My dear Friend — Natchez May 12th 1845

I wrote you a short note, some time since (say about 20th March) & enclosed you a check on Philadelphia for 50 $ given Mrs Linton, for Mrs Ch. Davis. Since then, I have some of your favors.

Then a letter from my agent, in which he gives me an accurate statement of the B.G. & Pope on hand. I find, the former, up in quantity, than I had supposed. I had entirely forgotten, that I had made down from there — a quantity of bagging in June last — which diminishes the supply there. Indeed, — if the cotton comes out as the quantity ordered from you, will not be adequate — by 2000 yds. At all events, I will send a portion of the supply from you, — before 1st Oct.

All this, is in reference to the order for Stuckey Island Beach. — When I first heard from them, — the prospect for a good crop was very fair. In this county, the reverse is the case. A tornado swept over my plantation, on the 4th March, on the 5th, — which materially injured the cotton crop.

Please let me know the quantity of bagging & ties — I have ordered — for each place. viz —

For Stuckey Island Beach
L'Argent —
Estate of Cosmo
Cosmo Metcalfs landing
and for Estate of Leiter at N.O. — I have no memo — on my books of the order — as last ordered. —

Mr A. Leiter
Care of Jno. Dennis Esq
New Orleans
Louisiana
Steamboat
Mississippi

MAY 11

1

If the crop in the River, seems with me clear cotton, it will require more hedging than I have ordered - unless I am mistaken in the num.r which I suppose I ordered. It is possible - however, I may, in my last order, have taken into mine, the quantity remained from them - to on hand here. -

You write probably know, before the 10.th to 25.th of June, for the Ports, by the way of St Louis & the Lakes. - It is not absolutely certain, but only the opinion.

You have had a very wet month of Apl. & up to the 6.th of May. The crops are all suffering from the floods. I never have had, so gloomy a crop. - But enough will be made, for the supply of a country enlarged consumption. If the crop of this year 44 reaches 2400.000 bales - (I am inclined to think it will go to 2450.000) we shall not make less, in '45 - under an ordinary fair season, & with a propitious season, will be more likely to be over 3 millions - than under 2,350 000 bales. But it is scarcely possible, we can have a uniformly propitious season, - throughout the cotton region. In L.a & Miss.i, the seasons for the two last have been most unpropitious - which in Alabama & Florida & the Atlantic states, the very reverse has been the case. - It is time we should be a little favoured. -

I have nothing of interest to communicate - and write - merely for the purpose of intimating - my wish that a portion, at least, of the subscription for the Island Bank should be stated - before 1.st Oct.r and to request also, that you will favour me with a view - of my last order for the 13-9 bales for the various points of destination.

Regards for Mrs D. -

I am yours &c

Stephen D. Lee

Natchez June 2. 1845

My dear friend

I am in receipt of your letter of 24th ult.

I must have had made Shawlond, when I wrote my letter of 13th June 7 - you spoke of Sept. as the quarterly needed for Mutualis Landing & for L'Argent plantations. I now write my orders as follows.

For Stack Island Bends - 4 miles above Residence - Miss. side consigned to M. C. Wood -
6000 yds Bagging
5000 lbs Rope
100 lbs Twine

For L'Argent plantations - 1 mile below the head of Fare chitos Island Louisiana side - consigned to Wm R. Cochran -
1000 yds Bagging
1200 lbs Rope
20 lbs Twine.

To S. Drennan - Mutualis Landing 22 miles below Natchez - Miss. side to same on Mutualis.
3000 yds Bagging
3000 lbs Rope
no Twine -

For Estate of Linton 4000 yds Bagging
5000 lbs Rope
50 lbs - Twine - consigned to W. Tuckson & Co New Orleans.

For Estate of H. C. Bonnes - 1000 yds Bag.g
1500 lbs Rope
25 lbs Twine
consigned to Baker & Little Natchez.

Henry S. Drennan Esq
Superintendent
Plantations
Natchez

STEAMASTER

Recapitulation. Estate of Linton 4000 yds Bag. 5000 lbs Rope 50 bales
" of Gowan 1000 " 1400 " 25 "
L'Argent Plantation 1000 " 1200 " 20 "
Stocks to hand - 6000 " 5000 " 100 "
Mitchell's Landing 3000 " 3000 " 00
Total 15.000 " 15.600 " 195 "

If any opinion can be formed, from present prospects, the above will more than suffice for all except Stocks to hand each. Of the prospects there I cannot speak - having had no positive intelligence. But if the Lino & the Bags have been as destructive there, as they have been in this country, - the order for that section, will be amply sufficient. - Then can bend the complaint so loud or so minutely, - of the Stands, as exists at present. Then ordered for all the places above noted, - a supply, greater than was required for last year. Beyond the specie - is a fully 1/4th greater than was ordered in taking the last crop. This, part of the supply, for all the places - except L'Argent - & Estates of Linton will be rec.d before 1st of August - as it may be needed early in Sept.

I am truly sorry to hear of Mr. Clay's affliction, - in the condition of his son. This, to a sensitive parent, is more than the despair of political aspirations. I understand from Dr. Mears, that he expected to meet Mr. C at St. Louis. Owing to the misfortune which befell my son (Sun.d the breaking of his thigh on 29th Ult) we will not be able to have before the 26th Inst. We had intended to have embarked on the 9th. - Dr. Mears goes on the 9th. -

If you should be able to use drafts on New York on more favorable terms than on N. O., you can draw on me payable at the office of C. P. Leverich New York, for the whole or any part of the amt. of the Bill for Bags & Rope & terms - payable 1st Sept. next, which I believe was the terms stipulated for pay.t in N. Orleans. ~~The~~ This, you can do, whether the Bags & Rope be shipd at the time, or not. I will next expect mt. for those ship.ts. -

Dr. Irwin is a correct, gentlemanly, intelligent man; & of great purity & integrity. He is not quite as efficient as he might be - & has a little too much of the habit of procrastination, - which for a business man, is a capital fault. - I was not aware he had been to Lexington. -

Then ordered my supply of Bacon.
my respects to Mrs Duncan
Yours &c
T. Duncan -

Natchez Feb. 4th 1845

My Dear friend

I have your letter of 25th ult before me. The Bagging & rope for the Estate of Commins may be shipped to B. B. Baker & Little Natchez. There must be separate bills for this & for the lot for Estate of Linton.

