</sup>.

If Mr. G. says Mr. G. says - I did not care - I think it was not - from the fact - that when I told him "all our goods were to be sold at once, expected to bring at 12 or 12 1/2 per cent" he replied "then it would be useless for me to attempt to see the cargo in the market" - He spoke of 15<sup>th</sup> per 100<sup>th</sup> as the lowest it could be sold for.

It is to be seen - that the price of hemp was at 5<sup>th</sup> per 100<sup>th</sup> - he meant to say that as the "sliding scale" principle, and expected as a basis, which at 5<sup>th</sup> per 100<sup>th</sup> was the price of the cargo 15<sup>th</sup>, then, if hemp was at 2 1/2<sup>th</sup> - the price of buying it he had 10<sup>th</sup> - and surely Mr. G. could not expect to be able to sell it for a price.

If Mr. Elliott is correct, Mr. G.'s proposal was - to allow to be allowed 5<sup>th</sup> per 100<sup>th</sup> for the cargo, & to be allowed 2<sup>th</sup> of hemp to the 5<sup>th</sup> of buying - to be sold for 100<sup>th</sup> - at the current rate. This would be a reasonable proposal. But I did not so understand Mr. G.

North Oct 30th 1848

My dear friend.

I wish you would inform Dennis, that the highest offer I have had for his note is 65¢. I have seen a lot of 12 purchased at 65¢ and selected some a lot of 84 - finally agreed to Dennis. I think it would be to keep him as a sale is out of the question - even at 65¢ and I will tomorrow send him to my plantation if I cannot afford to keep him here. Robt. says he would work him, I would not buy him at 65¢, though I must wish to purchase.

The riding horse I have just read. He suits me admirably well. The top is a little, which I think is owing to his shoes being too long. He starts a good deal, when he first comes from the stable - but he is not an awkward horse - especially for a Gent. His gait is admirable, and I don't know what I could do better suited.

There let me know what Dennis - says in regard to his note.

The prospects for Mr. Plog - can't not well be better. I wish most sincerely, - he would not go to N. Carolina - on any other day - till the election is over; and I also wish - he would avoid any all success, - the subject of a bank of the U.S. - Be assured, the success of the present day, can't be consistent for the safe management of the Bank - if the office of Director must take the President, - the day's business is the bestly well!

Respectfully yours  
Wm. B. *[Signature]*

DB

Henry T. Dunning Esq

Lexington

North Carolina

single

Henry T. Deming  
Lynchburg  
Kentucky



Steam Boat  
Express mail  
9- Oct - 1843

My dear friend,  
I saw him yesterday & found  
from two letters with Dennis & the Steer. The  
letter with D. we now on board this boat with  
the exception of a Brown mare which is too  
badly grounded to be moved. She is left with  
one of Dennis' friends to be sent when in  
condition. The others with the exception of  
smoked legs from Ireland are in health & in  
good condition since two are there which  
we party them. The riding horse, I am no  
doubt will please me - I'd of course keep  
him. I have gone Dennis' 4th mare. I  
will give him 15<sup>th</sup> at market, leaving him  
to amount to you for his expenses he  
I think you had better file up a bill  
on me payable at C. T. Deming's office -  
for a sum sufficient to cover cost of packing  
horse & my labor here for expenses  
during removal, & the price of Dennis' -  
if change will fall by & by. If you had better  
sell now. Make the bill for enough to  
cover the whole and if there is any excess  
in your hands - it can be applied to pay  
to Mrs Anderson in Jan'y. you might then  
for make the bill for 250<sup>th</sup> -  
I am in treaty for a good riding horse in  
board this boat. and you need not trouble  
yourself to buy another for me. -

Accept many & warm thanks for what you  
have already done for me - and be assured  
I will always be found ready to make  
all the return in my power.

I would have been gratified to have  
seen you here - but must hope to meet  
Hessmer hereafter

With respect for Mr. D. and with  
for yourself kind regards of my son  
and regards.

Very truly yours L

Wm. D. Miller

Handwritten notes in the right margin, including the name "Hessmer" and other illegible scribbles.

23

PAID

PAID  
P. O.

H. P. [unclear]

Washington  
Jan 19

My dear friend

I have this moment rec<sup>d</sup> yours of 21st Inst -  
your plan of publishing is just the one I was to  
advise & that which I supposed w<sup>d</sup> be accepted.  
That is "make the purchase of mine to be put to the  
test of the market." Express your own judgment in all  
that relates to this matter. I of the course am not  
with you this spring - I will not visit the States  
before next winter. So that if next days letters  
in the case be favorable after the above is said - it  
would suit me. Any thing you do in this matter  
will suit me.

