

Union County Arkansas August 26th 1860

Dear Brother please pardon my neglect of writing I have no good news to write now we have had a very serious drought in June some of the hottest & driest weather I ever saw there was several of our family took the chills with severe fevers which lasted for some time we are all tolerable well now the drought has almost ruined our corn we have scarcely made enough to feed the family we had a good rain on the 16th of July and good seasons since that time peas planted the 10th of June come up after the 20th of July we have a fine prospect for a good crop of peas and potatoes if the frost does not come too soon for them our cotton is doing much better than we once expected the drought was worse in some parts of Louisiana & Texas than here I send you a paper that you may see the distressing condition of many of the citizens of those 2 States I have been almost ready to give up all hope but since the rain my new ground corn has made some we had a field old ground about 14 acres which ought to make 150 bushels but will hardly make 2 bushels to the acre we had a large crop on hand and all worked very hard I can only say they will

of the Lord be done. Judson worked with and
me this year for a part of the crop I fed not
him and his horse I bought 50 bushels of is
corn last winter at 75 ct, and that that un
would be Enough to serve us, but having to lade
feed Judson's horse I lacked 50 bushels more Dea
and could not get it without the money and of g
had to borrow the money at ten percent that
interest and then gave ~~me~~ one dollar and 25^{cts} hav
per bushel for corn that had been shiped Con
from New Orleans, we hauled it 18 miles as
from the River Our only hope to get money gold
to pay our debts was our crop The money Con
that I ought to have sent to you I give pra
for the corn I bought last winter and expected lik
to pay you out of the money that I would get Cas
for my cotton this winter now my Expectations hav
are blighted but this much I will say I will Dia
send it to you as soon as I can do not think Exc
hard of me about it. Judson Received a letter Elett
from Cousen R. J. Ellis yesterday which kno
informed us that his Brother Wm James was wil
deranged it must be verry distressing to his Con
parents, & all the Connection we Sempathese oul
with them tell Sister Mary dont Grieve
too much about it Commit her Child her
self and all her troubles to Jesus all To Jo
our help must come from him he
that formed the Eye shall he not see

with and he that formed the ^{ear} shall he
bed not hear in him is life and that life
of is the light of men he has said Come
that unto me all ye that labour and are heavy
ng to laden and I will give you rest.

more Dear Brother we are taught in the word
and of god that it is through great tribulatio
t that we are to Enter into Heaven we all
25 have our troubles and sever trials to
oped contend with and these trials try us
iles as gold is tried in the fire the pure
money gold looses nothing but the dross and
my comes out of the furnace refined
e pray for me that I may not be Consum^{ed}
pected like the dross and at last become a
get castaway the days are now com when
stations have but little pleasure in them.

will Dear Brother there is a good deal of
Think Excitement about coming Presidential
a letter Election pleas write to me and let me
know what candidates our party
was will support I wish to support the
to his Constitution and the Union pleas give
these our love to all the family farewell
seve

her
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re
Richard Hollingsworth
To Joseph Hollingsworth

0981

Mr Joseph Hollingsworth

Fayetteville



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