

3 - 1/4
 3 - 1/4
 3 - 1/4
 3 - 1/4
 2 - 1/2
 2 - 1/2
 3 - 1/4
 2 - 1/2
 2 - 1/2
 2 - 3/4
 3 - 1/4
 3 - 1/4
 3 - 1/4
 3 - 3/4
 3 - 3/4
 2 - 1/4
 2 - 1/4
 3 - 1/4

PAID
 Daniel Fowler
 Rochester - Michigan
 Oakland, Co.
 1856
 16

Feb 14, 1854
 son to parents

New Orleans February the 12th 1853
 Kind and honored parents it is pleasure to me
 sit down an pen a few lines to you. I still like to
 hear how you are a getting along in Old Oakland I want
 to know how you are spending the winter it seems to me as though
 I could not with stand these cold blasts that blow over
 my native hills the thoughts of them almost makes me
 shiver I often think of the difference there is in the
 climate in a few hundred miles I am enjoying all the
 pleasures of a winter sun I am fond of the balmy
 breezes wafted by the orange grove and the birds of paradise
 cheer me on my way, while you at home hear nothing
 to cheer you but the piercing whistle of a winter wind
 the south is my future home without its two or three more
 no summer my reason for that is the strangers are so much
 for making money more than they are worth the climate and
 and other thing to be taken in to consideration it is for the
 best place for a man with a small capital or a laboring man
 as for my part I can make 100 dollars per month that is
 exclusive of my labor a man is not smart that cannot get
 a living in this world without physical labor. I
 but beloved parents I must thank you for your interest
 if you had raised me in ignorance it is altogether
 probable that I would of been at the north working for
 100 or 120 dollars per month or of been married and probably
 two or three children by this time to support but thank
 god it was ordered otherwise I am a free man and will not

to see you might infer from my tardiness about corresponding that I had all most forgotten you but if you cannot attach any blame to me for I am differently situated to what you are you are at home all the time you might say but with me it is quite different that is for the last three months I have not been three weeks in a place so you see my reasons for not writing that is not knowing where I would be. the next week, New-Orleans differently situated that is I will be long enough in one place to recieve a letter I never like to write a letter without receiving one when I last wrote I acted in the capacity of brakeman I worked two months there I left and went to Pittsburgh there I got owned Clark birth to New Orleans the boat was only paying 30 dollars per month I considered it not wages enough so I quit and then went in the wood business that is cutting wood off of swamp land the it cost nothing only 100 dollar per cord for cutting the hauling as you might say costs you nothing for you can cut it right on the bank that is on lies that but in amount of red river you may think strange of the logs running in and the cause of that is the rise and fall of water it overflows the banks 20 and 30 feet 30 miles up it that is in high water the water looks red the cause of it looking so is the clay on its banks is red and commingles with the water it is one of the greatest streams in the world for alligators I have seen 300 at one sight I must tell you more about that wood you can get a flat boat for 60 dollars that will carry from 150 to 125 cords of wood it wont cost you more than 150 per cord you can sell it for 600 and 700 dollars per cord so you can see the profits My health is very good I have not been sick a day since I left home I have seen a great deal and I am bound to see more

I have not seen any thing very exciting of late except a lady weighing 268 lbs I heard last Thursday night of hearing the great sonnetist Madeline Sontag and was ^{very} amused by the the world renowned clown Dan Rice he has been in Orleans the last three winters he meets with great applause he has got engaged one of the greatest equitians in the world Madeline Morina some period I probably will be at home next summer it will beving to circumstances if a unforeseen accident happens I think I will be at home that is to stay with you a month or two I want you give my best respects to all my inquiring friends I want you state concerning Billy Bone how he is getting along and them neighboring boys that went to California and how the crops came in this season and price of wheat flour is very high in Orleans 750 per barrel potatoes 700 per barrel sugar and molasses is very cheap 10 dollars per barrel 25 cents sugar 3 cents per pound there was the largest crop of cane this year that ever was raised in the South I shall send you a couple of newspapers the delta and picayune

Yours Respectfully

Wm. H. Fowler

Send your love to Louisiana Catahoula Parish
Buffalo Springs