
Sunday July? 11, 1861

Dear John

Your favor was read on my return home from a trip below [*south Kentucky*] when I had intended to call you but was detained so long I had not time to call to see you. I have been thinking of you and intending to write or come see you. The confusion and distraction in the country has got me pretty truly in serious ways. The times have caught me with my affairs unsettled, a small debt still due others and a good deal on me which I have not been and I fear will not be able to get ? if ever. I see no other chance to do anything for you now, but to send you some claims which you can collect so as to reduce the amount and let? stand for the balance until further developments. I send you three notes on B & A. F. Scope? They (?) in (?) and the old man is good I believe. The principal and % of these will at 6% amount to \$143.50 by 1st of March.

I also send you a claim on J.T. Robinson in the hands of JT Robinson Sr. for \$90.25. Situated as you are you may be able to work it out with the assistance of old JT Robinson by taking other claims.

I also enclose you a receipt of Rana & all, attorneys at Indianapolis Indiana for several claims amounting to about \$800. I hope you will see excepted 2 claims these are not very good or one of them. I sent you this for the purpose of getting you to aid me in keeping it from the hands of Mr. Simm. Our old house brings some 3 or \$4000 yet and when I left Cincinnati, I placed in the hands of a man there a large amount of notes and accounts to collect and pay off what we owed. After collecting and paying off these, the balance belongs to me but Mr. Simm is disposed to annoy me and wants to make me give everything the house had into the hands of this man. I do not intend to do so if I can avoid it.

I want you to enclose this receipt to Rana & all, and say to them you had loaned me some money as you understood for our business in Cincinnati and that I had cosigned you this note as for date of assignments for the payment, that the money is your owing and you and with them is this payment is good and if the money will be paid and when. [*this is all very convoluted and so difficult to understand what is being written*] Say to them I was to have seen to the collection but that never I have informed you of your difficulty and you will attend to it yourself. If they write back order that the payment will not hold good. Then, I will get you to endorse it back to me. Otherwise, if it is good, you can collect it yourself.

The claim moved against JJ Henderson is over \$250 and soon? \$133? 2 or 3 years since. These will come near paying you off if you can hold them. If not, I will see you all right if the devil does not finally triumph in the dissolution of the country. But I fear he will since today the president has commissioned Jim Lane with all the powers and privileges, he wants that it seems one ought to damn the administration in the eyes of every living Kentuckian and indeed of the whole human family. A president who would commission such an outlaw as Lane ought to be looked after as an enemy of the human race.

Please write to all & Rana Indianapolis and enclose them this receipt and ask them to let you know if it is good and when you hear from them endorse it over. I may be down the 1st of February and see you. Bettie says she will write to Princy soon. Tell Princy she must come up, Bettie cannot come down is not in a traveling condition but is looking better than she ever saw her.

My love to Princy the and the little ones, your friend

LL Mason

[Source document](#)