

Houston Oct: 14/63-

Ms. A. 11. 11
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My dear Sir
I have had the pleasure of
meeting your daughter Mrs Leigh here
Doct S. told me he had written to you -

I have to-day hired out 20 negroes, on the follow-
ing terms. Men at \$25 ^{per month}, women at \$20 - girls & boys
at \$15 - this amt is to be paid in good Cotton ready
for market at eight cents per pound - The negroes are
to be clothed & shod, & I am to pay in work at the above
rates, at Brownsville specie prices, at cost of Materials
& transportation added - In making this bargain I
reduced the whole thing to a specie basis. & I think
I have made a good thing in getting the clothing at
cost & the Cotton at low rates - The plantation is in
Wharton County -

It appears our country is over-run again - So
far Texas is free, the force which threatened Texas
before the battle at Sabine pass, has moved up the

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I shall doubtless attempt an entrance into
this state by way of Shreveport, as it is, every thing
is quiet. All they get out of Magnolia they will
have to fight for - he will not give up an inch
of territory without a bloody contest -

I was surprised to find one of my negroes among
the black poisonous captives at Sabine pass on
board of the steamer Clefthon - His name is Oj - has
been gone about 2 years - I expect to take charge
of him to - Missouri - I have as yet been able to
secure a place for the negroes - I shall hire them
a most of them out for this & the next year
& shall endeavor to look out good situations for them -
I will take a moderate compensation provided I
can get the negroes clothed - & I will prefer to take
the hire in kind, produce of the plantation -
Yours truly
W. J. HARRIS -

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