

I am just in the centre of the great "Cotton belt" - this is one of the largest Counties in it, and produces more than any other. Nothing else whatever is raised except Cotton, and enough Corn to feed the stock and hands. The roads are now perfectly blocked with the "lint" coming to market - a great deal is sold here. A lady told me that she has counted 500 waggons pass her house in one day each containing from two to eight bales - this however was last year, the year of the great Cotton crop. This crop will not amount to two thirds of it. The immense fields of Cotton give the Country a very singular look, especially at this time as the frost last week has killed all the leaves, so nothing but the open bales are visible, and the field looks like ~~a great~~ as if it were sprinkled with snow.

I was much amused by your account of the military excitement in town now. I rejoice with you at Miss A. Slaughter's

nuptials - it must surely tend to calm the minds of many, ^{besides} being a source of great gratification to her friends. You said nothing about the New Army, I hope that it has been begun ere this, or will the hard times cause the banks to refuse the loan. I saw in the papers that they had suspended. I saw a telegram in the Columbus Sun a few days ago, stating that Gov. Wise had become insane. What could it mean? I took it as a hoax, but did not see what foundation there was for such a thing. Had they published such a thing during the Brown raid, there would have been no lack of cause. It caused quite a sensation here, as the old Gov is very popular, especially since a speech he made in Portsmouth some three weeks ago.

Don't fear but that I shall come back to Va. in case of trouble, I caused the trustees to understand that at our final meeting, they agreed

that I sh. be at perfect liberty to return home whenever
the trouble should be anticipated. If there is to
be a fight I wish to be with mine own.
I look forward with perfect delight to the time
of my return home. I have once or twice when
writing in my diary, dated the entry as
so many months from July 1st 1861. I
hope however to be better satisfied in the end,
I have no congenial society at all, but fortunat-
ly have very little time to wish for it, being
hard at work almost all day, and reading or
writing the rest. tho' of course this cannot
last long. Still after all the great consolations
I have is the recollection that I am working
my own way, and will soon have money
enough to pay back what I owe. Sometimes
I forget it for some time, and when it does
recur to my mind, it causes me great satis-
faction. I live here very cheaply, whereas
I was much surprized, it is cheaper than a
like situation in a village in Va. I am fur-
nished with board, room, furniture, wood,
and light at \$15 a month. the fare is horrid
but I have become used to it now. Best love
to Siliu-Sue & little Nannie. tell the latter that
I am safe in 'Dixie' now. your affectionate Brother,
Eugene Blackford

And some are even now covered with
soms. I have a bunch of them on my
ble now. I was at a party last night
given in the true Southern style. Go
took the place of dancing, which is
allowed at most of the houses, owing to
violent opposition made to it by the
in this Country. Every thing was in the pro-
fession, but there was an utter want
ceremony, not enough seen to remind
that you were in a private house. The
here are pretty rough, and ugly to a
(or girl); schooling (as they call it) is rare
among them, and of course all knowledge
of polite literature is utterly wanting. &
eas, for those who go in for the main
there are Cotton Sales enough - a good
lady's fortune is reckoned here by the
number of bales. One was pointed out
to me last night, worth 600 bales, &
another worth 450.

Bank of the Republic,

New York Feb 21 1856

Col. Blackford by
Lynchburg

Dear Sir
I send you in prep as
requested per yours of 9 Inst
an exemplified copy of the General
Banking Law of this State and
exemplified copies of our
Certificate of Association
constituting us a Banking
Association under that Law
duly authenticated by the
Governor, Secy of State
Bank Department and
County Clerk.

Please send them
back when you have done
with them

Very truly
Yours
R. H. Lowry

Account of the Expedition

1841

Wm. M. ...

... ..

... ..

... ..

... ..

Dalton march 17

1861

Georgia

Dear children I received your letter
and was glad to
hear from you all but was very bad
to hear that you all was some
now you all be gone to see what you
all would soon learn to if I were to
leave you all you all must go to school
as I tel you to do James you and Levi must
not quit school to hit one lick of work
this year for I want you to get your learning
now you will see Mr Charles Blackford
and tel him to let you have 30 dollars
to get you all sum close you tel Mr
Blackworth that if he did not give per
mission of my house that I will make him
pay the hole years rent for I rented
it to Mr Lerdie befr I left home you
show this letter to Mr Blackford you will
hold Lerdie bond for the rent of my house
and make him or Blackworth pay for the
rent according to contract you drew the
contract and you can mak him comply
with it if he has rented another house
cheyer then mine that is nothing to me
Mr Blackford if you please aten to these
thing for me for I know that you know

