

[Letter from Ludwell L. Rector in Alum Creek, Texas to his son Kenner]

August 27 day 1856

Son Kenner

All is well at this time & we are doin [doing] as well as could be expected our meetin [meeting] lasted 17 days Thear [There] was 72 added to the church & I cant [can't] tell how many will go to others

The times hear [here] among this pepele [people] is very different to what it was they seam [seem] to be a new papele [people]

It is all over & I must set in to [unclear] the drouth [drought] continues with us the stock in many places is suffrin [suffering] for the want of water I cant [can't] tell what will be don [done] if it dos [does] not rain in a shorte [short] time thear [there] is but little cotton makin [making] I think mine is half picked out at the time corn is held at a dollar though I cant [can't] see whear [where] the money will come from to buy it this is a fateal [fatal] year on many papele [people] & many of thim [them] is throd [throwed] back for years to com [come]. It is said north of this that land is offerin [offering] at half price & many of the papele [people] is wantin [wanting] to leave the state I cant [can't] tell what will be don [done] I hope thear [there] will be some way provided for the papele [people] many of them is dependin [depending] on the mast [?] for thear [their] [unclear] if that fails I cant [can't] see what they will do I rote [wrote] you last week that I would send som [some] cotton as soon as posable [possible] to be sold & the proseads [proceeds] would come to you and John I think I will git [get] it to the gin next week but cant [can't] tell when I will be able to get a waggan [wagon] to take it off I will do the best I can tell your sister that all is well at home. Mr. Chapen is very sick at this time I remain your affectionate Father

L. L. Rector

Let me hear from you and Jennetta