Paris Nov. 20th 43

To Sir

Permit me to suggest a matter to you that will be to your interest as well as mine. The two girls at Mr. Timberlakes I am afraid will be taken sick. one of them was on the street to day in her bare feet, such a day is almost enough to make one sick that is well clad. for it is a rainy, cold, damp, raw day. The 3 girls I consider worth 750 dollars at the lowest calculation, and if either one of them should die the loss would all fall on me.

Could you not authorize Mr Raine to hire them to Mr for their victuals and clothes you have had them in possession and have the right to do so. Would it not be best to close the bargain with Hughart and take the note in your name. I could give it to you when you come down. for delays are sometimes dangerous.

Please write by return mail for I fear those girls may be taken sick. and I do not wish to pay any doctor bills.

Very Respectfully

J. F. Hall

PARIS KY
NOVE 5
'31

H. T. Duncan Esqr
Lexington
Ky

Claysville Ky 5th April 1844

Mr Henry Duncan

Dear Sir

I Wish to inform you that I have had an old black Woman of yours at my House for 6 or 7 months the Wife of Nathan Marsh a free man of Color the old man is dead and the old lady Ruby has bin sick a greater part of the time since she has bin at my House and has bin conciderable expence to me and I think it would be no more than right that you would pay a part of the expence if you will send me 12 or 15 dollars I will be satisfyed with it for my trouble and the expence I have bin at you can send it by the bearer Mr Quigley and oblige yours

Respectfully

E. Gill

Mr Henry Duncan Esq

Mr Henry J Duncan

May 10th 1844. To Thos B Megowan Dr

To Recovering Jessee 41 1/2

To Safe keeping until the 10th June

29 days at 37 1/2 cents per day 10.87 1/2

May 2d 1845 To Recovering Henry 41 1/2

To Safe keeping until the 14 June

41 days at 37 1/2 cents per day 15 37 1/2

$27.08

Rec payment in full

Thos B Megowan

Jailor J C

Mr W J Duncan

Dear Sir

Not having an opportunity of seeing you personally, I would respectfully say to you through this medium that my charge for medical attention upon your negro man while at our Ways is $20 — I made to see him 8 visits, including one nocturnal, at which time I remained during the night, your nephew was then at that time, the distance to our ways from my residence was 4 miles or upwards.

If you will call I have authorized Mr G B Johnson to receive the money and receipt for the same.

Respectfully

Thos. C Gibney

Pet. Aug 14. 1844 —

Mr W J Duncan
near Lexington

I have this day sold to Harvey Kerr
a Negro Girl named Susan
aged about fifteen years for the sum
of Five hundred & fifty eight Dollars & ~~nine~~ cents for which
I have received his note with John Kerr
as security; And I hereby convey all the
right title and interest in said slave which
I am possessed of as executor of Samuel
Meirs wife Oct 23rd. 1844