Mr Linton's crop was not worth half a cent last year. There is now on that estate more bagging & rope left - than enough for the crop of 44. The same is the case - but to a greater extent, on Commins estate and I will write you - that the next crop may be better, if it be not, - & the hands should be the same, I shall have to borrow money to pay plantation expts.

I am satisfied, it would be useless for me to perform to my friends here - to send them orders to sell. They will only contract at stipulated prices. Mr McCullough who requires more than any other of my friends - say 15000 to 18000 yds B.G. & a proportionate quantity of rope has engaged at 10 & 6¼ delivered, bagging at N.O. [illegible] about better than others, would be disposed to go as high. -

There not a doubt, a fine article of bagging could be bought in Louisville for cash before 1st Mch next at less than 9cts - may at less than 8½.

Be particular, in your ship.t to Stacks Island Reach - Consign it to "M. C. Wood Stacks Island Reach, about 1½ miles above the head of Stacks Island - or about 4 miles above Peoria: "deliver. Mississ.i side"

We have had a very delightful winter - dry & cool, but not very cold. -

E. R. Geyer & Co
Stacks Island Reach
Illinois

Francis D. Commins
Thomas R. Commins

Mr. Francis D. Commins
Lexington
Kentucky

Mississippi River
Stacks Island Reach
Illinois

I note what you say about new grain. The left unwritten, as said, on the subject, – the bottom. –

I wish when you send the bagging to Yoe – you would send to Mr. P. Wood, a small quantity of Tobacco seed – enough to raise an plant 15 acres – & give him directions how to plant & cultivate. Please send me here, one of Baker & Little, enough for 8 acres – with similar directions.

Regards for your family

Yours &c

T. D. Newman

PS I have just been told Mr. Clay offers to hold bagging at 12 cts provided in demand & to guarantee it will be 1 to 2 cts a yard better than any dont to this market. Skins have just been remitted in my office but no what anxiety – I know not.

Jany 13th 1845

My Dear friend

I find that the Estate of his Father, - has on hand, left from last crop; 5400 lbs of Rope 35 lbs. of twine - & 2804 yds bagging. and will need for a full supply of the largest crop made in the last 5 years - only

2400 lbs of Rope 50 lbs of twine & 2400 yds of Bagging. The estate of Bonner has on hand 13807 yds of bagging 1200 lbs. of Rope 5. lbs. of twine - and will need, for the largest crop ever made on the Estate - - in addition to only

1000 yds of Bagging - 1400 lbs. of Rope. 25 lbs. of twine. I have my self - more bagging rope & twine - than will come 2/3rds of the largest crop I have made, in the last 5 years and will only need for Stock to land Next 4000 yds of Bagging - 5000 lbs of Rope - & 50 lbs. of twine

I had written these few, - when your letter of 5th Inst. was handed to me. The sample rope you sent to Mr. Wilson, was thrown too hard, - & broke more easily, than the rope I had on hand. I allude to the 2 coils enclosed in canvass - which you sent Mr. M. - one of which I got, for trial.

I suggested to Mr. Swett & other Ffs of Mr. Bleny - that a fund should be raised of 100,000 $ - & placed in the hands of Trustees to be invested in Gov. stock - & the annual interest paid to Mr. B. during his life, out of his debt, to be employed in the creation of a monument.

But the plan of paying his debts in the way you suggest is better - & we are now engaged in turning our quotas.

be equal to Messrs & Roper. – I am now thoroughly confirmed in the belief, that the sooner you sell the better. I have not a doubt, the articles will sell for less than 9 & 4 Cash – before 1st Nov. –

We have had a very dry winter. There for – & having finished picking fall 6 weeks earlier than usual – have had a fine time to get our crops to Market. & to prepare for another crop.

Regards for Mrs & family –

I am & have been for several weeks too much occupied to write long letters – or write with ordinary care. & if unintelligible – attribute it to this. –

Yours L

T. Dunn

Natchez Jy 2d 1845

My Dear Sir

I have delayed writing to you until I had exhausted all efforts to make contracts for your bagging & rope - with my friends here.

I have now abandoned all hope of sales. I doubt whether I could engage 10 000 yds Bg even at 10 cts payable 1st Oct. The impression seems to be universal - that the outside will not command more than 10 cts at any time for the next 12 months - & a large number think the price will be 8 cts - or not more. I should not be surprised to see it down to 8 - before 1st of Jy. And at that price - it would be down [illegible] - pleasant & probable features known of cotton being considered.

I write this - that you may be at no loss as to what you have to expect in the way of contracts.

In haste yours truly

[illegible]


JAN
Henry T. Duncan Esqr
Lexington
Kentucky.
25

Natchez Feb. 13th 1845

My Dear friend

I have just received your favor of 5th inst. —

The funds raised here (1200$) were remitted to Mr. Meem — who represents the cause expected to receive from Mr. S. Wirt he expects to raise 4 or 500$ more.

I hope you will be able to send me some tobacco seed, & that the bag.g & Rope will come by the b.d.

Several of our planters are going to raise hemp & make their own bagging & rope this year. I have seen here sent orders to Mr. Posie, to procure hemp, & seed to sow it & make it with their own hands. This they can do — & make it cost them not over 8 cts a yd. for bagging allowing 3 to a yard for the seeding. But the seeding can be done without the least interference with the cotton, or gathering of the cotton crop. A lot of 12000 yd. Bagg.g

15000 lbs of Rope and 250 lbs of Twine has been made at 10. 4/4 & 10 — deliverable at various points on the River — payable 1st Nov. next in N. Orleans. I mention this merely to show, that there is no impossibility of my being able to make arrangements for you.

yours &c

I am aware of the check for 500$ not remitted — it was sent off by 10 — 12 individuals in N.O. —

Mary T. Duncan Esq
Lexington
Kentucky

Paid

Natchez Apl. 6th 1826

My dear friend

Your letter of 31st ult. has just come to hand.

In regard to I. T. G. I may say, he has the means to pay his debts, but is peculiarly slow. In fact, I would not trust him, as a dear friend, for 100$. He is universally known here, as wanting the principle. The money can be made out of him. There is no doubt. But it is effected by delaying - it may be a long long time. If Mr. G. is desirous of settling the claim, let the hands of Mr. G. & Mr. Gassaway be Exists to Shapleigh - as money can not succeed: He is attorney, & perhaps is writing.

