

Covington January 3rd 1823

Dear Fountain

I have taken the liberty to trespass
on your goodness so far as to send to you
my Man Jim which I will get you if you
please to sell for me for the best price you can
nothing in reason would induce me to part
from Jim had he not expressed a wish to
be sold & says he wishes to live in Statches
or New Orleans and I am determined not to keep
any Negro who wishes to be sold & I am induced
to think that he would not be satisfied to live
in this country any longer as he had in pos-
session a free pass written by one Henry Sheppard
one of Meek's Tenants which fellow is now in
the jail of this county. You can with propriety
recommend Jim as being so valuable as any
Negro what ever as he is young & likely as
well a good rough Carpenter, carriage driver
or waler. Fountain if the price of Negroes
have fallen so low that you cannot get
something like a fair price for him I do not
wish him sold at a sacrifice say \$500 the
lowest if you cant get that amount. I would
prefer you setting him to work in Statches
until you meet with an opportunity to
sell him & if you cant sell for some-
thing like that price and can meet with
Capt. Riddle on his return to this country or