Wm. Maxwell Exr

Wm. McKenney Exr.
To Bill of Sale
H. Kerr

Thomas Adams

Frankfort 24 Nov 1845

Mr Henry Duncan

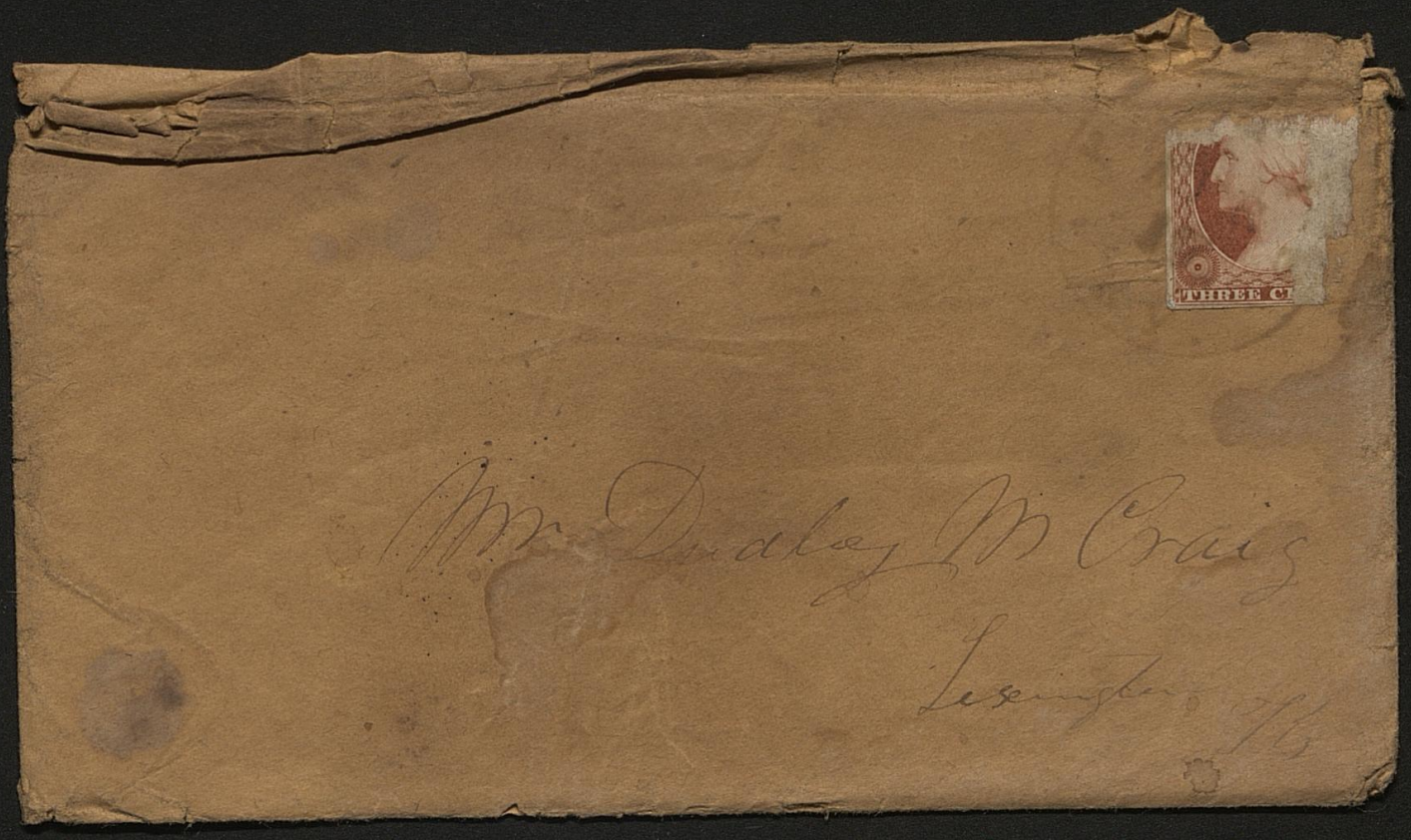
Dear Sir

My Woman seems to be so much dissatisfied & desirous of being near her husband that I will be compelled to sell her. If you wish to purchase her please let me hear from you by letter as I am so much engaged that I cannot leave home. She is anxious for you to purchase her. And if you have any inclination to do so please let me hear from you immediately & make me an offer in writing.

Very Respy. Yrs

W. A. Gorham

Business
Letters &
Memorandums


THREE CE
Mr Dudley McCraig
Lexington

April 9th 1852

Dear Sir

I have a couple of women I wish to sell, they are both valuable in their respective places. Mary the Mulatto woman is a neat good looking woman, of medium size, my complexion, she has been in the constant habit of sewing all kinds of cloth worn by boys and young men such as Cassinetts, Cassimeres, tweed cloths and shirts for my husband and sons, she has been making for him as well the years past coats worn by my young lads, and little boys overcoats, for them, servants clothes she has made for the length of time of course I have superintended. She is a very good cook, and makes delicious cakes of several kinds, sponges, loaf ginger bread, and small cakes and has a great deal of pride in setting out a table, if left to herself and has a great pride also in dressing young ladies for a party, she has almost always assisted me in making and fitting my own dresses. She has had two children, her one she lost 2 years since, her daughter, a child of 18 months, which must go with her, is a fine healthy, sprightly girl. She has no lawful husband, that is to say she is not married. Aged 25