I wrote you fully in regard to the reason which  
immediately after wrote to W. O. for your  
information in regard to Robinson's estate.

You intend me to help & comfort by calling on  
me after me. I am sure if I saw him - and really  
see - I would be glad to have as few visitors &  
probably more gentle than your friends who seem to entertain  
me highly. I certainly am not what I ought to be.  
I will get the books you want.

I am obliged to write in haste  
yours  
R. M. [unclear]

At 1/19/43

18

Simple

Henry T. Deane - Esq

Expanding the  
Front end



My dear friend

Wethers Dec - 21<sup>st</sup> 1843

I have rec<sup>d</sup> your last respects & enclosing  
you rec<sup>d</sup> which is correct & and I am very  
pleas'd for the satisfactory manner in which you  
have served me.

I am glad to hear things are beginning to look brighter  
in your state, and that you will yourself be here  
in the Spring. -

You have had me - the worst of the winter here -  
I have had me - It has rained almost incessantly  
day & night, since the 1<sup>st</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup>. I don't think you have  
had 8 clear days since the 1<sup>st</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup>. And for the  
last 8 days, it has rained all the time, night &  
day - one week - which under the most favorable  
circumstances, would have been about 25 per cent. more  
to make 15 per cent. shorter, by the use of a  
better. My own crop, was about, disappointed with last  
year - fully 45 per cent. and I am sure, when our  
planting has done better & been more secure. I think  
the average of the three states, Arkansas, La & Miss<sup>ss</sup>,  
will be fully 40 per cent. short.

I note that our friend Mr. Clay - is to visit us.  
I am sure, no friend of Mr. Clay - can more heartily  
desire his success, than myself, and yet I  
would wish he would see for me - if I did not say,  
that I do not thoroughly understand him for many  
hours at all - till after his lecture. He is so rough  
& man - that he looks only on the bright side of  
things. But I can assure you - that he at least  
made no additional friends by his last visit here.

On the contrary, he had found a water. This I know, and I know you ought to be coming over. But now there is a, it is hard to get you to go going about the country should we have the challenge, & that enough on this side of it.

This state continues to well in the name of reputation, & when she will shake off her fetters & corruption - God only knows. I am sick & disgusted with every thing like politics.

You may recollect - when last here - you told me in your letter, that if you could see them now, & recollect what the then was, you would say - they were then as compared with the now - as a Mr. Hammond said - compared with our going since. If Mr. Day stays here, he will be to be heard of the place in an eye.

In regard to Basing & Coffey, I have if you expect one 10 to 4 cash, you will be disappointed. If their case be shown containing an overflow of the Mississippi will be inevitable. Our street planter agree, that it was the wet winter before, that caused our great floods, & that the high water in the upper rivers. The swamp are now fallen, & the high water are now to be. The earth is saturated with water & there will be no room here for the water to run. Consequently, a new plan - is more than probable.

I don't think the bagging you refer to - will suit me much. I get some of it, that is if it be such as was made for the Charleston market, and it

was too open to the light for our market. Perhaps ought to be made to the yard - to be made to be made to be made. The paper ought to be made to be made to be made. I believe the Charleston 150 is strong enough, - but does not suit the heavy enough. I would not be content at present at any price, - for I would make a flood as '28 (I had one full bar of 29 - from being that flood in the river, was not as well by 10 feet as then, and not all over - it was the cause of the great flood of '28) I should not be very little. I do not want you to be left the year before - to get, I have a good deal left, more than half as much as I will need - if we have an overflow. There are many places where there is not more than they need.

Respectfully  
Yours  
T. Deane

Yours  
T. Deane

25

PAID

Seneca  
Tenn.

