

New Orleans December 6th 1847.
Monday night at my room 10 o'clock

Dearest Wife

Now I am again seated before a good fire to give an account of myself before retiring - Yesterday morning I went to the Hotel to get my breakfast & there I found all bustle & confusion and on enquiry found that the old General was about taking leave to proceed up the River to his family. He was escorted to the boat by the military & the distinguished Men of the City, and about ten the boat pushed out from the wharf, the General made his appearance on the boiler deck & such another cheering you never heard - At 11 o'clock I went to Church & heard a good sermon from the Pastor. At 4 o'clock I attended Mr Nicholson's Church & found that since I left, they had removed the benches & built regular Pews & had procured a small organ & a very good toned one. As it is, similar to the one we first had in the Mason Church. Mr Nicholson is getting along finely & will soon have a large congregation - They have already ^{rented} ~~about~~ about twenty five hundred dollars worth of the Pews & still have about one thousand more to rent, this will enable ^{them} to pay all their expenses fitting up, & Mr Nicholson, Sunday also - I am much pleased with the appearance of things there, & if I had no duty in the other Church I believe I should go there

At 7 in the evening I went to hear the
Dost again, but disappointed, some strangers
were there and he preached till about half
of the congregation were asleep before
the close, so you can judge of his sermon.

Wednesday evening at my room 8 o'clock
came home earlier than evening on account
of rain, was fearful the winter might
be up, as it has been raining at intervals
very hard all day, and the weather is
very warm. — I have employed
another agent to ride for me in the
neighbourhood of Memphis and have
been quite busy getting all his papers
ready to send up by the evening's
Post. — Have sold also one small
crop Cotton at $7\frac{1}{4}$ cts & tried hard to
sell about 70 Bales more at 7 cts
which seems low, compared with last
Spring prices, which were 11 to 14 cts.
The commissions will also be small
compared with last season on which
is the most disagreeable part of the
matter to me. — The crop will be so
large this year that I have really
no confidence even in the present seem-
ingly low rates, I fully believe Cotton
will go still lower & so long as the
present difficulties exist in England
in money matters I see no prospect for
better things. —

I don't believe I have informed you that
I received a letter from John in New York
also called on Wells again. He said
that he would take for his interest in
the old House & pay 100 Cash & John's
Note for the balance payable first
July next. — John in his letter said
that he would arrange the matter in
that way with Wells. So I wrote John
that Wells would accede to his proposition.
He also stated that he would go to Hatt
& arrange with Edwin for his share.
In my letter I referred John to Mr
Matson in Hatt who would arrange
the necessary papers for him, and advised
him to go to New York & settle with
Wells himself. — I also wrote to Hatt
that soon as he would send me the
name of the guardian appointed
for the children that I would remit
the amount forthwith to my Lawyer
with instructions for him to pay it soon
just as soon as the documents were
legally drawn up & signed. — I shall
write Sarah in a few days & enclose
her fifty dollars. — Armand Lapin is still
there & not able to ride & will not be
for months to come if at all. It is really
unfortunate for me, that just the time
his services are most needed, he is
not able to do any thing for us.

Friday night Oct. 10th at my room -

Yesterday was Thanksgiving day and a not disagreeable day it was but today has been no more agreeable, raining excessively kind at intervals & disagreeably warm with all - The duck game was a very good success yesterday and very appropriate to the day - The church was not very well filled owing to the bad weather - but few ladies were there - I have been compelled to buy me a new clock which I disliked to do, but the weather was so cold after I reached here that I could not well get along without some own garment & I concluded that a clock would be the best so I went off & purchased me a very fine black one at 28 dolls cost, it is very heavy & warm - The old blue was not decent to ^{wear to} church or any place else - I also bought a running gown, it is made of cashmere & very handsome I think - 22 dollars I gave for it - Well my dear my paper is much gone I must close & bid thee good night - Give my little duckings many kisses & love to all. Believe me as ever truly and affectionately
your loving Aunt - Henry

Paid



Henrietta Carter
Jamaica
Long Island
New York

"Paid"