I think Mr. Davis has a claim of long standing against Mr. G. which he has been unable to collect and he is anxious to see. He has a hundred perhaps, & what he does with his money, we may see till. I don't know of any income but I see his confidential & of course. Little see Mr. Lenoir to let you know what he says about Mr. G. perhaps. I doubt if he will be under to it. If you don't hear from me in 10 days after receipt of this - you may conclude Mr. Lenoir declines the perpose.

I am yours &c

T. Duncan

T. Duncan Esq.
Lexington
Kentucky

Nov 5th 1846

My Dear friend

I have this moment rec^d your letter of 27th ult – with Bill on J. G. Gordon for $334.66

Mr G. resides on his plantation – about 8 miles from the Town of St Joseph. There is no Bank at St Joseph & I know no friend there to whom I could send the bill for collection. I have written Mr Gordon to send me his bill on his own Merchant – at 10 ds sight for the amt. I doubt think he will do so

In regard to the note referred to in your letter, you can assure Mr S. that it is not worth one cent. Such a crazy one of the pro tem, has taken the benefit of that most glorious, just & upright Whig measure the Bankrupt law. I think, if any thing could or ought to damn a party – it was the passage of that law. I begin to think, we have many rascals among the Whigs myself. In this state – a great many; & in other places certainly a great. Look at Judge Guthrie & Mr Bowcomb – both Whigs – both defaulters & forgers.

In haste

Yours truly

Inclose you Dr. given 3% for your benefit
4 for Notes
10 for loss
} allowed & paid for

My Bill on New York bought 15th Inst.

H. Y. Duncan Esq
Covington
Kentucky

30th Nov. '46.

My dear friend

I have your letter of 15th Nov. you will have received mine of 21st Nov. covering a bill for $53.24 – which I hope ere this has come safely to you.

In to your remarks, about the supply of Bagging & Rope hereafter. You may be correct – but I still think, no disposition either there or here, will be felt hereafter, – to buy a series of 11 years together.

I have enough on hand, for sending with such as this – or very nearly so, and Mr. Linton has enough, certainly, for 4 such ships. I doubt whether, any planter, would be willing to contract for a larger supply for the coming next year, than he needed for this; and I am sure, there are a great many, who would decline it, independent, to buy for the same, than 1/2 such a crop as this year. – I will not urge a single yard or pound – myself – having enough, to last, all I shall take, by 1st of 8br next – by that period, I shall be able to tell you much more, exactly. I shall see. –

I know, you can buy cheaper in New York, in these Orleans, or 1st of June, – at fully 1/2 per ct. lower. Under the rates prevailing at Natchez. There is at all seasons, fully 1/2

Mr. J. Duncan Esq
Lexington
Mississippi

DEC 2 1846

10

you, I differ in the latter, - hence some of
Mr Cobden.

I am not certain, that I should have
any friends to Union for, on 1st time, & therefore, could say nothing definite on the subject, at present. As the time for your investment to approach, - we may probably come to some understanding, on the subject.

I hope to live long enough, to see, some the S. Carolina cotton planters, have their eyes opened, to the ruinous effects to their own most vital interests, - by their opposition to the Protection policy. The determination to make short time at Manchester, for the purpose of keeping down the price of the raw material, - must ultimately the most injurious, - that but for the American market, the planters would be wholly at the mercy of the Manchester spinners.

Yours truly

J. D. [illegible]

My Dear Lee

I return you the bill on the G. Garden. the 2d has been destroyed.

I write mentioning the opinion - that before 1st Oct. you will see bagging - lower than it has ever been. and all from combinations and by the recent combinations of the manufacturers.

We have had a very wet & backward spring with us much so as that of '38. Many of our planters have been unfitted to plough & plant cotton. some of them twice. There had very little offers to us - having commenced to plant - 15 days later than last year.

Well we have seen some the bagging of peace. and who can tell when it will end or how far it will extend. What a curse - even a good government badly administered is. I begin to doubt whether ours is a good government.

I am yours &c

P. Duncan

May 9th 1846.

10

H. T. Duncan

Lexington

Kentucky

Natchez Nov. 17th 1829

My dear Sister

I have just received your letter of the 1st inst. that has come to hand for you — other lady left

I have determined not to interfere with my respects. although I may be [illegible] to the [illegible] I must also do the [illegible] of several hundred acres of land, which were cultivated last year. The number of very efficient hands, has been greatly reduced, but I was not [illegible] to replace them by purchase.

My dear Fanny, my desire to replace her. He is at his plantation at present. I will answer your letter as soon as he returns.

If you thought proper to send the boy to my plantation I would endeavour to see him for you, but I would not purchase myself.

We have had a continued succession of most favourable weather, especially the last fortnight for gathering our crops, & we have had in 18 years. Our plantations have increased amazingly & but little more than half of last year's & of the year — because my family are well.

Yours &c

[illegible]

Henry C. Dunn Esq
Rising Sun
Kentucky

NATCHEZ NOV 23 1829
10

Natchez Apl. 10th 1847

My dear friend

I have just rec.d from Mr. Marshall, your (without date) on the subject of contracts for Bassing & Rafts. I had made no engagements for you. consequently your letter came in due time, to meet my movements. I doubt, whether Smith would have been willing to have engaged, at your limits - 5/2 & 12.

I presume you are aware, that we have another rise in the Miss.i - said to be - from St. Francis & White River. These are short rises, & will soon run off; but they furnish indications - on which we may rely - that they will soon be followed, by floods in the Ohio, Kanawa & Red River. which will keep the Miss.i at an increased height, until the Missouri flood comes, - & then, a very high River may be expected.

Some Lines have gone very, down you Ohio up, & now - are destined - to the same fate.

I am yours &c

Stephen Duncan

2 letters, now attend to your - 2d after our adjustment,

2 Bales Flour 12-
Lot 18 Bales
H. T. Schmidt

H. T. Duncan Esq.
Cincinnati
Kentucky

10

Natchez June 3rd 47

My dear friend

Your of 20th ult has only this moment come to hand. Although I cannot venture to express wish you in regard to the Stock of Hands, I am willing for myself to go Mr Marshall to fix the rates as between you

12½ for Bagging
5½ for Rope
12 for Lime

} deliverable to be found for by Bills on here payable September 1st Jan'y 1848.

