

  
Mrs. Henrietta Carter  
Care of Rev. Mr. Johnson  
Savannah Ga.  
North

JUL 2

Macon July 2<sup>d</sup> 1840-

Dearest Wife

Yours of the 23<sup>d</sup> is just at hand, & just in time - I have put my name on the Stage Book & paid my fare to Memphis & if nothing prevents I shall start about 20<sup>o</sup> clock to morning arriving I hope to be with you soon - I may stop a day or two on the way - I shall take road you took

I dined with Isaac today, Mr. Bray & Mrs. Smith were there, a family dinner & a prime one too, had Peaches & milk, The Peaches from my Plantation - Mr. Bray will get off next week, would have been here before but for want of funds - Caroline's health is much better I think, & she seems in good spirits, little ones all well - It is now nearly 9 o'clock & I have many things to pack and arrange so you will excuse me dear & I will tell you all when we meet Truly your devoted Hub -

Much love to all, tell Caroline - Henry  
She will soon see father if he  
have good luck -



Dear Mother  
I have just received your letter of the 11th inst. and was glad to hear from you. I am well and hope this finds you the same. I have not much news to write at present. I am still in the same place and doing the same work. I hope to hear from you soon. I am your affectionate son, John Smith.

Received of the  
Cash  
for the  
rent of the  
house  
No. 10  
Main St.  
Boston  
Mass.  
Jan 11/50



that Miss Duff don't get any better. I am fearful  
you are not as comfortable as you ought to be  
in way of eating &c, Poor Jane so you have let  
her go at last. I am glad to hear that she has  
gone & you have succeeded in getting one that

PAID  
Ms. Henrietta Carter  
Samarca  
Long Island  
New York

Slagle  
DEC 30

pleases you so well. the price is no object if you can  
only get one that the children are pleased with and  
one that will do the work without complaint -  
I have been very busy to day selling cotton, and at last  
succeeded very well with a good deal of exertion. Any that  
is full I must close with much love to all. Kisses to the little ones  
I am truly your affectionate Aunt Henry

No 12 Saturday December 24<sup>th</sup> 1842. New Orleans  
Dearest Wife

This is Christmas eve, but how  
different every thing appears to what I have been accus-  
-ed<sup>to</sup> on this occasion, after tea I walked round to the Church to  
ascertain if there was to be service as usual. but all was  
dark & gloomy, no signs of the Church being opened  
so I walked back a little disappointed to my room  
where I found in readiness for me, a very comfortable  
fire, we have had four or five very cold days, judging  
from the weather we have had. it must be extremely  
cold with you - how does my dear little darling get  
along with the winter. I presume it must effect her  
very much. I don't believe she likes cold weather  
much better than her Father, But is so far that  
she will <sup>get</sup> along with it better, and as for the little  
new corner, she will not be troubled much any way,  
as you will always keep about the same temperature  
about her, you have not said any thing about Miss  
Duff lately, how does she get along with her chills, has  
the cold weather run them off.

I have heard nothing more from Isaac or any  
of them in Macon. I get a paper about once in two  
weeks, which gives me little news of the place -  
In Isaac's letter he stated that every thing was exceedingly  
dull there & that I ought to congratulate myself in  
leaving them as I did, & he ~~was~~ very desirous  
himself to leave Macon if possible -



Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> Decemr.

Went to Church this morning, every thing appeared rather dull for Christmas, a few ~~scattered~~ <sup>very</sup> wreaths were to be seen, here & there, hardly near enough to be neighbours, the music about the same as any other day, no piece for the occasion particularly - the sermon from Mr Whetter rather dull more so than any one I have yet heard from him here - a stranger from Phil: ~~read~~ <sup>read</sup> and ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> Preached in the evening, on the whole I think it a very dull Christmas indeed - The church was well filled in the morning, and Mr Trask told me that there were about 60 communicants - many more than I supposed - however, most persons here, who go to Church, go for the love of it, & not to be seen of men, as is the case in many of the Northern Cities.

There was all sorts of ~~fire~~ frolicking going on all day, firing of cannons, beating of drums, <sup>military</sup> and every kind of noisy amusement you can think of. Horse racing, Balls, & Theatre at night. Thus the day was spent by a large portion of the inhabitants - as for my part I have not been to any of these places of public amusement since my arrival, I don't think I have been from my room three evenings since I have been here, except when I went to the Hotel to take an oyster supper at 9 o'clock

which are given once a week - we had one of the most delightful days for Christmas that we have had in some time, it was as warm as spring -

