

N York August 5/55

Dear Bro -

You will find I intended paying you a visit but having learned you was absent I stopped at Fathers with Narcissa. She will visit with your family before you return.

I have one particular request to make of you - that is will you quit work to some extent & go with your wife & mine to some camp meeting or meetings & try if possible to make Narcissa enjoy herself - being amongst strangers and of a backward and timid disposition & I am afraid she will become dissatisfied & write to me to come after her - try and prevent this if possible - I also want you to come up & bring your wife & Hulda & Narcissa and spend some two days in this place & one day each in Phila & Balto & I will return with you spend some time at your house on our way home.

Write me you will come & will then let you know what time to come & where to meet me - - I will get through my business so as to give all my attention to you & doubt not but you will enjoy it fully.

A. J. I know you husband time & money - but recollect where we started from & this may not offer again in a life time. I think you might lay down all for this one time. Come say you will do it.

Your Bro

R. S. Willis

Montgomery January 1st 1861

Dear Brother

Your favour of the first is just to hand find us all usually well and glad to hear you are all well, you did not say whether Mother had broke up housekeeping or not. I will send your letter to ichard. I have no objection of selling the land aluded and perhaps he has none, if you and Mother think best. I instruct you and her do with the estate as you think best. - I agree with you in your notions of the present Political difficulties I do not wish to see the union dissolved but my dear brother I am fearful the breach is so wide now between the North and the South that we never can live to gether again as one great family, and again if we dissolve that protection can we then have more than at present, but hope yet thare is some man for the times that will put forth some plan by which we may compromise before the breach grows. You will learn that several of the Southern states have gone - our Legislater meates 21 of this month and feel anxious to know the result - thair is a verry large majority in favor of amediate cession.

Through Montgomery County whare we own a greatdeal of land. And it is advancing very fast. I bought ten thousand acres of land when I was up thare at Court at an average of one dollar an acre and I do think I will make as many otions dollars in a few years. As thare is a large emigration setting in and will follow the line of R Road.

I am allways glad to hear from you -

Mrs. Mitchel is with me arranging my flower gsrden. And as she is broken up house keeping may go north with us this summer.

Write often to your Brother

My love to all.

Your Brother

O, H, Willis

Newyork October 20, 1868

My Dear Brother-

I leave for home to night and cannot possibly visit you as I intended to do. Richard wrote me to come hom amediately as he is worked down. We are selling more goods than we ever sold before and it has kept me busy all the time buying and shipping. Used up all of our money and gone in debt - Pete married in St. Louis the first of this month to Miss Stella Price the only daughter of General Sterling Price of Missouri who died about twelve months ago. She is a nice girl a little older than Pete I think I shall be proud of her and love her like one of my own children. They both left for Galveston on the 8th of this month. I enclose you her picture with my three girls. I took my children up to Farefield in Connecticut to stay with a friend who will take them down to school 27th of this month They are building an addition to the St. Mary's Hall is the reson of the school taking in so late. My love and best wishes to you all

Your affectionate Brother

P.J. Willis

Montgomery February 19 1871

My Dear Brother

Your favour of the 2 " has find this home and contents noted. I am glad to hear you are all well. I am up har attending court to try if possable to close up my old business. The Lewis sute which I once told you about that owed us a very large debt is just decided in our favor and decreede to us a title to 4650 Acres of good land and near a RRoad now building through this country which I think in a few years will be very valuable. My headright 640 acres lies right in the center of this county and the President of the Company has promised me a Depot on it and call it Willis and the County Cite and Court house will be moved thare which I think will make it quite a town if this turns out & I will deed a town lot to you as a present so as to make you a evalutar owner in Texas. My old firnedes here in this county are anxious but have not fully decided the name to be Willis or Willisburg. If it is possable I will go on to see you this spring and assist you in selecting the monument and making arrangements for the Serman which I am looking to with so much pleasure.

your Brother P. J. Willis

Office of P. J. Willis & Brother

Dealers in General Merchandise

(Willis' Building, Strand)

Cotton

Hides

Gold

Galveston, Texas March 31, 1871

My Dear Brother

I have not herd from you for some time. Carrie starts back to Burlington to school to day has gotton quite well. I have just return from a trip on the Frontier 350 miles north found the Country very much improved land filling up very fast since I was up thare 33 years ago when nothing but Bufalow and Indians inhabited the land I cannot go on north till July I suppose I could not be of much service to you in arranging for the services and selecting monuments I do think I would get just as large a monument as could be got on the ground regardless of a few dollars. Business is verry dull though we are selling a goodmany goods. Our sales last year amounted to two (2) millions. We are all well - Thare is a R Road running The Governor is oposed to it but I am fearful his counsils will not be heeded with our hotheaded Politians who are determined to tare up this glorious union and the few here that are opposed to it is bound to be brought in to it. I have just concluded to hope yet for the best and prepare for the worst.

But this thing never could have come in the south at a worse time as the crops of both corn & cotto ware both unusually short all over the cotton states, And in many portions they are on the very point of suffering from the fact that almost the whole of the forward of the cotton goes to the western states to buy meate & bread and but little left to pay debts with - we are collecting little or nothing out of this large amount we have out. Thare is some talk of a stop law being passed at this session but it could make it no worse than it is as thare is no money in the country and will not be until another crop is made.

Your brother,

P. J. Willis