

February 3 1867

Dear Brother

I will now write you a few lines to inform you how we are all getting along, Cecile and myself were both verry sick last fall, for my part I never expected to see any letter, I went in the Contry on a visit and took the Children, Cecile and I were both taken with typhoid fever mine ran seven teen days and Cecils fifteen and a short time after mine was brooken up I had a pair of little twins both girls they came before the time and one died the first day

The other lived two days, I have  
never felt well since I have been troubled  
with lameness and weakness every way.  
I have had every thing that was called  
medicine to take, and I am just able  
to enjoy myself I cannot stand any  
exposure or to work much, but I  
am not obliged to for I have a black-  
woman, Charles has bought a house  
on the west end of Galveston Island  
and we are living in it, it is a house  
with eight rooms and very comfortable.  
He still holds his office in the Customhouse  
House, I wish you would make up your  
mind to afford to come out there and

make me a visit - I think you can if  
you only think so, I wish you and your  
family could of been here the first day  
of this month it was Cecils birthday  
her father gave her a birthday dinner  
we had every thing nice, it cost between  
thirty and forty dollars, Cecil is situated  
so now that she cannot go to school  
I regret that very much, I hear  
you have moved to Petchogue I  
hope you will write and tell me  
all the news how your family are  
getting along if you all enjoy good  
health, tell Frank and Ettie to  
write to me, I suppose Frank is at

work with you I want to hear from  
Sherry and Sadie, and let me  
know who is keeping house for you  
now, Charley is quite well he is making  
pants and jackets this winter they make  
him feel quite like a man, well as I  
have written all I can think of I will  
bid you good bye from your sister  
Sarah <sup>Maria</sup> Cook



Mr. W<sup>m</sup>. M. Bartan

Palchoque

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