Rachel, my house maid and dining room servant ~~has been~~, has been superseded by a boy of 13 years and I have had her cooking and washing since Christmas. The place does not suit her; she was a good dining room servant and a good nurse, also, she is fond of children, and was kind to them; she is about 20. I think, she is still single and has no children. We have been compelled to hire a cook for a number of years but find we have to many with her, and cannot afford to keep a scullery proper, under the circumstances or a dining room servant, for these purposes alone. You will perhaps suppose other reasons for parting with Mary. They are there caressing, she has some associations here which I hope to break up by calling out of this place. She is too young to allow her to remain here under the circumstances. I expect to have all my family comfort, and my arrangements, all upset, but I am determined. It has taken me a long time to make up my mind, for I have raised them both. I had forgotten to say Mary was subject to the phthisic when a child, and has had several spells since she was grown, but has not had an attack for a long while and never will again if she does not expose herself. I would be willing to risk her health, if I could be hers for a natural term of days. I have written honestly and candidly. The girl has a temper, which is pettyish controlled. Rachel I think quite amiable, and one of your quiet people, she is as far as I know sober, they are coming. Will you be kind enough to interest yourself in this matter, you have a great many country acquaintances. It may be that Henrietta knows of some one who desires such servants. The fine times as our family grow up, so as to be more expensive in educating, we have to make every edge cut and economize in every way. I find a multitude of servants the most expensive part of my family.

Please hand this to Mr. D. J. Duncan, and any one you may think it proper to do so.

My love to your family, and the two Mr. Downings. Martin's family and we would be happy to see you all. Mrs. Hunter has been in bed all winter, Aunt Hannah confined to the house.

Yours
Cordelia Kelly

Let me hear from you as soon as it is convenient.

Paris April 17 1852

Dear Sir

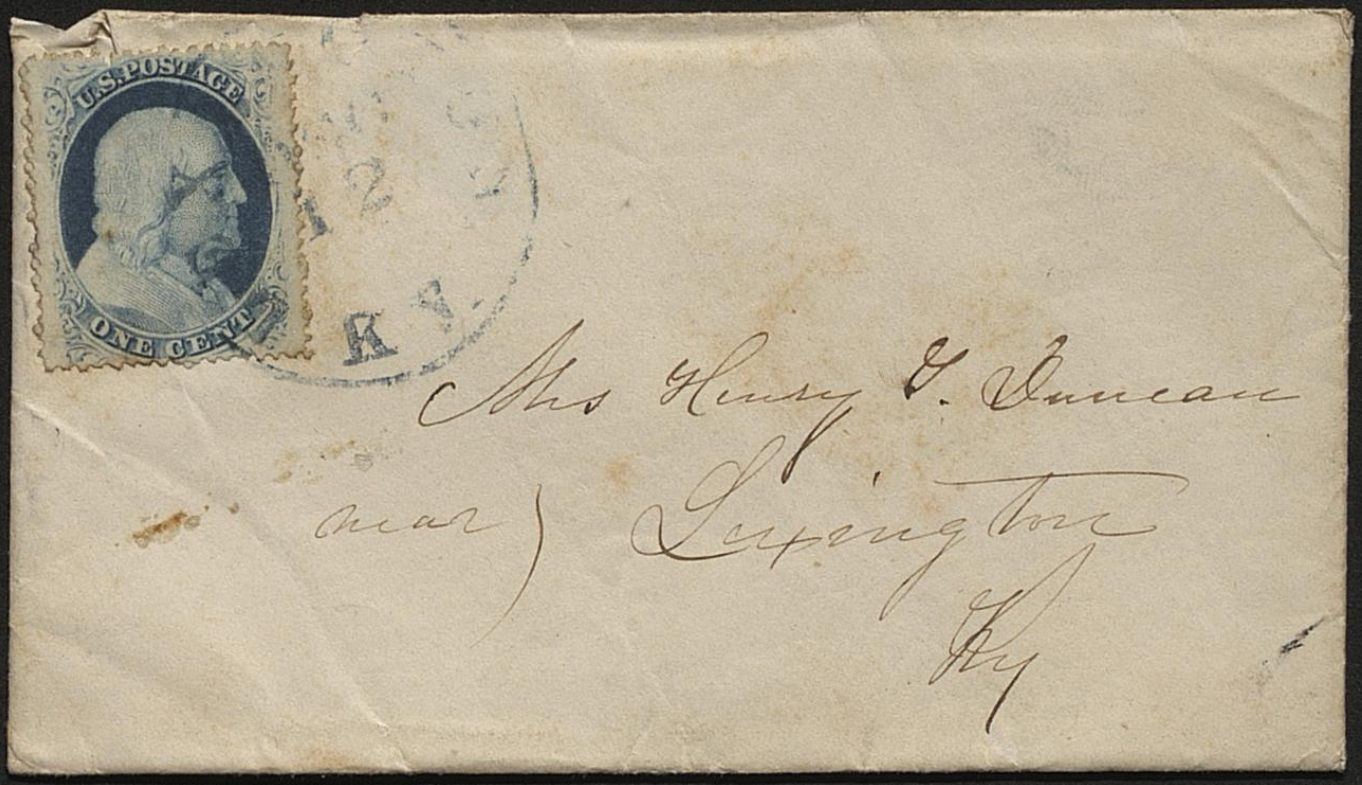
Your letter is before me and your prompt attention to my request places me under many obligations to you for your kindness. I must refer you to my letter as to Margs description and qualification. I could not say that she would be strong enough to do Mr Hunts washing because I have not tried her, further, than the washing of her own and her childs clothes, on the same day I have my washing done by another, and on which same day she cooks three meals for my family that is pretty good work. she has been in the habit of, "doing up" as the ladies call it, all of my daughters muslin dresses, and other close starching. she is no common servant, and if Mr Hunt was such a woman whether she can work or not he had better take her. I am a little suspicious that she may increase her family but I do not know it. You did not say anything of her child. Mr Tally has made a great many inquiries as to the value of such women. 8.900 is the highest for her & child 850. the next, 800 is the lowest possible price. She is enjoying good health now as far as I know.

