Houston, Texas July 13th 1866

Wm M Rice Esq New York

Dr Sir. I have several notes of yours viz note by Jesse Womack for \$770.85, Thomas J Smith for \$920.19 and P W Walton for \$985.43, all made in the spring of 1862. The parties live near Plantersville Grimes Co, and propose to pay the principal in currency, and say they will do no more, unless compelled by Law. They allege that the notes were given to Messrs T A Gary & Co for goods which were sold to them at Confederate prices, and that at the time these notes were given it was expected that they should be paid in Confederate money, which was then worth about two for one, and that they will not now pay interest. They say they are broken up

are all planters, have nothing now but their land, and are not able to pay more. I told them I would communicate their proposition to you, and I hope you will upon receipt of this advise me what to do. Capt Loebuitz thought I ought to have taken the money, but I prefer awaiting your instructions. It is loosing a good deal to relinquish the interest for the last four years but the money may be worth more to you now, than to have to wait perhaps a year or two before collections can be enforced by Law. What ever you say I will strictly comply with

I would be greatly obliged to you for any northern business that you may be able to throw into to my hands during your stay north

Very truly Chas Steward

