

Greene Co. Ala Dec 13th 1845.

My dear Father,

Your letter of the 2nd being No 5. came duly to hand in just 9 days from Raleigh - all the preceding No's had been received - Why my letters are not more regularly received I can't tell - I write once in every 7 days - including the one from Montgomery this is my 6th letter to you - If my letters have been regularly received - you are as fully informed as I am by letter exhibit the state of things here - We have had a great deal of cold weather so much so that for several days I kept the hounds out of the field - and since this month comm in we have accomplished but little - The heavy rains and wet land preventing us from picking - I have seldom seen people out at work suffer more from cold. We have delivered at the Landing 250 - bales - 3 bales now under cover at the Gin House - and about 30 bales in seed and lint now in the Gin Houses - making say 283 bales out - In a conversation with Mr Surrency last night we thought that with 10 days more of good weather we could get through the crop - what is out in the fields I regard as very good for 25 - bays - if not 30 - so that the crop will come in at about what I first thought it would on my arrival here - 300 - not 10 - more or 10 less - It is now misting and the probability is we shall have more rain - if so no man can tell - when we shall get back into the fields - I am exceedingly anxious to see picking season over with our people - they are tired of it - and anxious to be at something else - I was at the Landing a few days ago and ordered the crops to be shipped

to Fort Stewart & Co in parcels of 50 bags by the best boats coming at
the landing - it is probable that 50 will go down in the
Juskalsosa to day & 50 on the Warrior tomorrow.
I shall get it all down in this way as soon as I can -
I first thought I would have it insured - but my fear of
the planters are in the habit of doing so - & it is thought
no great risk is run at the present stage of the River -
I have told the Home House Keeper to require "clean bills"
from the boats - as all our receipts declared the cotton in
good order or I shall look to him to make good any
charges - to be deducted from his storage -

I have by letter informed Fort. Stewart & Co of my intention
to ship the crop & took occasion to say to them "that I
should feel as much solicitude for satisfactory returns
from this crop as any crop I shall ever send to market
and that I was very sure they would do their very
best for me". I trust in God it may be so sold as not to
draw much more of your means in this direction -

Mr. Lavelle says about 150 bags ought to command the top
of the market - if so - & be sold for 40 Dollars a bag or 8 cents a lb -
They should yield about \$6200. The other 150 - at 6-cents or 30 Dollars
a bag should yield a sum equal to \$4500. making a total of 10700 -
but I have never calculated upon more than \$9000 for the crop -
I expect to repay Messrs. Cain & Ruffin for the corn used here last
summer - in corn - bushel for bushel - which will reduce the bill of
expenses about 300 Dollars as I have I am charged with that many
bushels by their owners - & if paid in cash I shall have a bushel -

I am growing very tired of this place - Indeed I never was otherwise
and would rejoice if could have it ~~to~~-day never again to
at my eyes - upon it - That I have been "wronged" - &
deceived there can be no sort of "mistake" - & If I could
sell the property tomorrow for a ~~reasonable~~ at a sacrifice
that might at first sight I mention might seem large - I should
be ready to do so if it were my own property: for upon a
better theatre with the same funds & manager I could overcome
if in two crops - perhaps one - . Had I an 100-bags more out I could
save it in good time to commence a new crop - whilst others are now
picking 12. or 1400^{lb} to the acre - I am glancing - Nothing would
astound you more - than the difference in the work of a hand
in cotton yielding 2000^{lb} to the acre or where not more than 700^{lb} can
be had - . We shall have to work on I fear a many a long
ay if ever we can get rid of "this folly" - . I am glad to
say that we have had but little indispositions in our family of
people - Sandy is nearly well again - is at work in his shop -
Henderson is well enough to go the office for my letters the
owner having furnished him with an idler horn - he came
back a few days ago saying "Master your credit with us
good here as it is at home for the man says he can't
send any letters without money or your money at the office
is give out" - My deposit having been used up - only 50 cents -
The usual little Joe is about as he was - I have got him
knitting stockings on a loom for the out hands - requiring
him to knit 3 pairs a week - Two of our best Pickers Milton &
& Mary are in the house with boils -

I shall send you an account of the sales of letters & so
soon as I can let you know what balance will
remain to take up my note pt. of March - after
discharging all plantation bills - I do trust it will be at
least 5000 Dollars - I have not had a letter from any
one but yourself since I left Home - My wife has not
written me a line - I shall not write her again until
it is in acknowledgment of a letter - If ever a poor
fellow need all the consolations of letters from friends it is

me - I fear 1. 2 & 3 will be almost as many numbers as I
should need to number my friends in this world - My two last
letters to you were of the 2nd & 8th of this month - my last letter to
some - was of the 4th of this month - I have never written
my uncle because I knew that I should indulge in my
grievs - & better not say what I certainly should say -

I have never been more rejoiced at any ones recovery than
at his - he has been a father to me - & next to your own life his
is of most importance to my well doing on this earth - To
him I wish always to be affectionately named - I give that Philomed
is no better - I cant make it an absence of 90 days - from her.
I thank you for Mr Pipers note and all Home matters. God keep
the old place from harm: I would not exchange it for
any spot on earth - Love to Dear Nancy & Milly - not
forgetting other members of your family -

Your aff. Son forever

P. L. Cameron