Henry J. Duncan Esq.  
Lexington  
Kentucky



17th. Feb. 1863

My Dear friend

I have just rec<sup>d</sup>. yours of 10<sup>th</sup> inst.  
The purchase of one lot. White as his own terms  
would be very satisfactory to me. and if you  
could make the amount 15. (provided you can  
get that number of good money) do so - and  
draw out right in Charles P. Lewis's Exp<sup>ts</sup> for  
a sum suff<sup>t</sup>. with the bill of 750<sup>th</sup> - to cash  
all. -

I expect to have in 10<sup>th</sup> inst. for some  
700<sup>th</sup> - via St. Louis. -

I write in haste

Yours truly  
O. D. Wilson

In closing. please direct at the post office.  
"and charge the same to acct. of Stephen Duncan  
of Kentucky"

20  
Henry T. Munroe Esq  
Lexington  
Kentucky.



My dear friend  
Philadelphia Sept 25. 1843  
I have just recd your kind & glowing  
of 17th inst. - I thank you sincerely for your friendly  
visitation. But my good friend, our party  
is much too large, than our number say, to  
decide upon the shortest & best route to  
New York. We shall leave here on the 28th, & hope to see  
you at Pittsburgh on the 2<sup>d</sup>. This evening  
you had called on the 23<sup>d</sup>. going by fast  
down to effect. I was still feeling. I was  
often but a gloomy prospect for us. But  
I still in the hope that we will be  
able to descend in some boats to Harrisville  
and arrive there, before the fall has done;  
by effecting this matter before the fall. It is  
able important to us, to take advantage  
of the present season. However, we may  
have to encounter our usual difficulties in  
getting home. We shall then you make  
no delay when our way has set out.  
I am sure with you fully in spirits, that  
the prospects of our young day - seem  
more brighter, and it is only our young  
for his friend to encourage them with  
them publicly to others - to receive his strength.

Mr. Mims in his letter of 17<sup>th</sup> says you think  
you will be able to secure the two riding  
houses for ever. I rejoice to hear this, but I  
know not how I can repay you many  
kindnesses. I attempt it by words, which  
but poorly express my feelings.

When I mentioned the purchase of "Cass"  
"Hunters" it was under the belief that similar  
excitement was being produced by the disciples  
of the subject of slavery, & that this would lead  
many to part with their shares. Mr. C. & others  
will have no alternative to sell, & Mr. M.  
writes me, there is no foundation for the  
reported excitement, & therefore, I have abandoned  
all hopes of buying in that way.

That as your wish of having my list, it will,  
I am sure, not be so short, in comparison, as  
our other lists; and if the reports made to you  
are well founded, I am persuaded the other  
list will be under no circumstances exceed

1750,000 shares & to my list under 150,000.  
In either case, buying to hold must decline in price,  
as in the latter case, more than 1/2% to per cent.  
of this, you may be assured. & not 70,000 shares  
less than last year, will require as much the  
stocks of buying to replace, and many of these  
will have in them scrip shares, & will either  
be able to give, or have scrip shares, or have to have

scripless ones, for the next year. I, for example,  
will require fully 1/2% less than I expected to  
command for in the spring. In 20 years 6% of  
share under no circumstances make 2/3% as much  
as last year, & on the same, I should be satisfied with  
2/3%.

I have nothing to say, but in regard to  
Mr. D. my wife & daughter are fully united  
in this, that they know I have no intention.

I am your truly,

J. D. Williams

Mr. Mims said - regarding in your  
hands is? being more than 15 years.  
I thought of many more, your letter is  
I want as the subject of the bidding house &  
but I hope you may succeed in getting at least  
one. I want but few shares, for some  
to not go there.

Q

My dear Mother

London  
Friday



London Aug 18th 1853

My dear friend  
 I have just received your letter of 10th inst.  
 I think it would be better if you could  
 be glad to visit with me in the purchase of  
 a large plantation - but I am not the owner  
 thereof. He is represented to me, to be a complete  
 failure - however, very pleasant - for part of it.  
 He has six capital - but I have no  
 paper to buy you & for it. - on one side the  
 capital is raised & change making for his services -  
 & allows the other set proceeds of crops to go to  
 the entrepreneur of principal & interest. I am  
 told the whole was liquidated. He wishes to see  
 on this subject, when last in Philad. & I promised  
 to let him have some more - if any favorable op-  
 portunity of selling him - however. I will, of course,  
 say nothing to him, without your permission.  
 When did you contemplate making the purchase  
 of meadow - & when did you expect to have the  
 whole? I would have considered - because I should  
 have been, on the 14th inst., & must needs say  
 something more to be for I go - if they are to be  
 desired before my return. - which will not  
 be before long.  
 I don't think it likely we shall visit Lexington. I  
 have no desire to visit there for any body else, but  
 it is truly happy to be in contact with your family  
 if you sh. go. The great is - when we can see  
 ourselves we feel we should be glad to see

them are isolated - to state as I have said. My former  
kind to be remembered - & express so much of  
my attention - that it takes me 3 minutes to describe  
for my departure - & the first 3 minutes of the  
my return - to search etc for last time during  
my absence. I think this is the last volume  
I shall go under - at least of the same  
type as the last one. & the copies are  
all in the glass - many of them slipping. The  
opening books are all at once and the  
rest of summer - but rather in the spirit of  
as it has been said last year, especially when it is  
not smoothed with paper.

