

February the 17 - 1839

Houston Harrisburg County, Texas

Republic of Texas

Dear parents This is to inform you that Peter is enjoying good health. Richard has a verry bad cold and is getting better. iye have had my health verry well since i rote to you untill about cristmas i was taken with the yellow Ganders and have had them ever since but i am getting better of them but not able to work yet. dear parents and dear brother it was like a short visit home to read your letters which i did repeatedly & Samuel C Brannocks two which came so unexpectedly - my old school mate dont neglect wrighting to we bois as we will at all times be glad to hear from you - Dear father i will inform you of my last summers performances. after we Richard and me laid buy our corn we took a job getting out house logs for Kuykindall for \$35.00 which done in eight days we then went to work for John York at one dollar per day and never said nothing to Kuykindall about quitting board with him so after we got our crop gathered and went to settle he charged us \$12.00 per month board from the 15th of April until the last day of August & wouldn't allow us for the time which we worked for other people besides \$30.00 i loned him when i first went there that he never paid me because in settlin he deducted no time - one is what we worked for him and buy them means his account was as large as mine and in this time i had my pocket book stolen from me with \$112.00 within paid for one hundred and fifty bushels of corn of which we sold 100 at \$1.00 per bushel we then traded with James C. Duff for a labore of land for which we was to give him \$1900 we first let him have an old spanish horse for \$57.00 cut one stack of hay for \$6.00 - the balance of our corn at \$1.25 per bushel and \$13.00 in cash with the balance in work at the ratio of \$20.00 per month - which paid for the land - We then took his title bond with receipt to make us a good and warrentede deed so soon as impowered buy the republic we have saved two stacks of fodder for which we sold for \$25.00 We then took a job of putting up a house for fifty dollars and that we completed in three weeks - Peter & Mr. Hix had just bought this tract of land which we heir at work on now - and rote to Richard and me to come down & go in with them which we readily agreed to and we heir all equally concerned in it Mr. Hix continues to have good health besides that we all live as agreeable as borthers - We have at this time eight hands as choppers and have one hundred and fifty cords of wood cut for which we hair selling at \$7.00 per cord and pine nots \$10.00 per cord oakwood \$6.00 per cord - we heir paying \$2.50 per cord for cutting and board them at \$1.00 per day - bacon is 37 cts per pound sugar -do- coffee 55 cts - flower \$25.00 per barrel peas \$5.00 per bushel corn \$5.00 per bushel meal - do- Irish potatoes \$10.00 per barrel sweat potatoes \$4.00 per bushel chickings \$12.00 per dosin eggs \$3.00 per dosin beef 25 cts per pound poark 37 cts. Thear has been depradations committed on our frontiers about the fifteenth of January last which was supposed to be the comanches thear was 13 men woman and children killed a company of men left houston on the 25th of the same month to there assistance they heir now trying to raise eight companies and them to be stationed on the frontiers for which they heir offering for six months services six hundred and forty acres of land and \$25.00 per month Their has been an act past this last congress to extend the --ion law from the first day of

January 1839 until 1840 - The Seat of government is agoing to be moved Their was 5 Commissioners appointed this last Congress to make a permanent location of the seat of government they heir allowed three months to make the location and they have to go above the old sanantone rode the law also says that they must make the selection between 10 miles west of the colorado and _ miles east of the trinidad River. after the selection is made there is a going to be an agent appointed and this agent is autherisced by the presadent to survey out 600 sixhundred and forty acres of land into town lots this agent has also to publish the sale of those lots for 90+days throught out this Republic and part of the Southern states Terms of Sale is one fourth down with ballanc in 6=12-and 18 months Treasurry notes millitara script and gold and silver heir taken in pament = This will becaled the City of Auston - I remain your affectionate Son

William H. Willys

I remain your affetionate Son

Richard Willys

/Dear father I wrote to you about 20th December last and have received no answer yet but I expect there are some in the post office at Washington but have not had an oppportunity of sending for them. I have nothing new to enform you, we are getting along verry well in the wood business we have sold during the last month \$500- worth of wood and have made our second payment, the sale of the balance of the lots have raised to \$1500. for fear you should not understand William, he lost his pocket book \$112.-They ware at work from Mr. Kuykindoll whilst thare board mounted to \$12. which Kuykindoll wouldn't deduct - on settlement, nothing more but I remain your affectionate son

Peter J. Willys

Envelope:

Short A. Willys Esq

Caroline County

St - of Marylands

Hunting Creek pt.

February 17 1839

Was the Date of this

Letter