

Maxlin Bragg
full General C.S.D.

Evergreen, Sunday Evening -
3d. Feby. 1858.

My dear Wife -

Pierce will hand you this and probably explain my status before you read it, as he will know better how I stand than I do now. I have not been to Col. Sparks. - On my way there I met with a gentleman in the car, who by accident made my acquaintance, & remarked that he heard I was looking for a plantation, that he was just from the city where he had been to see Mr. Frank Webb & offer him one from a friend - & found W. had purchased - He showed me the note from the owner to Webb. The price seemed reasonable & the location not bad - It was Leesburg formerly your father's & Uncle's - I concluded to stop one day & see it. - So Richard, who was along, took charge of my trunk & I got off at LaFourche & took Mr. Wolven's Omnibus, paid my fair, & in a short distance broke down, got out & walked to Thibodaux, hired a pony and rode up to Leesburg. Found the old man

Mr. Shriver, who owns $\frac{2}{3}$, sick in bed, the other $\frac{1}{3}$ owned by a creole, who is overseer, Shriver bought only two years ago, and was very anxious to sell, the other only willing. Their terms are at a cash calculation about \$145,000.

\$30,000. now the balance in different amounts at from 1 to 8 years. The land is just opposite & same size as Allen's. Requires 104. 65. hands. Mules, Oxen, cows, sheep, implements, corn, hay &c plenty. After examining all I accepted the offer. Rode down & spent the night with Pierce. He thought it a very favorable trade. Went back yesterday to close the bargain, and the old man differed in his calculation from mine \$8,000, and we broke off. This morning his son & friend arrived here with a note accepting my offer, saying he was in error. They meet me in Philadelphia tomorrow to close the bargain by signing a paper binding us mutually. Should this be done I shall go to the City with Pierce to arrange there for business. The improvements are creole, but we can live in them. And the bargain is considered a fine one by all. I hope it may not fail. They have abundant seed well preserved.

It is difficult for me to say what

you must expect for a few days, for they are big with events for me. The moment I can do so, you shall hear what is to be the result. and I will try & say when I shall come for you & what for.

Mr. Shriver & his wife appear to be good plain old people from Virginia, kind & devoted & benevolent. They have some servants, not of the plantation & much remain some with in the house. I take possession of plantation at once, and they offer us a room & seat at the table if we desire it. He also offers me his carriage & horse, and such of the furniture as we want. Some of it will do for us for the present. But these are items to be considered after the trade. I had rather board in Philadelphia two months than miss the trade.

Ranvie has a very bad cold from low neck at the wedding. The rest are well. Give me all your wishes for success. Dear wife, & believe me, Gr. devoted husband.

Franklin.

Say to Miss Annor, I could not find a pair of gloves in New York small enough for her delicate hands, so I substituted the Piano Cover for the best she wore last spring.

I enclose you a letter from Mr. Duke, which
was too strong a temptation for me, so it
was opened - It made me really modest
for once in my life -
A. A.

N. Albany, 24 July,

Dear Sir - The bargain is closed and matters are
now ready to press - The papers, I suppose
there can be no failure - If so I have a written offer
from Judge Parker - Lacey will explain in
detail - He is very kind in advice and assistance -
You had probably better return with him, but I'll write
in time for you to know, Yrs. H. A. P.

h. st
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