Tuesday Decemr. 27<sup>th</sup>

Mr Wardlow arrived here to day from Fort Gaines with 140 Bales Cotton, which he wants me to sell, and assist him in purchasing Groceries, with the proceeds, I have been on the go with him pretty much all day consequently I am pretty tired to night, I find my Office is altogether out of the way for my business, it makes me a great deal of unnecessary trouble and had I not paid out so much in fitting up I would have one somewhere else, even now, Mr Griswold also says that we are out of the way for our Cotton business, should I stay here another year, I will have an office somewhere else, I have not received a letter from you for some time I have been expecting one for a week or more. I think you must have written and it is detained on the way some where, as we don't get the regular mail through, only about 3 times a week - I hope to morrows mail will bring me a letter. - Decemr 28<sup>th</sup>

I was greatly rejoiced to day to get another letter from you, <sup>dated Dec. 19<sup>th</sup></sup> I was fearful you had got tired, & would get down again, which seems to have been the case, do I beg of you, take care of yourself, <sup>not</sup> let he expend in any way. I am sorry to hear



Jan: 6 1843

I have <sup>been</sup> quite busy the past few days getting up my  
Box Note Jan 1<sup>st</sup>. I have such a comfortable office to go to now  
that I spend my evening there pretty much in my business  
I don't hear any thing from the folks in Mass. I presume they

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Single

Mrs. Henrietta Carter

Jamaica  
Long Island  
New York

are getting along about as usual. I have only written  
one letter to Isaac I suppose he is waiting for me  
to write again I shall do so soon. I want to hear how  
our goods sold, & the prospect of getting clear after a while  
of my difficulties. I rec'd a letter from Father the other day they  
are all doing well fold Port amongst the rest. I must close so good  
night my dearest much love to all, kisses to the little ones I am most affectionately gone  
Atch: Henry

No 13 New Orleans Friday December 30<sup>th</sup> 1842.

My dearest Wife

Yesterday & to day I have been en-  
gaged with Mr Wardlow whose Cotton I have been getting  
ready for sale, also assisting him in purchasing bales  
to ship back, I shall not get through with him this  
week. If he does well on this shipment, I shall probably  
keep up a trade with him during the season

Mr Griswold as well as myself, became so fully  
convinced that our office was altogether out of the way  
for the business we are engaged in, that he was deter-  
mined to have one, where it should be, east what it  
would, so we both set off in chase of one, and  
succeeded in getting a very fine Room on St Street No 3  
a few yards from the St Charles Hotel on the 2<sup>d</sup> floor  
we are now amongst all the Cotton brokers & purchasers  
and a delightful office we have, the building is new  
and the room just finished. I have been moving  
<sup>yesterday</sup> ~~to day~~ to day, but have not got every thing in order  
yet, when I get all fixed I should like to have  
you take a peep in, & see how snug we are. the  
other one, was on the Line amongst the Grocers &  
grocery sellers the last place for a Cotton Merchant  
amongst the off scouring of Creation along the  
Line, besides it was on the third floor, but I have  
no reason to complain now I am very gentlemanly  
located now, & in a very gentlemanly business indeed



Jan: 3: 1843

Dear Wife I received yours of the 21<sup>st</sup> to day & <sup>was delighted</sup> to hear from you, & that you are getting along so well, I have been very much engaged, yesterday & to day, getting Mr Wardlaw off, he left this evening, his Cotton did not arrive as soon as he expected, & I was not able to offer sale till to day, I sold to day including his lot of 140 Bales 321 Bales. Yesterday morning news was received from Europe, that the China question was settled, and in consequence thereof, Cotton advanced  $\frac{3}{8}$  d this created a great stir here & every Broker was chasing from place to place to take the advantage of someone that had not heard the news, and about 12 or 15 thousand Bales <sup>by Cotton selling</sup> was sold, not knowing the news & about 10 more during the day at an advance of  $\frac{3}{8}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  Ct, but notwithstanding all this our Cotton market is extremely low & dull, I have worked very hard to get my lot off at the price I did. Mr Gurnold is fixing to get off up the river to morrow morning and will be gone probably 10 or 12 days. I have got every thing moved into my new office, it is delightful, compared with the other, I can now, do a great deal after supper, I can't well get along unless I do write evening. I have so many other things to attend to during the day that I get but little time to attend to my books, I have a ward Robe in my office to stow away sundries & not have them kicking

about in every place also I have a wash stand that looks like the one we had in Macon not so costly tho' but it looks very neat and answers a good purpose.

Sunday, which was New Year I went to Church as usual & heard a very good sermon from Mr Wheaton particularly in the evening. I dined with Mrs Shelton, she gave a very good dinner, & seems to have quite a house full of boarders, her price she told me for board without lodging is 20 dolls per month, but I don't think it would suit me to board there. Mrs Brankham hears nothing from her husband yet, no doubt he is lost and all the crew of the vessel he sailed in. She takes it very much at heart, & looks very thin & in bad health. I am sorry you had so dull a Christmas, but not duller than I had here, but less noise I suppose. But now mind my dear if my life is spared we will have our Christmas, when we meet again & a delightful one it will be too.