I have seen the St Louis prices of the 28th quoting Flour at 75 to 80 in the Stores heavy, generally accompanying heavy guest. If our cash stands by, shall expect we must have a rise. But we have a liability of 2 to 1 for fall 1/3rd or more.

Dr Bruschia asks 150,000 pay able 1 & 3 years for his 2000 acres of land. I presume it is worth 50 to 60,000.

In haste

Yours &c

C Dennis

Mr. J. Dennis
Care of Jno Turley
New Orleans

FREE
JUN 4
N. M.

10

Mr. Stephen Duncan
Jan 4th 1847

20

H. S. Duncan Esq.
Livingston
Mississippi

Natchez Jan 4th 1847

My Dear Friend.

I have no? on your acct, from Wm St J. Elliott - as follows

| | |
|---|---|
| Robt Semple on N. Sackett & Co | $297.19 |
| S. Wood on Do | 258.98 |
| Olivia R. Wade Do | 736.39 |
| T. A. Evans on Thurston & Moody | 266.58 |
| Wm St J. Elliott on S. Nicholson | 882.05 |
| A. J. Walsh on Do | 229.84 |
| J. L. Trask on Do | 476.27 |
| B. F. Young on | 671.05 |
| Total | $3818.35 |

all payable 1/4th J. 1847 - and which I doubt not are paid this day.

I therefore remit you my bills on C. T. Lawrence at ~~sight~~ sight - as follows.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Bill - | for | $700.00 | |
| 1 Do. | for | $600.00 | |
| 1 Do. | for | $600.00 | |
| 1 Do. | for | $500.00 | |
| 1 Do. | for | $400.00 | |
| 1 Do. | for | $350.00 | |
| 1 Do. | for | $468.35 | $3818.35 |

Mr. Elliott has agreed, with my assent, that Mr. Walsh, shall take the lot of Negroes for Mr. King, & keep for the season, except yours, - the penalty of not receiving, heavy rates. The contract with

write explain this matter.

This being a busy day with me I have no time to add.

Yours &c

E. D. [illegible]

B. F. Young 671.05
N. G. Welch 229.84

for it must fall. It is right that the shippers should lose the interest on it for three nights in sending it without any explanations.

We are all well and intend going to the hills to day if it does not rain.

Sarah and miss Emily join me in kind regards to Mrs. Elliot and yourself.

Your Friend

N. T. Welch

The supply for Mr. King - was not rec'd by him - the letter of it, came to him - like after he had supplied himself elsewhere - consequently, it is no longer subject to H. T. Ds order - but [illegible], Sat. Wade

Inclosed, & keep for, next sale, if determining to H. T. D. –
This num.r is made at the suggestion of Mr. Elliott
S.D. 28th Dec.r 46

256. 08
229.84 Rec.d for B. R. & T. –
#26.24 send to Mr. E.

Wm. M. John Elliot Esqr.

Dear Sir.

Enclosed you will receive a Draft at sight for Two hundred and fifty six 08/100 Dollars. being the amt. of my Bill of Bagging and Rope, and the Due Bill to Haywood with 6 per cent Interest from 1st May.

#116.34K.

Mr. Kings lot of Bagging, he can take or you may have it here, and I will pay


My Dear Friend

Steamer Island Queen
Aug. 18th 1847

Just as I was preparing to conclude for this place, I rec.d your letter – on the subject of Bagging & Rope – and sent it to Mr. Elliott & Mr. Davis. Mr. E. seemed to think most generally, of the proposal to be governed by the prices at Lower cities provided a definite period – say 15th Oct. was fixed on, for determining the prices. I would report to the same for as – follows.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 4000 yds Bag.g | | for S. Drummond |
| 6500 lbs. Rope | | Steamer Island Queen. |
| 100 lbs. Twine | | |
| 2800 yds Bagging | | S. Davis |
| 2800 lbs. Rope | | Steamer Island Queen |
| 35 " Twine | | |
| 2100 yds Bagging | | H. P. Drummond |
| 2800 lbs. Rope | | Steamer Island Queen |
| 35 " Twine | | |
| Total – 8200 yds Bag.g | | The whole to be consigned |
| 12100 lbs. Rope | | to Mr. E. Wood – |
| 170 lbs. Twine | | Steamer Island Queen |

the twine to be the same that is being cut Louisville on the 15th oct. as specified in the enclosure of this letter.

6 miles above Paducah.

If this proposal is acceptable to you - please
be particular - in marking - each lot separately
& distinctly, - & forward separate bills - so that
I may settle accordingly. And also - designate
the place of delivery, - so that there can
be no mistake. — Yours

"M. C. Wood Esq.
Stack Island Pearl
Six miles above Tuscaloosa
Miss.ippi side -
Say - 2 miles below
the lower end of Island No. 93."
Say "foot of 93" or 2 miles above the head of 93"

The Baggin Mode stands to
be the land on the Bank
in the field which stands
six miles directly on this
edge of the Bank.

I propose to pay for the whole, - by my bills
on New York - payable 1st of Jan.y 1848 -
in such sums, as you may designate.

I find - I shall lose very little,
by high water - not 20 acres. The River
has fallen here, 4½ feet, & rending fast.
You have, this winter, a most severe
storm of wind - hail & rain. I have not
yet been able to hear out, to learn its
effects.

Nearly all the plantations below this,
have suffered severely, from the high water.
Mr. Marshall loses fully 400 acres & he
did not lose an acre in '44 - Many others
who escaped in '44 have suffered severely
this year. Below Vicksburg, - the lots
will be still more severe. - As I hoped
Vicksburg on the 28th the water had only
fallen 1½ inches - & was rendering very
slow. This was owing to the Yazoo,
and I doubt if it falls, 6 inches at Natchez
before the 10th May.

I am yours &c
Stephen D. Lee

Washington House
Philad.a
Sept.r 18.th 1847

My dear friend

I rec.d your letter, while at Senate: go, & just previously to our leaving there.

I have no doubt, you will in your new constitution, - provide for a general, but gradual emancipation of the slaves in your state. If I were a property holder, - say, owner a slave holder in the state, I would not object to this - provided it was gradual, - for I can see, it will increase the value, of all other property. But now emancipation, suddenly at a distance, from what they would be, if brought close to the possession, or in immediate contact. - Hence, - whether beneficial or otherwise, - it is not to be wanted or avoided, - & it is the part of Philosophy, - not to fret over what can not be avoided. The will of the Majority, in this good Republic of ours, - must prevail; and so far as my vote or influence extends, it may prevail - without repentance from me.