Rachel the house girl, is honest, and is coming on a good looking woman, she is about my own size not far from Henriettas size when I saw her last they have both had free access to my daughter room at all times — I think she may suit Mrs Logans purpose very well.
650 is the highest, 600 the lowest price for her
Use prompt payments as possible or if it cannot be paid up at once, interest upon the money until it is — You know our circumstances require the immediate use of every dollar we have be kind enough to make the best arrangement you can, and I shall remain, understanding

Obligations
Your

It would not be convenient for me to let either or more than one of them to go before Tuesday or Wednesday — owing to certain arrangements. Let me hear from you at the earliest opportunity

L. H.


U.S. POSTAGE
ONE CENT
Mrs Henry G. Duncan
near) Lexington
Ky

Livingston
Dec. 12. 1859

My dear Mrs Duncan.

I have been waiting an opportunity, to speak to you about Letty; but not having had the pleasure of seeing you, I concluded to write a few lines upon the subject – I always like to secure my servants, before Christmas arrives – so I thought I had best let you know in time, that I wished to keep Letty next year and upon what terms I can get her, I wish to know, as soon as possible – Please drop me a line immediately – & let me

know, also what is due for her hire, since she has been here, this year — She is a good girl — and my little boy is so attached to her, that I desire to keep her, especially on his account —