My regards to Mrs D. & family  
I remain truly  
Yours  
C. D. [Signature]

I only mention the subject of Mr D's comments  
that you might explain - if you mention it.  
I am  
Yours truly  
C. D.

1851  
1852  
1853  
1854  
1855  
1856  
1857  
1858  
1859  
1860  
1861  
1862  
1863  
1864  
1865  
1866  
1867  
1868  
1869  
1870  
1871  
1872  
1873  
1874  
1875  
1876  
1877  
1878  
1879  
1880  
1881  
1882  
1883  
1884  
1885  
1886  
1887  
1888  
1889  
1890  
1891  
1892  
1893  
1894  
1895  
1896  
1897  
1898  
1899  
1900

10



W. J. Duncan Esq

Depot  
New York

U. S. Hotel  
Hot Springs  
20 July '99

My dear friend  
 your letter of 17th ult. addressed to  
 me at Hot Springs was forwarded to me at  
 this place by mail yesterday.  
 I think if you will examine my letter to which  
 yours is a reply - you will find that I acceded  
 to your terms for my supply of Bassing. As  
 I said that the suggestion of fixing the price  
 was in compliance with your wishes - expressed  
 in your previous letter - viz. "at your wishes"  
 at least your "recommendations" you certainly  
 suggested that it would be wise to say  
 instead of fixing the price now. I in accordance  
 with your wish I said - as intended to say - you  
 might fix the price for Mr. Marshall's &  
 my own, at 12 1/2 & 5 1/2. I thought those  
 were the prices, thus furnishing in Louisville  
 Ind. I am sure - they were the latest prices  
 tables I saw. But, I certainly intended to  
 write - so as to convey a feeling of in-  
 difference whether the price was to be 12 1/2 & 5 1/2  
 or to be governed by the quotations in St. Louis, as  
 if I manifested any desire to fix them at  
 all - I conveyed a feeling, which I did  
 not then & don't now understand.  
 You seem to think I was disposed to  
 be cheap - whereas I think my  
 charges proposed by me, was at your

own suggestion. But let all this pass.

The tears are now settled & I to be  
grieved by the quotations in Lewis's letter  
on 15<sup>th</sup> Sept. next.

You have had the misfortune - to have  
our dear son Stephen break both bones  
of his right leg. You thought the fracture -  
of the great toe - was a simple tear -  
was fracture. It has since has a certain  
and - to be a comminuted fracture - &  
his remaining side he more tedious. This  
sad accident occurred the day after we reached  
home & the weather since has been extremely  
dry hot. His condition is indeed more serious  
aggravated by the heat & confinement to a small  
room. He took his pain with the patience  
of a saint & the gratitude of a slave.  
He runs shed a tear & his words express  
a sense of his mother. When the surgeon  
commanded sitting the bones & applying the splint  
I know he put his little hands together  
in the attitude of prayer & said "Oh God  
grant me strength to bear this pain."  
He is a noble little fellow. Love you  
for this world.

The rest of the family are well.  
Mrs. Davis's death has in your  
mind. your family & I remain

March 7. 1863

My dear friend  
Your letter of 11<sup>th</sup> inst. reached me yesterday  
& I wanted to reply - that you may be early in  
revising my views of the bagging & Peps  
business.

You appear to think that 5<sup>th</sup> is the  
basis for in contract for bagging & Peps.  
I am only say in this point - say you found that  
Humb at 5<sup>th</sup> will consume better than cotton  
at 8<sup>th</sup> - and I have no idea what cotton will  
consume now 8<sup>th</sup> for more than you can  
- say, that it is likely to settle down at 4.7  
- under at such prices, do you think  
cotton planters can afford to consume their cotton  
in bagging, - more at 12<sup>th</sup> per lb? I don't!  
And I was persuaded - when cotton is at 5.7  
& under - it will be cheaper to use cotton,  
for bagging & Peps, than to purchase at  
11 & 5.

