

New Orleans July 12th 1836

Dear Sir
I reached this City yesterday and found your letter of the 24th Nov. which will account to you for the delay in receiving an answer. I was detained in Kentucky much later than usual by the severity of an affection, the illness and death of my wife more dear to me than life itself. This unexpected melancholy went has rendered me unfit for any kind of business. My energies are hopes are all destroyed. My present plan is to withdraw from all kind of business, and to devote myself to my children. I may not be able to do so, it may be necessary for me in order to escape my own reflections if left alone to engage actively in business - But I will try the first.

I should have been pleased to have met your views and wishes, and engaged with you in the proposed speculation, had not my plans for life been so unhappily changed - I had already mentioned my determination to your Mother-in-law Mr Allen of New Orleans waiting you on the subject - I am fully aware of the immense profits that can be derived from such investments, and I assure you there is no man with whom I would soon engage than yourself - I have been operating largely and profitably in Arkansas by the manner proposed by you. I shall now wind up my

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