Tuesday night at my room cold

New Orleans Decr 14th 1847

My dear Wife

I have just left my office it is now half past nine - we have had for a week past very bad weather indeed, rainy & uncomfortable warm part of the time, all at once it turned cold enough for two clocks, these sudden changes are very trying to ones constitution. I find my new cloak just the thing for this weather, it is really the much comfortable thing I have ever had for cold weather, it will weigh as much as two of the old blue, which I am having made up into a suit for Henry as a Christmas present - I thought at first I would have a cloak made for him but the Tailor said it would do better for a suit of clothes for him - Yours of the 29 of Nov: is at hand & it seems you had not received my letter from Orleans, but no doubt have before this - Hereafter I will not direct your letters to care of Mr Johnson as I see no use in it -

You want to know what I did with myself while in Montgomery, I was not there long I went down to Mr Raths on Sunday & remained till Tuesday evening, Wednesday Mr Lewis insisted I should ride into the country with him & get some Partridges, we took Spot with us but she did not find any for us so we bagged 25 doves & came home about noon & I expected to leave that morning

but the bath was so much crowded I concluded to remain till the next evening & take the new one for it turned out it was all the better -

What can be done for our dear little Betty I am very sorry to hear of her indisposition, do you think her ear can be the cause - poor child she has had nothing but affliction since her birth & certainly she is a patient sweet child & perhaps Dr. Ball may be able to do something for her to relieve her, it would be well for you to go to the city some pleasant day & call on him & get his advice - I am happy to learn of Mally & Ellen's good conduct, little rats, oh what would I not give to ^{see} you all & the little ones dancing about, it makes me mighty homesick when I think of it, this separation is terrible, but it is, as it is, & I have to give & leave it for the present, I am very lonely I do assure you till really seems to go harder with me every winter, but I have in hopes of better things laid up in store for us -

I am glad to hear that Mary is so much better & hope she may fully recover her health again - I did not hear Isaac say whether or not he received a letter at Mobile, he was once in Orleans I think, & perhaps two, so he may have ordered it sent over, but if he did not it can be ordered over here - He arrived safely but I believe he had a very rough passage which is usual - I have sent him papers but have not as yet heard from him

Thursday evening, half past nine at my room
with my dearest here I am again seated at
my table before a good fire to say a few
words to my beloved one before retiring -

Yesterday was a bitter cold day and
so has been to day, this kind of weather
does not suit in this climate neither
does it suit me. Yesterday for the first
time in a great while I had a much
violent head ache & it has not entirely
left me yet. I attribute it entirely to the
extreme cold weather, I suppose I have
taken a little cold in my head my
cough which I had when I left you
has entirely disappeared as I told you
it would do so soon as I got into
a warmer climate. Yesterday I made
the best sale of Cotton for my friend Josh
Stackhouse that I have ever made here
before. Common Crops as they run now
bring 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ ct, but I got for 27 Bales
of his Crop (which is all that he has yet
sent) 12 ct, which is 25 dolls, perhaps
more than ordinary Cotton brings this will
pay him well for his extra trouble
& I think he will be delighted with the
sale when he hears of it. The River are
so low from which I get my Cotton
that I am receiving but little as yet
but I have a good deal in prospect
this season, and as the Crop is large

hope to receive much more than I did
last season - my collections are very
backward which is owing principally to
the price of Cotton, Planters are holding
back in hope of an advance, but I doubt
much whether or not they will be benefited
by doing so, taking into view the aspect
of things generally, both in England, and in
this country, & I see no possible chance
for Cotton to rise high this season, as
the crop will probably be the largest
one ever made - I have written
up to my man Matthews to come down
& have a settlement but he does not
I am fearful I shall have to go
after him, as he won't come to me, and
may have both trouble & loss before
I get through with him -

I saw in the Hartford paper to day the
marriage of Mr Russ to Miss Mary
Wadsworth & I must say I was very little
astonished at it - they are both satisfied men
I hope - well my dear as my paper
is about out I must bid good night and
attend to my duties before retiring with love
to all I remain as ever much truly & devotedly,
your affectionate son
Avery

at my office seated at my long table, Monday evening 8 o'clock, but no dear wife at the other end to keep me company -