We have received accts. from the cotton crop so relative to the cotton crop. From the Atlantic states, - including Mobile & Florida - I believe it will be 150.000 bales less than last year = & from all other sections - it will not be 200.000 bales more, & may be not 100000. In other words, my belief



Hon.ble J. Speed Smith Esq.r
Lexington
Kentucky

is - that which the crop, will not exceed 1850.000 bales
under the most favorable gale, & it may - under
an unfavorable one, - fall below 1800.000 bales.
In fact. I think, there is a strong probability, that
it will not exceed the crop of 46.

I understand, Bussing & Robe is wholly under the
control of speculators, - & if this is so, - it may - keep
up the price - If they have the capital - to hold
up their stocks, - present prices will be maintained;
- but certainly, the legitimate demand for the ar:
:ticles, could not maintain prices ruling just now

I will not leave the city, till after the Thang
Sgiving - which is to take place on the 5th
ofth. The weather in the Ohio, is low, - & we
may be compelled to take the Lake route, to
Sandusky & thence to Cincinnatti. -

I have nothing of interest to give you.
The failures in England, of almost all who
have been connected with the grain trade, - will, I
fear, be felt in N. York & New Orleans - & possibly
St. Louis & Cincinnatti. - The feeling
of Prairie Hand &c will have a bad effect.
I doubt thinks, they will even pay 10 cts in the
dollar. They sands - it is said 430.000 # in one shew:
:letter in Flowr. - But this I doubt much for.

Present my regards to Mrs D &
your family. Tell Andrew, Steve - to walk
about as little as ever.

Your friend G. D. Hammond

My Dear Jane

Natchez Feb. 7th
1848

I have just rec.d your 25th ult. —
In reply to the price of the Buggy & Robes
I ~~had my opinion~~ as the cost of
that very — I then ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~
settled the ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~
with satisfaction to me.

I remain, and account you, Mr. Elliott's
Bill in Vicksb.g for $125.75 funny to me
[illegible] to it —

I will pay Mr. E. the amt. of his claim for
the charges in wrong ship.t of his B. & R. &
have so informed him.

Signed, R. C. Wood paid charges $25.40
return freight Y. Adams. 16.00 $41.40
which I have charged to your acc.t

I rec.d the single saddle of Mr. Thos. Lacoste
you it had been rec.d in good order, — that
I was in ignorance of the article — so only was testing
it. but then thought the [illegible] not equals
to your own. The boy with 3 saddles has
not arrived without any letter. Presuming it was for
you, I shall if so could not dispose of 3
for me. I sent one to Mr. Elliott & the other
to Mr. Wilson. You letter rec.d — a number of
words directed the same disposition of the matter

H. T. Duncan
Lexington
Fayette Co. Ky

and I am glad I anticipated you in this
and I have so notified Mr. L. & Mr. S.
They have also received the Bag - as have I,
but not yet used it. Accept my thanks
for the same.

Please send separate accts. for things
I & Mr. Davis bought bagging & Rope, &
rec.d the same - & trust I am free from
mistake. Please at other time inform
how the mistake should be made. Checks
on state banks 1½ premium here.

The Bill I sent you at 90 days was cash:
Hand A 1. in N. O. I ordered no other
for you, & took the risk of the 10.000 #
for my own acc.t at same rate.

There is no indication that you intended
the purchase on the contract of last spring,
the purchase of bagging in N. York in N. O
Indeed I thought you intended it premature
and that we, against my wishes, were hard to
pay in N. O. & I was bound to pay in
N. York. If it had been otherwise, I would
certainly have paid in N. O - as thereby
Mr. Davis saved the premium & freight
on the N. York checks. I think I saw
from the subject of premiums to pay in
N. York or N. Orleans at the opening
of the packets, & you intended the first
was no innovation who is dissatisfied
last July.

I find you make, in the last statement for
me, 35 pieces - bagging 11 & 7.8 cents. My
agent reported me pieces at 7.90 7.8 - my 18 pieces
11.75 yds - not 8 inches the bale of Lad[illegible]
as specified. - The difference is 14 7 8.

Mr. Elliott is now in N. O - When he
returns, I will buy upon the bale of charges
paid by him. Thus the mistake of Lat
Adams, could make out a bale of 22.54
for charges on the bagging & Rope sent there
by mistake, is strange to me. The f.t as
that Lat, upon Mr. Adams to Stocks behind
Rent was but 10 #. You shipping
agent in Louisville, ought to pay their bill.
Last blunders might not to occur with
you in business.

Yours truly

C. T. Bowen

Jan 19th 1848

My dear Sir

I have just received your of 9th inst.

As I have given Mr Lozier, I presume, that his order will be filled with you hereafter, I must of course rely on its being so. I will not bargain with you for a single yard for myself, — until all the orders passing through my hands are executed. If I have failed to express myself to this effect, in language sufficiently strong — I can only say, I have been unfortunate. I give no order for myself. I determined to give none until all the orders passing through me, are executed. I only write (as intended to write) to know whether you would satisfy me, after supplying others.

