

Weston 2nd. November 1844

Dear Brother,

I left St. Louis on the 23 Oct for Kentucky with our stock of goods, but when I arrived .....which is only about 30 miles higher up the Missouri River so we came directly on to the place and arrived here on the 31st October and by this time we have our goods all open and have been selling some already. I received your letter dated Oct. 8th just as I was leaving St. Louis and I have been hurrying with all my might to get off soon and I am now ready to start and expect a boat up this evening and then I am off and it may be so that before this get to you I will be there & merely wish to inform you of my departure for those parts so that if I am unavoidably detained on the way that you may know I am coming. I think I can get there by the 20th or 25th of the present month. I shall aim to come I think the way you requested by Lynchburg. You may look out for me about the 25th. Make your arrangements so that we both may become one soon after my arrival for I expect much pleasure indeed during my stay with you all and I shall remain in Virginia until 15 January, thereby having plenty time to see all and enjoying the country in of all Albemarle once more.

This our town of Weston is a great place the finest part of the State for Hemp & Tobacco and every other thing that grows in the mild latitudes the soil is rich as it can be - We I think will be all to make near 5 thousand Dollars ..... our connection in St. Louis was the ... contract to buy Hemp for the .....

When I arrive .... who should I .. here by the young man, O yes you gave a letter to me by , He left St. Louis soon after he arrive there but I never knew where he went to until I came here - You must put up with a short answer .. for the present as I have been very busy at work for the last two days and I am now anxiously awaiting a boat to be off for Old Albemarle on -

You must say something very nice to Mary for me and tell her she is and has been the object of my life, the guide to all of action, wishes and cares and only 15 or 20 days from this time and then you know.

In haste, Yours truly,

Wm. R. Harlan