Since people seem to view, the recent Liverpool  
price of 6.50 - as more favorable to the cotton  
planters - & that there is now a prospect of  
a return consumption to an advance in prices.  
This is not my opinion, & I will tell you why!!

The annual stock of American cotton - in the Kingdom of Great Britain  
on 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. 62 - was 286,000 bales & of all other descriptions  
27,043 - making a total of 511,438 bales.  
The average weekly consumption of 42 was estimated at  
22,500 bales of the average wt. of 370 lbs. or 28,250 bales

H. J. Oliver Esq  
Loring in  
Kentucky.



of the average wt. of 300 lbs. - It was also presumed that the maximum of increase in the consumption, might - all the mills being in full operation be, from 2000 - to 2500 bales per week. This would give for the weekly consumption of 1843 - (assuming being living persons) - at the very extreme

31,000 bales of 300 lbs each.

Now, it is certain, - that the sale of the U. S. of 1842 will be not less than 2200,000 bales. & that the average wt will be 420 lbs.

Expanding the 220,000 bales (at the average wt. of 317 lbs. 1842) to average the same. There will be a supply, from the U. S., of 1,582,000 lbs. - amounting to 420 lbs. per bale - which would be equal to 2,214,000 lbs. And if we assume the extreme weekly consumption to be 31,000 bales, the supply from the U. S. will be equal to the entire consumption of 1843 in 5 months of the year 1844. To meet, if the entire stock of cotton from other countries, were burnt, - & not another bale imported except from the U. S. - there would be a great surplus.

Why - can there, under this aspect of things - be any well founded hope, of any improvement in prices? On the contrary - to keep prices as they now are, the consumption would have to be reduced 30 per cent. as compared with 1842, and there is no hope of this. Indeed, until new Mills are built - the consumption cannot exceed 35,000 bales per week, and at this rate - the cotton from the U. S. is suffering for the whole of 40 - to near 3 months of the year 44.

you will see, my good friend - that I entertain but gloomy prospects, in regard to future prospects. - And if you have any hope of seeing an increase in the consumption of Bagging - it ought to be - under the most confident feelings - that the articles are not likely to command more than 11 to 15 cts. for some years to come. -

I think you will see by my letter, that I am very anxious to see Mr. Poy's plantation his own bagging - & to see him in the market - to a very considerable extent. Mr. Poy's plantation is not producing in any thing. I wish you, I had 15 or 16 good broad men, with goals to a good sack, & and also a good dicker, - at your prices. I would only be carrying my own stock. - At what prices - do you think I could be supplied - especially of the kind at which, is desired?

I think Mr. Poy has been pretty well satisfied in - but not sure as the market is. I don't think he has made a single contract for cotton bagging in Africa, nor is he likely to do so - with his present view in regard to prices. If you cannot give him a lot of 300 lbs bales - we will draw you out of the cotton of it - for I think - as our own land - we can better afford to give him a lot of 300 lbs cotton at 40 cts baled.

I must now in haste close. I have written you 2 letters. I am yours truly



My dear friend

I'm afraid we shall not see  
each other. Dennis has to go  
I have given him 15th. do I  
give him 1/4 at dinner - for all  
of which he will amount to you.  
He takes his mule with some  
for sale - but when told I am to  
visit him to you.

Yours truly  
A. D. Brown  
Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> 1843

The house of 1843 - Brown  
is known. The 1/2 of which  
I bought - having been sold  
by him to some other  
person.

H. T. Brown - Esq

Lexington

Brown

NOTE Oct 1843  
1843



23

Henry L. Duncan  
Leaving for  
Kentucky



Wethers Jan 20. 1843

My dear friend

I have delayed answering your last letter - a long time - not because I did not often think of you - but because I could say nothing to alleviate your anguishes. Time - & reflection can alone effect this.

Scams of affliction - are not the best suited for the cool deliberate exercise of judgment - and here in matters of pecuniary importance - a little delay - & procrastination - in our decision is excusable. I have not a doubt - that in the time which you may take - some - a hundred - will have the sanction of your more mature judgment & reflection.

The amount was paid to today. and as my partner has 100 \$ to remit for 100 \$ of. I presume the account to amount only 100 \$ for 100 \$ - which with the 34 \$ will make the 100 \$.

My time has been some time usually occupied all winter - but I trust - that I shall not have a rest but after 1<sup>st</sup> Dec. next - and then I shall have more leisure - at least - time to devote to my business affairs. not that they have not been well managed - but that I feel it to be my duty as a master to see more of my slaves.

