

My dear Sir

Evergreen June 30th 1852

Since I last wrote you (on the 23rd inst) we have had almost continued rain up to this time and even now the weather does not look settled. Not much work has been done, but we have finished scraping and will finish the first plowing of cotton at Head Quarters to-day. The stand is good and though the cotton there is small compared with the crop here yet it looks very well and will make good cotton.

The crop here is in many places quite grassy but not enough so to prevent it from doing well. I will try and lay it by clean in two weeks or less. I have exerted myself to try and make you a good crop and have done so, but you are more indebted to the very favourable season than to any effort of mine. If the crop had been less scattered I could have cultivated all the land that is in and even more, but whilst I have been at one place the work has been neglected at another - your negroes all need continual watching or rather continual flogging to make them do their work. There is not a single one in whom I can depend unless it be Abram and I have not full confidence in him. Bob and Old Sam deceived me for a long time but I have found them out and in my opinion there are not

two greater scoundrels on the place. Sam has come in and is at work as usual.

Albert and Hanna have both been quite sick but are both on the mend. Penny is as you left her. Lenny has had a rising on her hand which has prevented her from doing any work for about a week. Harriet has been more dangerously ill than any one on the place. She has had a high inflammatory fever for several days. I have done all I could for her and will so continue and I hope she will recover soon.

The crop is made and no skill or sluggishness can now materially change the result and I repeat what I told you in my last, that I wish to be relieved just as soon as practicable, for I am most heartily sick of my employment.

Doct Watson of Lynchburg is dead. Mr Terry lost a negro man a few days since. Dr Whiting is married to Mrs Ruben White and I believe has settled up there. I know of no other neighbourhood news.

I should be glad to hear from you soon.

Very Respectfully &c
Benj E Roper