

6-20-1823

**Letter, James Cotten, in Natchez, Mississippi to Rev. James Smylie in Elysian Fields, Amite County, Mississippi, June 20, 1823**

James Cotton

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news all well about - Give my respects to Mrs. S. and all  
the Family - Yours respectfully

James Cotton  
" "

Natchez 20<sup>th</sup> June 1823

D. Brother

Since my last writing of importance has  
taken place - Cotton has advanced some since Mr.  
Jackson was here, from 10 @ 14<sup>cts</sup> according to quality and  
quantity - In N. Orleans from 10 @ 16 - produce has risen  
within a short time - Flour 4.50 @ 6<sup>cts</sup>, and a very little good  
to be found at that, Corn & Rice in proportion -  
There is a considerable quantity of Bagging & Cordage  
in market at this time, though no sales made. It is  
offered at 25<sup>cts</sup> per yard of Pale Rope from 8 @ 10<sup>cts</sup> -  
It is generally thought that both these articles will  
be still reduced, in price, and more especially if  
much Scotch Bagging should come into market - I  
believe that it might be had at this time at 25<sup>cts</sup>  
though that is the limit, although it offered at 25<sup>cts</sup>  
(this you will observe not to mention as if it came from  
me) - I received a letter from B. Thomas yesterday  
he had arrived safe at N. York - after a passage  
of 16 days from City to City, he observes that he had a



very pleasant trip, though attended with a little palpi-  
tation of the heart on one or two occasions. It appears  
they ran aground in the first place on the Florida Shoals  
and after considerable labour, with no material dam-  
age got afloat again, when arrived opposite Charleston  
they were buffeted by a considerable <sup>wind</sup> which left them  
after taking off their main top Gallant Mast together  
with some smaller rigging, and the unshipping of their  
Gibbours, which prostrated itself on deck and I will  
venture to say made them think of running if they  
knew whether to go - It may be possible that I may  
leave this place in a week or two for Port Gibson. Mr.  
Genl. Watson wrote me some time since that he wished me  
to come up, if I had made no engagements to the contrary.  
If this should be the case I cannot say when I will be able to  
come down - As I calculated on going down before I went  
up, which was anticipated in August - I saw your B.  
Matthew to day he and the people generally were met in  
his neighbourhood. Mr. Wm B. I saw a short time since they



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the Family -

Yours respectfully

James Cotton  
" "



Gen. Cotton

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Rev. James Smyler  
Elysian Field  
Amite County

Mail

Missis —



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