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 Martin, but find he is engaged to Huson 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 Session & put Louisa 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 Rose & Cousin Sarah to stay with me at the fair. Also Cousin Gaz. My calculation is if they come, that we shall a house just 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 for Charly & lady. — The little room opposite for Cousin Gaz — The big room over

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

Cousin Sarah Reese has been afflicted with neuralgia 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.

P. S. Try Athens for a cook, & if you can't get one to suit I will lend you Daisy for the Season.