

Houston July 17. 1866

Mrs W. Rice Esq  
New York

Dear Sir,

We wrote you under date of 3<sup>rd</sup> inst., and wait upon you again, altho' nothing of moment has transpired since then.

Trade is very dull, and money very scarce, drafts even are neglected, and one would believe, that we were on the eve of a crisis. - Goods are sold at auctions at low prices at times. -

Your Work on Shed is progressing, the frame is nearly up; Mr. Morris has delivered me an instrument of writing, obligating himself to cover the Shed as desired by you at the price agreed upon, namely: 8<sup>¢</sup> per foot. -

We have to date not been able to realize on all your drafts for rent, and frequent calls on the parties proved fruitless. -

Mr. T. B. Stevenson has drawn a draft on you, favor H. S. Greaves Hempstead for 270<sup>00</sup> Two hundred & seventy dollars coin, which draft has

been sent to us for collection; please inform us if correct, so as to enable us to charge it up, or to return, if not legitimate.

Mr Chas. E. Amster called on us for (200) Two Hundred dollars, due him from you, according to his statement, please give us instructions in regard to it -

Our inability to collect all the drafts and the scarcity of money, has prevented us from sending remittances to you, will however exert ourselves, and trust that on the return of our Mr Wells we may collect some amounts due us in the Country -

We would be obliged to you for advice and information with regard to the Market, since here we are not posted thoroughly - Yesterday Shep Ranger & Co bought all the coffee in this place Galveston & San Antonio, causing dealers to hold their coffee and none offering at present. P. J. Willis & Bro asking 40¢ per lb. - yet today, relaxing somewhat. -

Hoping to hear from you often, we remain  
Yours truly

We enclose two Letters.

E. R. Wells & Co