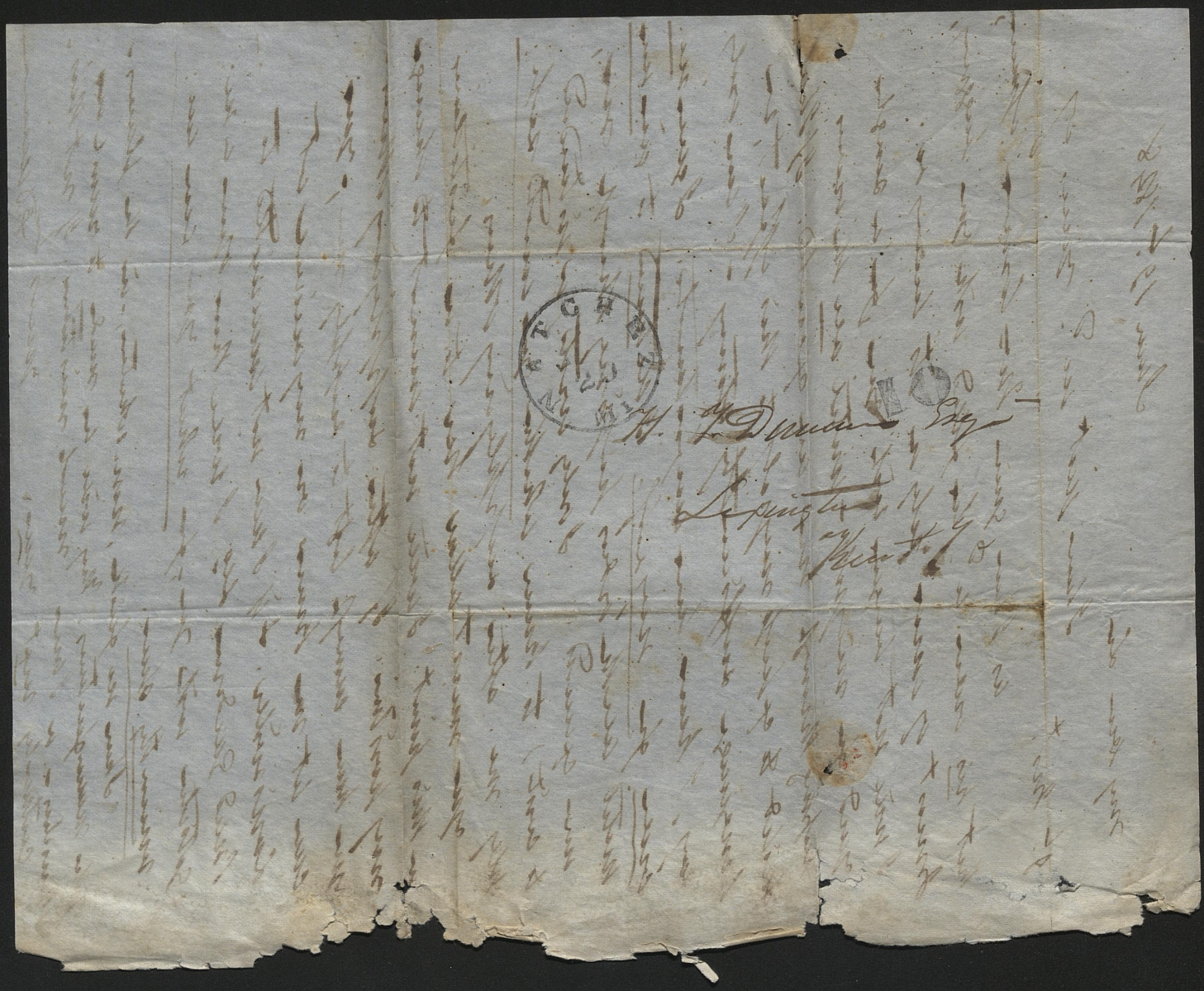
You must allow me to be positive on this point. I will not consent to change my position. If, after supplying others, you have enough left to supply me, — you can let me know on my arrival at Louisville. & if I am not committed to Saul Gardner &c. I will then open a negotiation with you, for what you can command.

Yours truly

Yours in haste, non-relative, in the place of the manufacturers. My wife has made to remind you of a mistake. If not this, certainly not yours.

Yours &c

F. D. Lozier


Lexington
Oct 17 18

My dear friend

I have at last obtained from Mr. Elliott a memo.m of the acc.t paid by him - charges on account relaying of his B & B. at Fort Adams. The expense was - The g.t was not paid at Louis: ville for he gave the Bill of lading - with the erasure of the words - "f.t paid." -

I enclose a statement of acc.t & have this day ordered Mr. Jackson &c. to remit $1592.04 - as an endorsed bill 60 or 90 days date bill - & remit the same to you.

I think it is a pity that Clay's friends had not kept him at home. He has exhibited a selfishness in his conduct - in not waiting to see the last of Mr. Adams - which can only be accounted for in his impatience to take advantage ambitious. But this is under general & cards so write you the truth.

You have a very cold month of March and our spring is very backward.

Same yours &c

T. G. Dunn

March 14.th 1848.



T. G. Dunn Esq.
Care of Jas. Lee
Huntsville
Ala.

H. T. Drummond Esq.r In account with P. D.

| | |
|---|---|
| To Billy expenses on Bagging & Robes unexpectedly shipped to Ft. Williams — | $ 41.40 |
| To Do paid To. S. S. Elliott for Do on Do | 30.85 |
| To this sum remitted 14.th March to Messrs Ellis for investment in exchange for you | 1592.04 |
| | $ 1.664.29 |

Contra

| | |
|---|---|
| By Bagging Robes Furs for only | $ 922.04 |
| By Do Do of H. T. Drummond | 313.18 |
| By Do Do for S. M. Davis | 303.32 |
| By To. S. S. Elliotts Bill on Walsh | 125.75 |
| | $ 1664.29 |

E. E. [redacted]

March 14.th 1848

Saratoga Springs
8th August
1848

My dear friend

I have your favor of 8th inst. before me. I thank you for the expectation of your offer to have my rope manufactured for me. I then ordered from Hoppe for my cotton & have purchased here a bagging.

The hoppe rope cost about 4½ per lb. The bagging rope cost about 15¼ per yd. Rolling. It is 40 inches wide & averages 2⅛ lb. to the yard. I consider this equal to the best Kentucky at 12½. I find it will take 1½ to 2 yard lap per bale. Thus the Kentucky.

In regard to politics, I have only a few words to say. The experience of the last 8 months has completely satisfied me that there exists no where, in so selfish a set of demagogues, as is to be found among those who claim as our first statesmen. & the very first in the south, I would place, Mr. Clay, & next Mr. Webster & Mr. Silas Wright. I am more fully satisfied, see that I have been taken either tricked, to serve a purpose. is nothing more than mere tools for self aggrandizement. I condemn, utterly & wholly condemn, Mr. Clay's course & shall never again vote for him. The same respect & generosity died. I hope & pray

Henry J. Bowman
Saratoga Springs
New York

Saratoga Springs Aug 9

such a course given him. Now I did fear Webster. But I now think of the two, Webster is perhaps the least selfish.

I am not surprised, living as you do, in the vicinity of the great Dictator, that you should attribute to selfish, the opinion you do, in relation to Genl. Taylor. In more breathing the serene atmosphere of Mr. Clay, you dispute gives his opinions. But although I shall not vote for Genl. Taylor, I believe he will be elected. His defeat by the opposition of Mr. Clay & his friends, & the feeble support of Mr. Webster, with I fear these, the party cannot carry. Thurlow Weedy Mr. Clay, Mr. Webster, Mr. Seward & some others. I shall endeavor to inculcate in my sons, never to trust a leading politician. But will try & impress them with the belief, that if the Govt. is ever to be purely honestly & uprightly administered, it must be by honest upright men, of fixed principles & of other & more minded than the dirty pack of politicians.

