

Coal Hill Ark-

July 22 1885

H. H. Armstrong,  
Danville Ky. }

My dear Sir-

I have been writing to will a series of letters relevant to this part of God's vineyard so as to give him as nearly a correct view as it is possible for any one to have without actually being here. I have told you I believe about the cultivating here and what is thought about it. I might go on and tell you much more about the Country but if you have no idea of seeing here it would be a very unreasonable task to run and very dry and uninteresting details to you. As for my part I am by this time considerably stuck in Arkansas. I have myself done nothing to brag on since I came here but

some law or other I think that ~~it~~  
is very much ahead of country I have  
seen so far. The state has been much  
abused and run down abroad but she is  
far ahead of many countries of fairer  
fame. I told you that we are very  
humble people here both those of  
my class who love to be humble and  
those who love money and like to be.  
The climate is agreeable here as in Ky-  
or more so. There being just near so  
much rain in the winter time and  
but little more cold weather. The health  
is I think about as good as Ky-  
I at first thought that we should be  
peculiarly blessed to pass one sum-  
mer here without chills. I  
have not been sick since I came  
here and have enjoyed better health than  
I did in Kentucky. Money is pleur-  
tiful enough here I think for the  
necessary run of business - and the County  
Reports more than the reports and

is capable of exporting a great deal  
and importing very little -  
Corn wheat oats buck wheat and  
many of the grasses flourish here  
fairly - but the people pay too much  
attention to cotton because it is so  
good to bring the cash when ever  
cash is wanted - A bale of cotton  
is as good as its price in cash. You  
can dispose of it at any time  
without the least trouble -

Land rent is about 5¢ per acre and  
the crop is about 1/2 to 1 bale per  
acre and sometimes a little more  
a bale of cotton is supposed to weigh 500<sup>lb</sup>  
and to be worth 50¢. The general rule  
does not quite come up to this - Corn is  
worth 50¢ to 40¢ that is worth 75¢ to 1.00  
Potatoes of all sorts grow fine here  
Carpenters wages are very low \$1.50 to \$2.00  
There are not many good carpenters here  
and little necessity. Just now as  
the houses are generally cheap ones

When the salary comes there may be  
much work & suit state yet-  
There may too be a case for good  
computers as the work that is con-  
templated is the reaction of good  
Lenses for drawing, and the exe-  
tion of mills or something of the  
sort. Let me hear from you in  
the near future and tell me what  
you think of doing and if you  
have any idea of coming to work  
I will write you soon at any rate.

Yours etc.

J. D. Busby