

Edom Texas June 7th 1871

W. G. H. Knowls

Dear Cousin

You favor of May 4th is before me & came to hand this evening and I confess that I am well pleased with my newly formed acquaintance and Relative. I am sorry to know of your afflictions tho it is very apt to be the case with those who come to Texas when they first come they are apt to be sick. Tho I hope you will all regain your health and will enjoy life freely. Good health is a rich blessing to the human family. You must not however become weary and fall out with Texas because it is not as healthy as the old States are tho I know nothing about the old States I havent received a Georgia letter since I wrote you before but have been expecting several. One from Cousin Green Perdue and family Cousin Hiram Perdue had moved to Forsyth Georgia the last account his Wifes health was so bad that he moved back to Texas again. I have learned some very important news from your letter for I knew but little of Uncle Joe Horsleys family. Your request as regards my brothers & sisters shall be granted. My oldest brother Andrew Jackson died several years before the war he was afflicted from his childhood had an abscess rose in his side and he was allways one sided never did have any health never married. The next child was Sister Caroline Young now lives in

The German Co Texas - Then two little sisters dead
the next was a brother, David Valentine - he was killed
in the Mexican war while quite a youth - The next a
brother Jacob King - now lives at Rose Hill Co Texas
Next - a brother - Abraham Goggins an ~~idiot~~ idiot
died about two or three years before the war - Next a
sister Martha Amanda Piles - I am the baby of all
~~I am a Texian~~ a hoosier never was out of the state in
life. I do not know anything of uncle John's family I have
not received any letters from them since the war. I can find
out by writing to Uncle Jim Florsley and will write
to day. His P O is Oglethorpe Georgia I am going to write
to your Ma and your Aunt for I do love all my kindred.
Aunt Annie Brandon had two sons living in Texas
Alexandre Brandon living near Canton Van Zandt Co
Thomas Brandon lived in Smith Co Tex he died
about 9 years ago he had but one child living he lives
now near Canton Smith Co Tex his address is -
George Brandon Troup P O Smith Co Texas Cousin
George is doing very well I guess tho I have not seen
him since the war closed, I think he loves to make
money very well. James Kenrick Perdue did live up
in Davis Co Texas I do not know where he lives now
his P O was Douglassville Davis Co Texas but I have had
no letter from him in over a year. Cousin I know you
must all be quite lonely but we must - pers that by far
if loneliness would ever killed any one Shurley it would
have killed me - I have heard nothing of those Cousins you
spoke of by name of Boyant I can make enquiry is all I can

now you will find out - whether or not. I love to write
to my Relatives. Now please tell me, If I mistake not - you are
living with your brother. What is your brothers name, also your
Sister in laws name? do not consider me too enquisitive -
How long have been in Texas. I suppose you will expect a reply
to the question asked in your letter as regards to what I am
doing with my land and the country generally ~~generally~~
I have sold 100 acres of my land at \$3 ^{per acre} and had
~~the chance of selling~~ ~~300 acres at \$3.50~~ ~~per acre~~
but land was rising so fast - I did not care much about
selling - I do not feel safe to refer you to any one for information
- or as regards the country for there is no one can tell me
whether or not I would like Florida - the advice I should
give to you is plainly this Come and see for your self.

We should not put confidence in no one when it comes to
where we shall live, we had better satisfy our own minds
that few and not confide in no one what ever. Do you get
letters from Sister Caroline? I have never received a single
letter from any of brother Jacobs family since I was out-
where in the winter I do not know why they do not write
I have wrote every thing I can think of and now I will
tell you that I was much amused when reading your letter
when you spoke of the respect you had for the Florsley blood
I did not know any one was as myself. I esteem the
Name highly and reverence the blood, tho I know nothing of
none others than my fathers own family not withstanding
all that you must not consider that I would disregard
you and not claim you as a kindred because you
have been sick and low spirited -

I am willing to claim Relationship with my relations and
friendship with all who try to act honest - deal fairly and
conduct respectable & poverty is a respectable position
for if a man is poor he can make enough to live on with-
out Stealing or taking any thing that does not belong to him
he is better fit for a good neighbor a good friend and
a dutiful Christian Riches only raises him above the
~~for a man for a few days only to annoy his peace and~~
happiness in eternity - I can safely say that I have been
reared to hardships and love to know that I was for it
is a pleasure to me to know that I was learned to work for
my living and not to depend upon friend nor enemy
for a Support - But I will stop before I weary your
patience to death for I am good at that as you may see
tell your father and wife that I introduce myself to them
hoping I do no wrong ^{by so doing} - I should be glad to see you all
and visit you. Give my best respects to your brother and
wife tell them they would do no wrong to write occasionally

Crops are all late here and we have had so much rain
that it has been almost a thing of impossibility to
work the ground - Come in here in the last of July or
in August rather when every thing is about made and
you can see the Sandy pine hills displaying their utmost
beauty (if there ever was any beauty connected there with)
Peaches will be ripe then as for apples we have none in
this neighborhood the apples ^{are} all too young to bear yet
there is plenty peaches tho - I must stop I know you
have wished long since that Cousin Sallie would write
soon
Yours &c - Sallie Hooley