Mr. Blake is still in N. D. but I have not seen him since - I am said to be in your opinion - but I am suspicious - every suspicion as to the success of the letting case in N. D. This is almost - "keeping account books". I see our witnesses are almost as much distressed by sickness as we are - yet I almost despair of any success in that case. I shall be the President.

Please remember me in kindest terms to Mrs. Deane  
I am sincerely yours friend  
T. Deane

25  
10



For the estate of Sir Thomas 1/3<sup>d</sup> left of R. Pope & terms - then  
the quantity ordered.

For Steaks Island Beach (Mr. B. Wood agent) -  
1/4<sup>th</sup> left.

For Matcalp landing 1/4<sup>th</sup> left -

For L. Argent - 1/4<sup>th</sup> left.

I have not my own "with me" to indicate  
the precise quantity that will be needed - but I  
am sure the foregoing reductions will leave a  
surplus - more than equal to all I can hope  
to make. If it should prove otherwise I  
will take what may be required at success rates.  
altho' I don't wish to bind you for the delivery  
of more than the quantity ordered - after de-  
ducting the above.

I write in haste.

I have felt the most intense anxiety for the  
result of the election. I have great fears. I have  
never felt the same interest in an election - I  
hope you agree to feel the same. If Mr. Clay is  
not elected I will never cast another vote for  
Pres<sup>t</sup>. I fear we have lost their votes - for I  
am not quite as certain as I w<sup>d</sup> like to be of  
D.<sup>r</sup>. We must all have noticed how  
we have been defeated here by the Foreign  
vote - "God save the Commonwealth"

I am in haste

Yours truly,  
C. D. Wood

2. Henry J. Deane

Mr. W. B. Fennell

To

H. J. Deane Esq<sup>r</sup>

Dear Sir

You will oblige me by drawing on B. P. Leavick Esq<sup>r</sup> of New York. at sight for such sum as the bank Mr. W. B. Fennell may need for my acct. for the purchase of a horse. - and direct Mr. Leavick to charge the same to my acct. - Let the bill be for an amount sufficient to cover the purchase money - & the expense of getting the horse here.

Walden July 25<sup>th</sup> 1844

Respectfully

Henry J. Deane

St. Louis Sept 2<sup>d</sup> 1846

My dear friend

I have just rec<sup>d</sup> your letter of 20<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup>. I am in your room in regard to the amount of your 1000 rods to be taken from the land paper & deposited here for what I may

My wife's bill for the printing paper has been laid in at 1/2 & 1/2 each & when let my landings I intend to sell my 1000 rods of my own land in small lots in such terms that is the whole quantity to be the land between N. of bank & S. of same and you for on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of June in the night till in three years in the best value of any other & at 6 months after 1<sup>st</sup> June with 6 per cent.

I will send as follows

15000 lbs. Raisins - sold to Mr. C. Wood - Stark Island River  
18000 lbs. of Peas - from 1/2 to 1/4 miles above Providence  
250 lbs. of Sugar - Mississippi side

3000 lbs. Beans } L' Arcant Plantation - just opposite  
4000 lbs. Peas } the head of Fairchild's Island  
600 lbs. Sugar } Louisiana side

5000 lbs. Beans } Metairie Landing - 22 miles below  
6000 lbs. Peas } Natchez Miss<sup>is</sup> side  
100 lbs. Sugar

8000 lbs. Beans } estate of Linton - La. was bought  
7000 lbs. Peas } Jackson Miss. New Orleans  
100 lbs. Sugar

m. w. c.

26  
Henry J. Deussen Esq.  
Lexington  
Kentucky

single

May 30 1855 J. B. Bassing }  
35,000 lbs. Paper } Total  
510 lbs. Tanned }

I would estimate the quantity of paper required  
- about 25000 or 26000 lbs. paper 400 lbs. Tanned  
if it was desirable to you. & I will be  
as punctual as myself.

I have not the remotest idea what their articles  
are but higher next year. Their paper was  
on the contrary they are likely to be lower.  
Our great staple will certainly be lower than  
any before. And when the average price  
gets to be 4.5 (which I think very likely to  
come next year) we can market cotton bagging  
at less than 12 c. There are many articles  
which can only be tested by results. But we  
may present ourselves and would not be willing  
to contract for the very best quality of Bagging & clothes,  
or better tanned than Moravian when tanned.