I want to see the dear little creature so bad some times, that I almost wish I had never left Macon to come here, but it may be all for the best in the end, the time is rapidly passing off, & the winter will soon be gone; and the summer close at hand, & then I trust we shall all meet again and happy we will be. I suppose I may infer from what you say about little creature that she goes far ahead of Caroline & that in point of beauty & almost every thing else. little rat I am glad she is such a perfect feline.



Thursday the 11<sup>th</sup> 8 o'clock at my office. extremely  
warm day & evening. to day I have sold 68V Bats  
Cotton, arranged some accounts &c - I think of getting  
a Box made & shipping my Clock & some other  
articles of clothing that I shall not want here  
and it will make my trunk so much lighter

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Single

Mrs. Henrietta Carter  
Jamaica  
Long Island  
New York

and easier to manage. I see some very pretty French  
mountains here & I think I shall buy a dozen  
so for yourself & the little rats, that you  
may have them made up by the time I get  
on - Mr. Ducken bought some dresses for his Lady  
he said they were prettier than they were in N York -  
Love to all from your own Aunt A. K. Carter



View of New Orleans (First Municipality)

New Orleans May 7<sup>th</sup> 1843.

My own dearest Wife

Sunday morning, and a most  
lovely one too, oh how I do wish you & the little darlings  
were here with me, to enjoy it, and attend church with  
me, my daughter Caroline would enjoy it much I know,  
as to fat sides I hardly think she is old enough yet, to  
appreciate the beauties of a lovely spring morning, and  
little stranger who has not seen her Dad yet, knows little  
else than to eat & sleep, & best satisfied when <sup>in</sup> the arms of  
her Mother - I received a letter from Isaac yesterday  
the contents of which were very gratifying indeed, it ~~has~~  
brought the long expected intelligence of my final discharge  
of all my old debts, so I feel now as though I was at  
liberty, a gain, and if I make a dollar I am not in  
dread of an old Ex<sup>r</sup> or bail with taking it from me  
Mr Wood & the Virgins may whistle now for a while, &  
when I get ready I may pay them if perfectly ~~convinced~~

The 30 of march was the time fixed but Isaac writes  
that owing to some delay in the Court my case was  
put off & that Mr Nesbit handed him the certificate  
the day before he wrote dated May 1<sup>st</sup>. They are  
all well, Caroline & Lucy had been to Montpelier and  
returned much pleased. Isaac intends sending Mr. Thos  
if possible as he don't improve any at home -



Mr Pratt returned yesterday from Texas, & will probably leave to morrow for Red River & may not return till about the first of June. Mr Griswold not got back yet but I am expecting him every day - You speak of having no servant, that you have dismissed your Irish Woman do try to get a good one by the time I return if possible even if you have to pay more. I don't want to trouble when I get home, the first thing to run down a servant, you know what a time we had of it last year - You have not written me lately any thing about your funds, whether or not they are exhausted, however I presume those little bright Gold pieces will be paid out with a good deal of reluctance, therefore I should not be surprised if there are some of them in store yet, had it been trash (as our up country folks say of paper money) it probably would have all disappeared before this. What money I have to spare I think I shall put in Cotton & ship to New York before I leave. I don't know what I should do if I had no Cotton to attend to in New York during the summer. I don't think there has been a summer for 10 or 12 when I have been on but that I have had Cotton there - It is now time to go to Church so I must put on my coat & be off. Mr Tucker when he left turned over his Pew to me or rather his interest so I am pretty well provided for as far as a Pew is concerned -

May 10<sup>th</sup> I have just got to my room for the night and quite fatigued from the labors of the day. have run about a good deal, and the weather extremely warm it wears out my feet. I sold 120 Bales Cotton for a Mr White who moved from Georgia it was rather unexpected, getting it. I have sold <sup>some</sup> of my own to day ~~which that~~ I bought the other day & I think I shall make between two & three hundred dollars on the lot, half the profits I get as a friend furnishes me the money - If I keep on making a hundred a week, it will do pretty well, I have made in the past 3 weeks that am or more so you see the Corn crop is all made up & about 250 dolls to go on as the Georgia say & I think I make a better out speculating in Cotton than in Corn what do you think of it wife, I know very well one thing you think about it, that if it was only so we could be together & talk over our little gains, it would be much more agreeable and pleasant, than for me to be here all alone writing about it -

Mr Pratt left this evening for Red River, will be gone most of the month on his return he will probably visit Mr Griswold here & they will close up, after which I shall go to work to close up the Books & paper fast as possible & hope to get off from here before the first of July - I shall have to stop at Mr Pratt Place in Alabama a day or two & I must stop a day or so in Macon, after that I don't think I shall be stopped long if I can help it.