You speak of Genl. Taylor "as a man of no principles". This is unjust, and I must say wrong. His principles I think have been most distinctly avowed than those of Mr. Clay. But I will not discuss this matter with you. I probably care as little for the want of as far as it can affect my interest as my happiness, as any man living. I hate & detest all great statesmen, - for I consider the word none, - as nothing more than synonimous with the vilest demagogues, & the meanest & most selfish ambitious.

It was bad enough in Martin Van Buren, to make message in the way he did. But how much worse is it in Mr. Clay, from whose patriotic public sacrifices, we had a right to expect so different a course. It seems me to think, that men intend to quit, - could Clay no more a party.

If Kentucky is to degenerate into democracy because of the disappointment of & affection of Mr. Clay, then are the people of Kentucky more degraded than I have supposed them. No, my friend, Mr. Clay may turn down - or what is as bad - withdraw his support from Genl. Taylor, or he may do which is best for his fortune & fame, & there are men in Kentucky, quite as patriotic & less selfish, who will supply his place. It is a thousand pities - he had not died in '44. Naturally, for his honors politically dead, & what is worse, morally dead too.

I write as I feel & as I think.

Your friend

G. Duncan

Sept 18. 1848

My dear friend

Your of 2d inst. I found on my return from Texas to find Texas. I have seen enough of the quality to not like - intend to the proposal for your B. R. & T. They decline giving you from thought they all expect thinking, to "buy wool for a good article, then for an infamous one." They would (I infer from their remarks) be willing to give 12 cts for your article payable 1st 19 1849 or 20. I assert thinks they can be induced up any higher. In fact - I should depend if the news from Europe continues to be unfavorable. As the prospects for cotton, seem now as they now are, - they would be more likely to address their address upon their office of B. & T.

I don't know, that I have need any for Texas to find Texas, - for I have every prospect of being mistaken, from the hands in my neighborhood have close mr. entirely, the prospects for cotton planting are growing unusual - and I should not be surprised, if there should be nothing but the mind & trouble through not all proper for the next 10 or 15 years. Such as I now see

H. S. Duncan Esq
Care of Sec'y
Treasury
Washington

detail to the Planting interest. Our cotton
will not be worth 4 or 5 cts. and we
should have to manufacture our own
bagging & Rope.

I will not discuss politics with
you. I have always said & still am
say, I'd prefer Mr. C. for the Presidency
to any other man living; and I have
long since said, I was willing to go
any other man. While he is living.
I'd not prefer Lorain but Mr.
Crittenden was dear to the Pat. of the
U.S.

I think the country is on the
eve of a crisis - which will again
convince opposition men, to support
the Govt. - and I cannot resist the
sentiment that "Respect under Mr. Clay
is better than sense under any lesser
patriot men". - If we may, as we were
8 or 9 years ago, - that is? have been
my sentiment. But it is not now.

yours &c

Thos. Devereux

P.S. Remember - you must give positive
assent - to explicit instructions in regard
to the disposition of your funds. I will not
again take the responsibility of acting
or waiting. you must either say -
"invest in yrs no checks at current rates
at Bicks" - or "transmit to the Mr. T. & N.
or Mess. Gaskins & Mr. Nathl Cochran
at 60 d. at current rates."

My Dear friend  August 26th 1848

Yours of 21st inst. has just been rec'd.

I don't wish to pass a decision on the character of a man, whom I was estimated, the highest of our patriotic men. I of course, my opinions have undergone no radical a change. I be opened, I am not quite to give up on the ground - nor feeling (like you all) so patriotic as perhaps to justify my change of opinions - cannot be imputed to improper bias. - I mention, however, to predict, that you all - should we both be spared a few years - will come to the same conclusions.

I am greatly at a loss to account for the conduct of John Quincy Adams. nor I wish heartily may any heart of seed be Judas.

If Gen'l Taylor has sincerity & firmness of purpose - I care not what his political opinions are. He has written, in language that cannot be mistaken - that the will of the people - as expressed by a majority of their representatives, should be carried out - except only in cases of very heavy & unconstitutional legislation. And this is good enough for me.



10

Hon. T. Duncan Esq.
Springfield
Kentucky

We shall have gen. Gen. Judge - he thinks
it will be the 29th & 30th. We will come
back, for 8 days; & then to Toledo;
where we will remain, till the 25th &
possibly 28th Sept.r. We will then
turn our faces homewards - but
by what route - I am, at present,
undecided.

I am, yours &c

Stephen D. Lane

June 20th 1848

My dear friend

I have just rec.d a letter from Saul Sanders Esq. & I am not consulted to know

after you have supplied all the orders which have passed thro' my hands. ~~you~~ and then you feel obliged to file from others. you will know exactly what quantity you will have left.

One half - or 1/3.d of the quantity mentioned in the memo.m will suffice for me - provided you feed at the least inconvenient to fur:nish the whole. I would think - with hemp at 3.75 (last quotations 3.62½) - you could make more at manufacturing - than at Wilmington particularly - if you should sell at 12 & 6. But this is a subject you understand better than I do.

If I should not meet you at Louisville - (and this may be so - for we may have to go by the way of St. Louis.) write me at Saratoga springs - what quantity you will have left. after supplying my engagements covering orders. including Mr. Moses & Mr. Elliott. or in other words - what portion of my order - you can supply. If you supply any part - please meet the destination of the 4500 - 7.d bagging 7000 lb Rope 275 lb. twine ordered for Hutchins Lansing - & let it be consigned to Baker & Little Hutchins.

In haste yours &c

P. Decrow

Saratoga Springs N.Y.

Mr. J. D. Morrison

Louisville

Ky.

Care of Mr. Elliott

Louisville

Ky.

W. S. Hotel Saratoga Springs
11th July 1848

My dear friend

I arrived here last evening, when I found your favor of 30th ult.

I thank you for your friendly offer of having my wife made comfortable for me. I have not yet made up my mind whether to avail myself of it or not. My present impression is, - I will be Gouty legs - or be in a begging. I have hopes I cannot rise at making longer exps. - I have well shaken the tree to get up my holes in the hoops. I have over 25th per hole in shift: - being changes.

