

Macon Oct 20th 1851

My dear Sister

I have tried everywhere for a cook for you, as Howell desired, & thought I could get a man named Patterson belonging to Mrs. M\_\_\_\_\_, but found he is engaged to (Hudson?) in Milledgeville. There is no chance to get one here. You had best have Athens scoured for one. If you fail I can lend you Davy for the \_\_\_\_\_ & put Louise to do the cooking for Prince & I. I cannot find a dining room servant worth a button that is disengaged.

Tell Howell I will send the money he wrote for tomorrow. I forgot it this morning while the bank was open.

I am expecting Charly Lamar & his family & Dr. Reese & Cousin Sarah to stay with me at the (fair?). Also Cousin Gay. My calculation is if they come, that we shall a house feel comfortably full, but not more than I can make comfortable.

This is my programme---The Library for you, according to your desire. The room over it is for Charly & \_\_\_\_\_. The little room opposite for Cousin Gay. The big room over

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(the) sitting room for Mary Athena & the young ladies. And your old room for Cousin Sarah. Jim Jackson & John in the (drawing?) room on cots & Prince & myself & the boys on cots in the office. It will be a housefull but not so much so but all can be made comfortable.

Cousin Sarah Reese has been afflicted with m\_\_\_\_\_ in the hip & could scarcely move about when I was at her house in Americus, & I think she will hardly be able to travel. But she is so anxious to be at the fair, I expect she will try. A kiss for Mary Ann, love to the boys.

Your affectionate brother

John B Lamar

PS Try Athens for a cook & if you cant get one to suit, I will lend you Davy for the \_\_\_\_\_.