how to manage it better than I do and
let bradie look to backworth for his rent
and to let them beere my house idle all
the yeare make bradie pay you according
to bond and contracte mr blackford you
will let me here from you as soon as this
comes to hand and let me here how you
are getting along you appears comply with
the request in the above concerning my
children and let them have the money for
money says the one all most needed you must
let my children suffer fore close for you have
uncle in your hands you for myrent of
backworth you also the money of mr halady
for the wapt I gave you on him did not
mr Jerdon's quinn let you all have shares tel
leni to make mr quinn make him aware
of shares children I am sure what trouble
at the way - you all write to me for if
you all dont go to school I will come
all the way home to whip everyone of
you you all three go to school until
I write to you to go to work then it
will be time to write to me that you
cant get no work I am so confused
in mind at this time I must com to close
your letter found me well and leaves me
the same I saw your uncle James on

last night him self and family sends
there respec to you all Brather Wake is now
gone to newalnes to buy A large stock of
good he y learned with him 23 000 in gold
to buy them for last his family is all
well boys you have him to school enaf to
rite heter then you do you all awgh
to study your selfe and try and learn
now then you have achance for learning
is one thing you all neede mis amandia you
will ye the money and buy the children
som eyers and make them som every day
close doant think about buying in fine
close for them for any sort of close
is good amuf for them to school in
and if you doant you need not rite
to me for money money I am yours
untel det

P. A. Coble

mr you rite me word whether you got
that resete of lawyer baxter for 150 dollars
or not

P. A. Coble

A

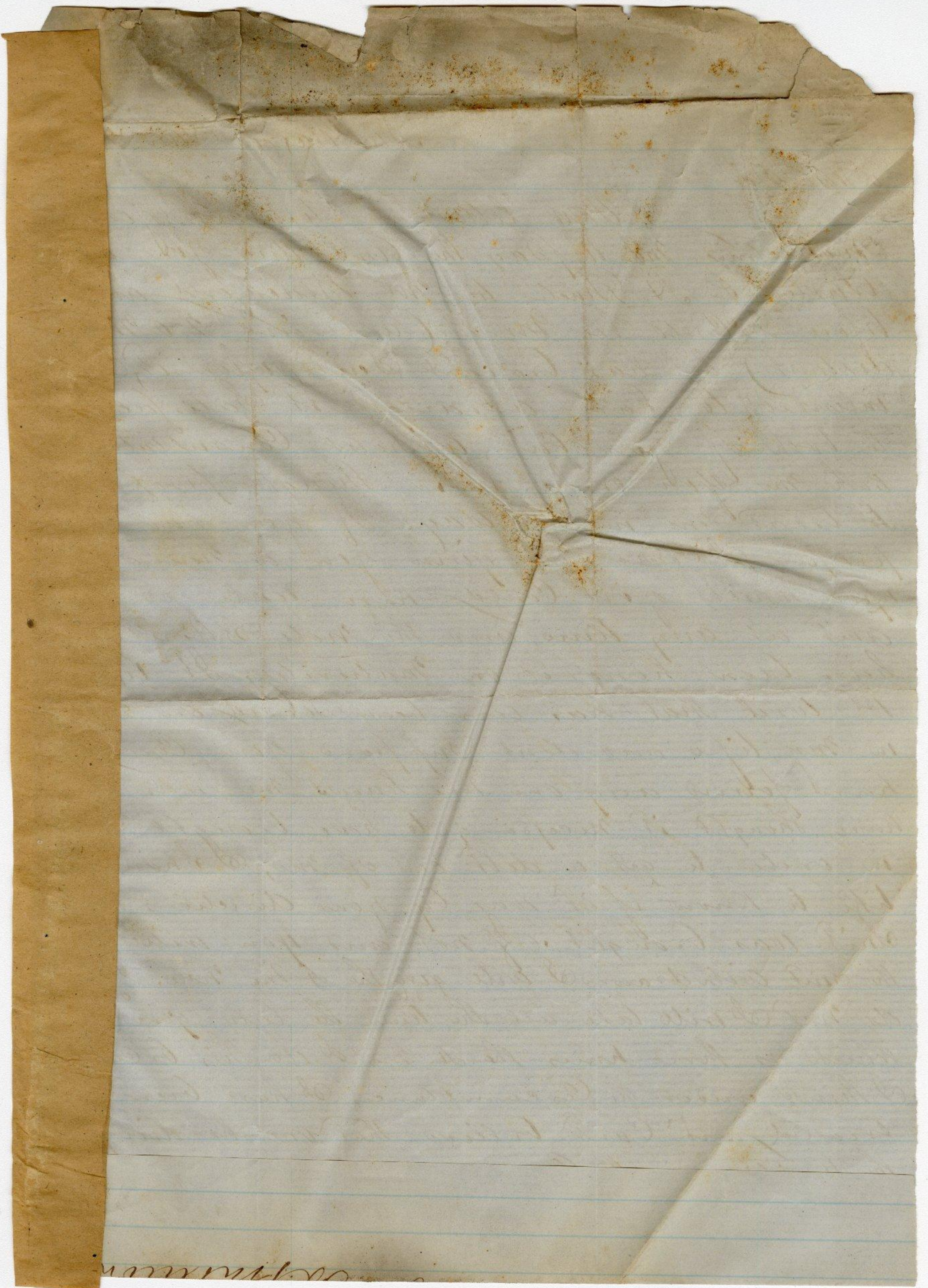
[Faint, illegible cursive handwriting covering the entire page]