Monday Orleans Decr 20 1847

Dearest Wife

Your kind favor of the 11th is at hand & I am astonished that you have not received my letter as I wrote you immediately after my arrival here - You received the paper it seems I saw the old advertisement which you think ought to be taken out & a new one in its place I am of your opinion decidedly I will take out soon as I can get a chance to build up a new one more appropriate to the times - After I left here in July I find there has been up to Nov: 1th twenty thousand dollars worth of Gins sold it is many more than I supposed were sold -

I am glad you have gotten in your wood & the stove changed I hope you will be more comfortable with the new one & burn less wood, the one you had when I left you was a perfect wood eater - You say the stove you say cost five dollars, I think it was cheap Mrs Crane pays for it of course - did the Madam charge me while I stayed in her bill of board - The price you pay for the accommodations is outrageously high, the room not bigger than a good size Snuff Box but it was the best that could be done for you - you are not a bit better accommodated than Sarah in no way & she pays but \$2 - per week & you pay double - but if you can only be made comfortable I am satisfied with the Snuff Box rooms

I sent you the papers giving a statement of
Gen Taylor's reception, we had a great time
I do assure you it probably cost the City
between four & five thousand dollars - The dinner
given at the St Charles cost three thousand
three hundred dollars - The old General
seemed to be altogether out of his element,
I no doubt felt much more at ease when
engaged in either of his battles fought in
Mexico - I believe I wrote you in one of my
former letters that I had seen Mr Fay, his
health is now quite good again - he still
has a small school I believe - Generally
speaking the Yellow fever improves our after
health very much indeed - Mr Bent is much
better than he was before he had the fever &
it seems to be case as far as I have any
knowledge of it - I have improved wonderfully
since I left the North in point of weight, I
was weighed to day & to my utter astonishment
found I had gained 8 or 9 pounds, I now
weigh 141 pounds - I think in half my
weight was only 131 or 2 I have felt pretty
well generally since my return, I had the
head ache for two days, but I think it was
produced by a sudden change in the weather
from uncomfortable warm to severe cold
which is the kind of weather that we have
had now for more than a week & I
hope it may not last much longer

I have heard nothing from Isaac since he left, he arrived safely, but had a rough time I believe. Tell Sister Carry that I shall write her and give her a statement of her affairs soon as I hear from Macon & get the results of the Collections there. The last note was due the first & fourth of Oct. but I have not heard of its payment & I am fearful it was not paid when due, hope however to hear from Mr Plant soon about it. —

I am most happy to hear that my darling Betty is improving in health & hope she may get fat during the winter — I think you had better get William to call on Dr Hall when he goes to the City & see if he can do anything for Betty — As to her going to school I think you had better send by guarding her from the cold as much as you can & I don't think it will be any the worse for her —

The money for the fine Horse was raised & the investment made by a friend of his after he left I suppose, he told me he had left it in that way — Little Ella I should like to see the dear little witch she was cunning enough before I left, and quite independent with all — I greatly rejoice that you are getting strength again, I hope your appetite will come along with it & that you will get some fat on your bones by Spring, for you have been mighty lean for the past six months.

at my office Wednesday evening 7½ o'clock

The weather still continues better cold so much so that I can't with any sort of comfort write at my room altho I have a fire made up I have shipped to day by the Vicksburg one bbl Syrup 39 Galls also one half barrel Pecans consigned there to Bastow Pope & Co New York - they are marked Rev: W Johnson I am sure I when they arrive you can have the ½ bbl Pecans left with you, I send them some when you open them - also have Mrs Crane send over to Williams I got 10 or 12 Galls of the Syrup for the benefit of your table & the children I give them as much as they want as long as the bbl lasts I make them some nice candy out of it - I did think of sending a half bbl to you besides, but could not find one conveniently & I concluded the ^{bbl} would last you better as long as it would keep good - I think you will find it nice I hope you will enjoy it much with my darling babies -

Tom Thoman is here & a great crowd run after him - I have not seen him yet but he is said to look well -

I am very busy & have been some my return - My Cotton now is just beginning to come in & I soon shall as much as I can do - I must close with love to all & am as ever truly
your loving Father