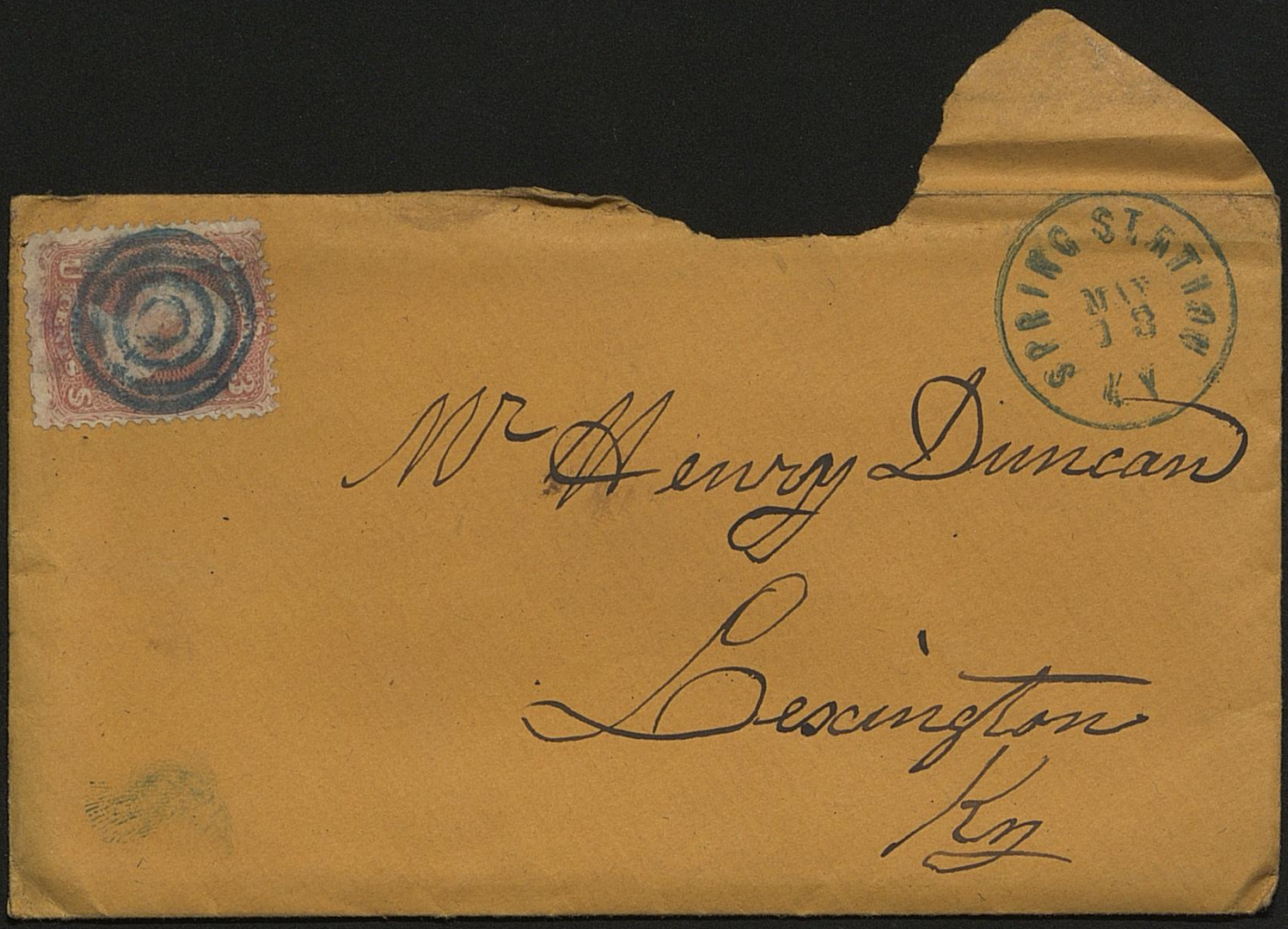
My other nurse, as well as Letty being a kind one — I have made an arrangement with them — about dividing the holidays — Letty agrees to stay half of the time, so she does not expect to go home until Thursday of Christmas week —

Hoping to hear so

believe me

Truly yours

Anna R des Cognets


SPRING ST. STATION
KY
MAY
13
Mr Henry Duncan
Lexington
Ky

Mr Henry Duncan

Dear Sir

I met Col Hart yesterday evening and he told me you were going to Cincinnati to day and probable he would go also I told the Col that I wanted you to apply to Gen Burnsides to get me a pass and Mr Henry and Brown and also Col Hart to go through the camps and search for our Negroes who have escaped I have received information from Mr Henry that his boy is in the camp the other side of camp Dick Robinson and I think the probability is that mine are also there If you can not succeed in procuring me the pass without me being present you will inform me immediately

and I will come on over immediately as I think the sooner this is attended to the better I told the Col Hart if he thought it would be better to address a letter to Gen Buen-sides in my name that you or him could write the letter and sighn my name that you would be fully authorized to do so you will please attend to this ~~at~~ as early as convenient