I have examined the label of paper sent to  
Mr. M. & think it a good article. You bagging is  
cheap - very cheap. - but strong & heavy. Bagging  
ought not to weigh less than 17 1/2 lbs. to the yard.  
So it will, by being, be bought by lot & not by measurement.

I am sorry to have so undesirable a report of  
Mr. B's health. He is a very old man. I ought  
not to expect to have much longer. & considering  
the habits of his early life I must say too quite  
a prodigy of his later life. I am ought not to expect

to see him live out his 4 years. It is therefore  
the more important that our paper should be  
the very best quality to take his place.  
As Mr. B. we have sent a man. Though  
I am sure to complete what we mean is as well  
settled for the time as Mr. B. long himself.

Our ships on the Hills are by sea means  
as promising as they were 3 or 4 weeks since.  
I think there is very little promising at this time.  
As many places they will be materially shorted  
by the season. I have done to say why there.  
What else do among the season. The season  
are likely to spend over the water with us.

Respectfully for Mr. B. to your family.  
I presume Mr. Lusk's departure will have left  
this week you. It ought to be in N. O. hands  
before 1. 15th.

I am yours  
H. J. Deane

Nitch Jan 9 1864

My dear friend

I have not yet replied to your last letter (date not recalled - but somewhere near the close of the 1863 year) - I have been exceedingly occupied, and feel I must not yet see any prospect of being able to undertake it.

In the subject of Beggaring & other - I ought to have written you some time ago - I had had in mind some interesting notes from the Bureau, when in fact I had not quite got the purchase of my next year's supply. I have not therefore dealt at liberty, to treat in the subject with any long delay, until I have given them - definitively - which will be about middle of Feb.

Like ninety & more out of her recollections, of our plantations in their state & progress, I have a little recollection of last year's supply, of these articles. I think I am safe in saying - there is in the hands of planters, - a supply of 1/4 of at least of a fair average crop of cotton, - taking the average, between 18 & 24 or 2500 lbs, as a fair average.

Under this view, - the price, I think, must be low, and in a falling - there is no strong probability of being to wear a certainty - that we are to have an overflow of the crop - which will tend to reduce it still lower.

20

Henry S. Dimmock Esq  
Loring St  
Newbury

single



Mr. P. O. Davis has sent me a sample  
of Brazing & rope - the former labeled "H. S. & Co."  
"F" - the latter, "J. F. Smith" - which fully answer  
my expectations. - I would now undertake to  
specify a quality - especially good. - at what  
price?

I am inclined to contract for some  
quantity - when needed supply - which I  
equal to 8,000 lbs rope & 43,000 yds of  
Brazing - (either wire would be as good as  
any one) & who is to be the purchaser,  
Messrs in N. Y. or in N. York  
St. Dist. - with the privilege of buying  
retail - at a dis. of 8 per cent. per cent.  
would such a contract suit you?

If very much I will have two supplies  
one order - the quantity is to be increased to  
10,000 lbs of cable & 90,000 yds of Brazing.

If it will suit you to make a contract for the  
quantity above mentioned & deliver at the landing  
in the Port - please say at what price.

But my good friend - you must be satisfied  
in your expectations. -

I would not myself contract for the articles  
if the best quality (and I consider the brand  
above fully good) at 5 & 12 - labeled - Messrs  
St. Dist. in N. York; - & because I can save & make  
be able to do better for cash. 4 1/2 or 11 1/2 cash  
is the highest I will give for "H. S. & Co." on the 1st  
and the "J. F. Smith" rope - (and they are as good as I

would desire to have) delivered. -

It has rained here - night & day for  
the last 10 days - & is now clearing away.

I believe I could contract for you with  
our undoubtedly good quality, at 5 & 12 - per  
cent. by Messrs in N. York per year 1st. Dist. -  
But at these prices, a very superior article  
would be expected. -

The want close hauling - & small hemp  
rope: I thought to be very small, at 5 1/8 lbs of  
per cent. - if not the whole.

I write this in haste.

Yours  
C. D. Smith

4. Oct. 1844

My dear friend

I write you on the 3. Oct. since then I have seen Mr. Marshall Mr. Davis & others. They positively do claim any contract for Bussing Paper at 12. 5 & 12. 1/2 payable in N. O. in N. York at their option - on 1. Oct. without interest. They are willing to allow you to deliver in the manner stated in my letter 1/3 before 1. Dec. 1/3 before 1. Oct. & remainder before 1. Dec. 1/2.