I made no contract with Mr. Hone or Mr. Elliott. I was not authorized by you - nor solicited by them, or either of them, to do so. I understood, (or rather inferred from your letter) - that you felt bound to serve them first. They have uniformly relied on you, personally, for their supplies. I once or twice mentioned to Mr. Elliott that you wished his order - but never intimated this same to Mr. Hone. & I think added - "Mr. H as I understand - relies on getting your order as the same thing he does theirs". - To Mr. E. when I last spoke with him - I said - "Mr. H has all his orders & expects you to do his. & is moving carpenters to know what you will want.



Mr. T. Dwight Esq
Springfield
Mass

and I wrote to him - that you & Mrs. Lincoln
guest Mrs - must be invited too!" (of course
in a joking way.) -

I must close my bright this
morning - hoping a little bad luck.

Yours truly

D. Wilson

D. S. Duncan Sunday Evening — 1484

D. Lee

The Empire landed the following

lots of Bagging Rope & Twine —

S. Duncan 14 pc Bagging 106 yds E 1484
1 — — 91 91
1575

16 Coils Rope 1769 lb

H. P. Duncan

13 pc Bagging — 106 yds Ea 1378
16 Coils Rope 1714 lb
1 Bund. Twine 20 lb

S. M. Lewis

12 pc Bagging 106 yds Ea 1272
13 Coils Rope 1374 lb
1 Bund. Twine 20 lb

to

[illegible] Hunewell

Natchez

N.L. 9.7.1848

My dear friend

Your of 10th J.J. came to hand yesterday. I will pay Mr. Elliott his claim as soon as I see him. and I will change you with some to also with J. or B.J. & Bake from F. Adams. your Father must be a bungling art. to make such mistakes:

The Bagging & rope lost aboard by me was landed on Sunday night 16th - though your letter led me to expect it earlier.

The following is the memo. of my agent - taken from the Bill of Lading. or rather the contract.

If I am not mistaken I ordered the same for S. M. Davis that I did for H. P. Brown - why one should receive more than the other, I know not. I think I ordered 1200 yds Bag.g 1600 lbs rope & 20 lbs twine for each.

Please under see an acct. so that I may write below due you - to N.O. for invest.t in New York exchange.

I am yours &c

T. Duncan

H. T. Duncan Esq
Springs
Kentucky

Mr. Duncan? a note from my agent - stating that the Colladers had landed
20 bales Baggy
30 bales of Rope 3258 lbs

Jan 24th 1849

My dear friend

I have just read your of 4th Inst. The deaths from Cholera up to 23rd Inst. in the Prison, were had 103 — 9/10th of them opportunists, & some of them, of great importance to Peace, and all they were, indeed to me, by long acquaintance, & by the fact, that they had contributed so largely, by their labors, to my health. I suffered the most intense anxiety, during the prevalence of the Epidemic, — for I received by expected letters, assuming the intelligence, that all my friends had fled in terror. I was sick myself & unable to go up.

This week, I received no any blankets, so we could light of them — I received one the 4th Inst — this evening in the 4th received one in the 14th & the third the 2d Inst. — this evening again — for 6 days — there returned with increased malignancy. The character of the disease, was unusually malignant. Death ensued — in some three of the cases — in four 3 to 7 hours & in more than another third — for 6 to 8 hours. Many died in 3 to 3½ hours — & without a change in their way. The first & symptoms were an uneasy sensation in the stomach — with a darking of the eye, & collapse ensued, in ½ an hour. During the whole number of cases treated — were 900 — for several had the disease twice. 47 of the patients died at one of the hospitals & 47 died at the other hospital.

Dr. L my friend & respected medical friend to Mr Clay. Yours &c

O. D. Newman

Hon T. J. Newman Esq
Lexington
Fayette County

I believe the disease, in its malignant form, is wholly beyond the reach of remedies. It is too rapid in its course, to allow medicine time to act. In such cases all remedies fail alike. In the mass of fever cases no remedies seemed to avail. In the whole, there is little doubt the deaths in proportion to cases were fewer, under the Homœopathic, than under Allopathic remedies. Nine tenths of those treated allopathically died in the last stage of the disease. Dr Tuson, in consultation chosen, whose remedies tended alone, & it is not fair to the remedies, but from a powerful effect of nature, to change her habits, to shake off the disease & put on the healthy habit. This & the severely bracing that, in such cases, at least as much, if not more, without treatment.

The risk in the trade, is merely a total loss. There may be 800 bales under, & other 3500 due calculation.

The prevailing opinion, I dare not mention, a thing it takes nothing from my credit on the ground of my judgment, so far as varying is concerned. It only diminishes the amount, & that my chance will come at my death. & there is enough & more than enough left to satisfy any reasonable man either as to wealth, & mind, & probability, & have wife be happy. If the disease should come back, and I should be called home tomorrow, I leave behind me my property & wealth enough, that as much as any father, or husband, ought to claim to leave to his family. But I could not send so agonizing the anxiety & mental suffering I have endured, for fear the amount of the following loss. I have taken

I have also a fortnight ago, to my great & lasting, our pleasant new, & I found them cheerful & lovely, & behaving kindly. There are husbands without wives. Wives without husbands. Parents without children, & children without parents. Here for instance, it is a great thing don't bespeak our feelings. They have forgotten the heart, & looks only to the present.

I had a letter from Mr. Tuson yesterday. The disease seems very bad in his neighborhood. On the first week before him, there died there in March & 14 in June (before 14 & 17 &) out of a population of 105. In Mrs Y. Mr's family 2 days before him, there died 22 deaths in February & 67 before 12 & & 85 & June. out of a population of 221. — In many other places the mortality has been equally frightful. In Sam's family, the disease has been in a mild form & the deaths have not exceeded 8 & 10 per c.

I have abandoned the thought of going North this summer. I make not thinks of leaving, while the cholera is in the country, & I have no idea of ever being rid of it, before great. This disease & the apprehension in regard to it, has had a serious effect, on the cotton crop. The fields are literally covered with grass & weeds, & the crop must be very materially shortened.

I am very uneasy, the embarrassing by big manufactories in your state, will result in serious injury to thousands. I think 2/3 of the crop of 50,000 goes in Lg & Mfs, — with an enormous quantity of bags. & a considerable portion of the crop, will be burned in this way. & there