Yours Respectfully
James McRae

May 13, 1863

Mr J. T. Duncan
Lexington
Va

Lexington Ky February 4/68

Mr. W. J. Duncan

Dear Sir

After Respects

I am very unwell and cant see you you have one of your Negroes running to my House about half of his time and some times since has taken one of the women for a wife So says the Negroes and I hope you ~~would~~ will not think hard of me for beg them to come and see you they make out they are afraid to stay on the farm since the Negroes was killed there Mr Daniel certinly knows they are there for we were talken of it the day we took the Negroes out the pond that was drowned

yours respectfully

Joe W. Northern

Major H. G. Duncan &c.

Lexington Ky

Capt. J. J. Brown

Hutchisons Ky Mar 16th 65

Mr. T. Duncan Sr.

Dr. Sir

As neither of us can be in Lex. soon & Mr Brown was coming up to-day we concluded to write to you in regard to those Negroes. We have been enquiring around of several persons what it was worth for taking them up some said $200, & $100 & $50. We think it ought to be worth $100.00 for both Negroes. You can write by Mr Brown V.

Yours Respectfully

Frank M. McDowell

Jno W. Hutchison

J.H. P., 62.

Treasury Department,

SECOND AUDITOR'S OFFICE,

Washington, D. C., Jany. 11th, 1884.

Sir:

I am in receipt of your favor of the 7th inst., furnishing information respecting Peter Bruce and Chloe, slaves of the late Henry T. Duncan. Please accept my thanks for your prompt answer. One Serelda Bowers, living at No. 70, Mogowan St., Lexington, claims to be the daughter of Peter Bruce, decd. Co. H, 123d U.S.C.T. Several years since it was reported to the Office that it was thought that one Chloe was the soldier's widow, but who Chloe was could not be ascertained until recently the fact was learned from Serelda, who, however, claims that her father was another man, and not the Peter Bruce owned by Mr. Duncan. The official record shows that the Peter Bruce of Co. H, 123d U.S.C. Troops, was the slave of William Wilson, of Fayette Co., Ky., but all endeavors of this Office to ascertain the

whereabouts of Wilson or that such a person ever resided in Fayette Co., have failed. Sorelda claims that Wm. F. White, of Lexington, owned her father; but White has no recollection of such a man.

If you have any knowledge of a person named William Wilson, you would oblige me by furnishing me with his address. It is possible that a mistake was made in giving the name of soldier's owner; and in order to determine whether Peter Bruce, the slave of Mr. Duncan, was the Peter Bruce of Co. H, 123d U.S.C.T., please to inform me where Peter was born, his age when he enlisted, and his height and complexion. If you know in what Regiment Peter served, please to state that fact, and the name and location of the hospital in which he died. Also to state Chloe's name, or such directions as will enable this Office to find her. With your answer, please to return this letter; I inclose a stamped envelope.

Hart Gibson, Esq.,
Lexington,
Ky.

Very respectfully,
J. Fabris
Auditor. By [illegible]

Maysville Apl. 29

Maj. H. T. Duncan

Dear Sir

Your Boy Miles was seen yesterday about 10 cc at Pagues 4 Miles from the Blue Lick by a negro by I have hired to say him he was coming this way along the Pike this way I will employ one Marshall to pay him to make a vigilant search for him send him out about on applick as he may be among his old friends there My boy will also see if he has arrived in Maysville if he has I will have him secured for you

your friend

M. B. McClain

Maj H. T. Duncan

Lexington Ky

MAY 30 1863

Magnolia Apr. 29

Maj H. T. Duncan

Dear Sir

You have been
Caught to day & is safe in Washington
Jail I gave out the information as soon
as I received your letter I heard this morning
that a Boy was taken down in the act
of crossing the River on a log & I sent
my Son to Washington & the Sailor
says it is your Boy

Yours truly
Geo B McKinney

Maj H. T. Duncan
Lexington
Mo