Put Off Drew Ark
Apr 14 1872

Dear Father and Family,

I received your ever welcome letter a few days ago and was very glad to hear from you. For all I was very sorry to hear of Mau’s sickness but hope she will be in better health when I hear from her again. I have not been well for a week or two. I have had a very bad cough for a month and cannot yet clear of it. I have also had a fever attack, but getting better now. Hail to Heaven will not take hold of a person before birth and then Elavant.
For some Heathen Place and if I can get money enough I will go to Texas but if I cannot I will go to the Northern part of the State there is no one with me except J. Hardin now in Ark. is working at Oakes 5000 miles in the bottoms
I have saw him since the left the Quit Claim which was about a month ago I heard from L. Alexander last week he was getting 82500 dollars in golds he is somewhere in Bell Co Tex but I do not what portion Hardin or myself are speaking of going to Texas in a few months if we can get off we want you to send as soon as you can and give us the condition of the county and whether it is safe.
If we can stay here about two months withafety we can make money enough to take us to Texas but if it is unsafe we will have to return as quick as you answer this letter. I am getting a dollar per day & board working at the Carpenters trade. I have not been cheating in three months I have got something else to do now. We have had rain about two weeks regular along and the whole face of the country is covered with water. There is a little creek hardly at large as Buffalo in the sumer it is a shelf a mile wide now and has wasted the railroad so bad that the train can hardly get along.
The farmers are throwing back very much on account of rains. Fields of corn are now lying under water which had come up 3 weeks ago. Court is going at Monticello. The county site and several persons have gone to the Territory and some fine twenty heavily. I must close for I am in Hung to go to the country again. Give my love to all the family and all of them. Give my love to Grandpa, Ma & Tell will write them a letter when I get there. Give me the name of uncle Jim in Albert's Post Office as I do not know what it is. Write soon to your affectionate son S. M. Andrews.