They say they want the terms of pro. bond, when I first mentioned the subject to them. & that they would be more disposed to reduce, than to increase these prices.

I write this - in haste - lest you may not be misled by my letter of yesterday.

Yours truly  
Thos. Munroe

*[Handwritten signature]*



*[Small handwritten mark]*

Henry T. Munroe  
Expenses  
of the party

Richmond July 24. 1844

My dear friend

Your letter of 14<sup>th</sup> inst. has just been handed to me. Our local seedsmen seem to have been of some thing interesting to keep it up.

In regard to "mules" I think I may say confidently - that the destruction of them, in the cotton region - by the flood is too ruinous to be working out; certainly we have no being on the piece. If I was compelled to give an opinion, in the demand for mules here next year - it would be that the exigencies of the flood - & the inability of people who have been employed - to purchase any thing large - will most of our total wants - the demand is so light that the price lower than in former years. Besides, the destruction of the seed stock, & the destruction of the planting of many more stocks than was absolutely required. When the means of producing being, are to be got, by the other hand - you give us the best - I cannot believe - and very certain - the demand for young ones is greater than for any other article, - I would expect to see a few more.

But I think your stock will be sold in the region, except giving them to my friends for the best sale.

I have seen Mr. Meigs on the subject of your loss of sheep of the year - with him a deal of very good, for one of them sent to you, for the purpose of testing both of us to test experiment. They cannot be seen, however, before fall.

I will spare you nothing to give you any opinion of it - in any way. I will be glad to see that with you of my next year's crop. I am already supplied for the coming year. I would be willing to take the same.

DL

Henry T. D. Munn Esq.

Lexington

Kentucky

July 24





25

Henry J. Demme

Springton

Westbury

March 23<sup>rd</sup> 1844

My dear friend

On my return from the office today  
 I saw your letter - I found you letter of 16<sup>th</sup> inst  
 The long agony is now to J. K. Polk is our President!!!  
 Well - it is hard & every heart to him. It is a case of mere  
 manipulation to me - he was before him & felt he had an interest  
 in an election. But it is more painful still to think that  
 such a man as J. K. Polk should be preferred to Henry Clay.  
 I have made up my mind, not only now to take no part  
 but again, in a Presidential contest, - but will never  
 cast my vote for President.

If Mr. Clay had not left home on the last 12<sup>th</sup> inst he would  
 have written a line for the last 12<sup>th</sup> inst? but above all - if  
 he had never played a card for the last 12<sup>th</sup> inst, - he would have  
 been dead. His opinion was as well known & as fully un-  
 doubted, in all the measures of a public nature as he could  
 make them by restricting the expression of his, - to every  
 Town Ford also thought it proper to write him.  
 But his conduct playing, associated most injuriously in his  
 prospects. He has an unconquerable propensity to play,  
 and even among gentlemen & among his friends, - carries  
 the gambler's spirit, to the point of bet high. This is an un-  
 fortunate circumstance in our, who has so many noble &  
 commanding qualities - But enough in politics.

The day has now rapidly gone by - still very many persons  
 want for talents & patriotism - can be elected President.  
 The friends of our gov't left the office open to the objection  
 of the lowest Democratic, & have often, the best plan will come  
 down as usual to it, who is not identified with himself  
 in them to a word. This is the cause, of the extension of  
 the election franchise. and I think Mr. Clay himself

must see that the Secretary of the Office  
has required the country to its present condition.  
I have found the same. I believe was the first to see  
the country.

Spent my week, was shorter than I anticipated, at  
least write. I have nearly finished the paper & have enough  
for half a year. I wish it did come to rest and  
then as follows.

9000 7 <sup>th</sup> Bags?	} For the Island Bank
12000 Mr. Paper	
150 " Tins	
1000 7 <sup>th</sup> Bags?	} For L. August Plantation, nearly situated opposite the head of Fair Hill Pt.
1400 Mr. Paper	
20 " Tins	
3000 7 <sup>th</sup> Bags?	} Matilda's Landing.
5000 Mr. Paper	
no tins	
3000 7 <sup>th</sup> Bags?	} For Estate of Linton to be finished too
4500 Mr. Paper	
60 " Tins	
Total	16000 7 <sup>th</sup> Bags?
	22900 Mr. Paper
	230 Mr. Tins.

I am very sure, the above will cover all I  
will make with what I have left. Indeed, I  
shall be glad to make better things to receive  
so much in addition to what I have done.

Respectfully  
yours  
J. J. J. J.