

Alleyton Dec 14<sup>th</sup> 1868

Dear Rice

I have arranged  
with the forwarding Agents  
to send our Cotton forward at  
once. They have sent out  
runners in every direction  
and engage to get all on  
wheels. at Government-rate  
of freight to Eagle Pass &  
San Antonio. Chief for  
the former place for \$10  
dolls in Cash per bale

You must see that  
cars are furnished at  
Richmond. Mr Twitchell  
can have it done for  
you in Maj Bloomfield's  
name. if you will attend  
to it. My arrangement

for forwarding our Cotton  
includes what is here and  
at East-Mecklenburg which  
covers all that has been  
delivered - They are  
doing their level best  
and I have agreed to pay  
ten dollars a bale for  
all they get off before  
the 1<sup>st</sup> of Jan. They think  
they will get it all off next  
week. if the balance of the  
F.A.M. gets her in time -

From all the information  
I can obtain we will need  
coin to pay freight at Eagle Pass  
or else we will be forced to sell  
a part of our Cotton at a great  
sacrifice - Cotton in market  
at Matamoros 35<sup>¢</sup> to 38<sup>¢</sup>

at Eagle Pass probably not more  
than 20¢ when it costs but is  
4 to 5¢ per lb. to transport it  
Matamoros - Bring all the  
coin you can with you and  
if any of your friend - Burnard,  
or anybody desires to send  
money out for the Country  
for any purpose - bring it as  
long. I will engage to invest  
it in exchange at - Matamoros  
for the use of it. to pay freights  
on my Cotton I will take the  
risk of transporting it in the  
baggage - perhaps Ed Burnard  
would like to send some - If they  
wish to send money & you can not  
bring it. I will pay the Express Charges  
to son Antonio. Send it to me to  
S.A. by Express & advise me -

I am through here & if Paonell  
& the Ambulances fail to come

up to night. I shall leave  
in the Stage for Soulentons.  
You ought to be there certainly  
by this day week - Write  
me to 8 A. when you will  
be there. There are rumors  
afloat that Eagle Pass has  
been taken by the Mexicans  
I do not believe it - I  
wrote you about my gun  
left on the Car. I wish you  
would get it & bring with  
you.

Get all the Coin you can  
for yourself & for account - of  
others - it is a good chance  
to send down. I taking all  
risk of agreeing to deliver at  
Metamora -  
Wm. H. C. E.      You Truly  
E. B. Nichols