New Glasgow Jan 23rd

Dear Sir

Your letter came to hand yesterday requesting me to pay the amt due you as trustee of St Grahams to Mr Blackford and before I could see Mr B. (he lives 20 miles distant) he has brought suit upon it, I intended to have arranged it satisfactory to both of you, but without consultation with me you or he have thought proper to treat me in this way. If you had thought proper I could have given you a note at 4 mo upon which you could have realized the amt at any time, and the note should have been honored on maturity, It is the 1st writ that has ever been served on me in my life and dont suppose you could have found any one who knows me who would have thought it necessary to have brought suit in order to get a debt out of me, I should like to know if it was by your directions the suit was brought. If not and you will have the suit withdrawn I will give the 4 mo note. If you do not I will take all the time the law gives me which is three times the 4. mo. I do this because I think under the circumstances I have been badly treated and cant believe that one holding the position in the community that you do could have acted in this way. Let me hear from you as soon as you rec^d this yours
A. P. D. T.



Handwritten text, possibly a signature or name, located at the bottom left corner of the page.

Richmond March 7. 1861
Chas M Blackford Esq
Dear Sir

My two notes of \$475 each fall due the 12/15 March I shall be short of having money enough to pay them both about \$300, will you do me the favor to discount the enclosed note, which will pay me through and nearly retire every thing I have out, the note of \$500 & the one of \$1250. Mr. Stubbs no doubt advised you for the had been paid on the 27th Feb, your letter was duly received, the note I send is small I trust it will not inconvenience you, If you cannot get it sold please lend me your check for that amount, as I must pay the notes at maturity at all hazards, let me hear from you early

Truly yours
Chas. A. Matthews

Free March 12th / 61

To
Chas. M. Blackford Esq
Dear Charles
Louis

of the 26th Feb is duly to hand - I have
made the necessary inquiries as
to the indebtedness of any one mem-
-ber to Miller's to Read & Nash.
I don't think they have one
cent due them in our place -
The firm here had about
six months ago 12 or 13 barrels of flour
in their hands on which R & N.
had made them an advance.
But this firm (Hart, Hayes & Co)
had some money to the proprietors
of R. & N. and they went to N. York
paid up the amt. of the advance
and took their flour for R & N -
I am sorry I can give you
no information in the numbers to me

=able for to round for hold

I have always desired to
visit for part of sea: but some
work or other - fate has been
against me - I would like
of all things to drop in and

see for all once again -

Some of my most pleasant
memories are connected with the
for further family, when for
we all here in day of for.

The outbreak of facts would
contrast with me favorably with
I go ahead and thinking out -

What think for of the
work of the place can foresee.

I think I am as much loving
a man as is generally to be found
but this does not come up
to any notions left a bow shot
of what sea: ought to demand and
have = free soil over 4/5 of the Territory
and Kansas rule over the balance
with no guarantees - and Federal

Judges - appointed by an inimical
power - to be appealed to for protection.

Wright's demand's protection - that slavery
could & would be crushed out under
the constitution - will come
to pass - of course our con-
-stitution will assent to this course
promised gladly - - I am again
it - -

I hired to the Co & Term:
R. R. Co this year 8 hands - as
agent for some parties near
here - they have neglected
to send me the bonds of the
company as agreed on - Will you
do me the favor to call
at the office of the company
and ask them to forward to me
the bonds payable quarterly
for these terms - let the bonds
be made payable to me - the
names of the servants are Carter, Henry
Jerry - like - Jerry bid - William, Luke, Harry & Mills

By attending to this for will on
My - - - - - friend & answer

Charles Henry

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting covering the remainder of the page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.]

Bank of the Republic,

New York

Mar 1 1851

W. M. Blackford Esq

Carter

Dr for

I enclosed protested
Note of Joby Savanby Feb 28
for \$4000.

per
Mr
Exchange

Please demand payment
if refused. Place in your
own hands for suit
and oblige

R. H. Long
Cashier

Blank or mirrored text at the top of the page.

Dear Sir

Received of Mr. [Name]

the sum of [Amount]

for [Purpose]

I have [Action]

and [Action]

Yours [Closing]

[Signature]

[Text]

[Text]

[Text]

[Text]

[Text]

[Text]

[Text]

Richmond

March 18th 1861

Dear Sir

I enclose within from
J & Harwood and will be obliged
to you to attend to the Corp's Examina-
tion of the witnesses

Yrs &c

J. A. Joseph

Richmond
March 18th 1861

Dear Sir

I am sorry to hear
that your wife is obliged
to you to return to the
care of the children

Yours
Wm. G. Brown